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*Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero : de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.*

**VOL. III. HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH, 1877. No. 1.**

HALIFAX, 6th March, 1877.

THE mild spring weather of February, although very pleasant, must have been injurious to the bare grass fields and to unprotected plants in gardens. We shall not look for an early growth of grass this season. At present, hay appears to be very scarce in Hants and some other counties, whilst in Cumberland there is plenty to supply the market. If our farmers were to feed more grain they would find it less expensive than hay, and we should be relieved of those local fluctuations in the hay market which even slight changes in the proportions between demand and supply are sure to bring about in the case of such an unwieldy article of commerce. The judgment in favor of hay for cattle feed is one of the most baneful with which we have to contend in this Province. Hay is looked upon as a necessity; in most countries it is a luxury, and a very extravagant one, reserved for horses alone. The Western Canadian and American farmers do not feed hay to their horned cattle, the British farmer could not pay his rent if he did, and the French and German farmers never dream of such a thing. Roots and straw and oilcake in winter, with green fodder in summer, are the proper rations of cattle and sheep. Hay is the crop which requires the least possible amount of labor,—next to unenclosed pasture, which requires none at all. But it is likewise the crop that gives the least possible return of feed per acre. Wherever there is a want of capital or energy among the farmers of a

country, hay will be the leading crop. On the other hand wherever there is energy and skill and necessary appliances, hay will cease to occupy a prominent place. A farm can never be made by growing hay, and cattle feeding with hay can never be made to pay. The "apparent" profit is simply so much capital taken out of the land. This can be proved by an examination of the accounts of any farm if they have been carefully kept over a series of years.

These remarks lead us naturally back to the subject of our leading article in the February number. We then endeavored to show the importance of ascertaining what crops should be cultivated, what kinds of stock should be raised, in short what is the "system" of farming most likely to be profitable in Nova Scotia. We pointed out that notwithstanding occasional fluctuations the prices for cattle and meat will be permanently maintained, that cattle feeding is more likely to pay in the future than it has done in the past, that the opening up of European markets for American beef will lead to an immense development of cattle raising on this continent, that with the facilities for root-raising which we possess, so much superior to Ontario and the Western States, with our green summer pastures, and the wharf of the Dominion at our door, where our farm products, alive and dead, can be shipped, summer or winter, to the uttermost ends of the earth, we have advantages unequalled by any other Province of the Dominion. Moreover, for twelve years

the Board of Agriculture has been importing thorough-bred cattle for the improvement of our native stock, so as to enable the meat produced to take a fair place in the market with that of other countries. If we do not avail ourselves of these advantages we cannot hope, and do not deserve, to prosper.

Our urgent appeal in favour of Potato culture, last month, has, we are glad to say, elicited favorable comment. We hope it will take root in many a fertile field. For the present, the price of potatoes has gone down, in accordance with the law of pendulum oscillation which we endeavored to explain, but they will not sell at 30 cents a bushel in the planting season of 1877, as they did in 1876. The price of market potatoes will be permanently maintained over America, for the reasons so fully given last month. It is not, however, for the purpose of converting our farmers into market gardeners that we urge attention to potato culture. It is mainly with the view of leading to more extensive stock feeding. It is by means of stock feeding that farms are to be built up; it is by stock feeding that farming is to be made to pay, and to be converted from a clod-hopping mechanical routine into an attractive and scientific pursuit, and that the farmers are to be raised from their present position to be the true aristocrats, the best and strongest men, of the state.

We have a long argument ready on this subject, but our printer warns us that there is already enough copy set up, so we must defer the discussion.

The trans-Atlantic Cattle Trade is assuming gigantic proportions. During the week ending 17th Feb., 1,200,000lb. of beef arrived at Liverpool from New York, the Guyon steamer "Wyoming" carrying 257,600lb. and 400 sheep. The increase is not only rapid, but steady, and the farmers and landowners of England are putting their houses in order. We, in Halifax, are as slow as the English farmers, and do not yet see that bullocks are grateful fellows. In England they are "discussing" the question: If carcasses can be taken from Canada to London, why may they not be taken from the English grazing districts to the English centres of population, instead of planting droves? But why discuss? why not do it? So, if a new York firm is expending \$150,000 in buildings for slaughtering and forwarding to England, why do we have to write about it? Why doesn't a Halifax firm do the same at the Winter Port of the Dominion? With the whole region of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and railways through Quebec and Ontario, the supplies are magnificent, and the English market is insatiable. If the Ontarians wish to establish here the "slaughter" market of the Dominion, by all means let us have it. Let the Halifax Cattle Transportation, Meat Preserving and Englishmen Feeding Company be established at once.

At a recent meeting called for the purpose of promoting the Irish Cattle Show of 1877, Lord Clonbrock offered some remarks that will apply very well to our own condition in this Province:— This show will be generally beneficial, and it is what we are all desirous of. I can bear my direct testimony of now over half a century to the importance of such meetings. The projected one will tend to improve the stock of the Province generally, and of this county particularly, and I think we all know and feel that such is sadly required. We shall be the most benefitted, and consequently should be the most interested. It is the crossing of good stock with ours that will improve those of the Province, and this show will leave many behind, and promote that object.

A two year old steer, (owned by Noah Anthony, of Stanley, Douglas), who had been out pasturing all summer in the meadows lying between the Kennetcook and Walton Rivers, became stubborn on his way home, and refused to move. Next morning he could not be found. This was in December. He came home through the snow on 17th January with frozen ears, "a picture of distress," having been without food all the time, a wiser if not a better steer. This information is from the *Morning Herald*.

We are always glad to receive statements of facts in reference to the production of milk, butter and cheese by different breeds of cows, for it is only by the aid of such information that our farmers can arrive at definite results as to the comparative merits of different varieties of dairy stock. The following will be read with interest:—

Halifax, Feb. 8th., 1877.

DEAR SIR,—I am quite sure, it will be interesting to yourself and others, to know that the pains taken to improve the breed of cattle for the butcher and dairy, are producing good results in the butter class. A cow of mine, "Juno," (from "Comet," a Jersey imported by Mr. Duffus from the United States), five years and six months old, calved at Christmas last, and in thirty-nine days from the time we commenced saving her milk she made sixty-three pounds of butter.

At this season I think this may be considered very satisfactory. That she will improve on this I am quite certain, for she had, owing to circumstances, been milking steadily for three years up to six weeks of her calving.

Very truly yours,  
HENRY LAWSON.

THE Ontario Estimates for Agriculture this year are as follows:—

Electoral Division Societies, (Agricultural and Horticultural), 81 at \$700.....	\$56,700 00
do 1 at \$550.....	550 00
do 6 at \$350.....	2,100 00
do Outlying districts.....	350 00
Fruit Growers' Association.....	1,000 00
Entomological Society.....	750 00
Dairymen's Association.....	2,000 00
Agricultural Association.....	10,000 00
Poultry Associations.....	600 00
For sundry services in connection with Agriculture and Arts—such as investigations of disease in animals and crops, and of ravages of insects, and for agricultural instruction, dairy products, and other charges not otherwise provided for.....	2,000 00
	<u>\$76,050 00</u>

In addition to the above there are appropriations under the heads Civil Government and Public Institutions, viz:

Department of Agriculture.....	\$ 1,200 00
School of Agriculture.....	17,360 00
For Building for do.....	16,800 00
	<u>\$35,360 00</u>

We have thus a sum total of \$111,410 for Encouragement of Agriculture this year in Ontario, in addition to which we find a provision of \$5,630 for a School of Practical Science; \$24,000 to Mechanics' Institutes; \$500 to promote Scientific Researches, and \$500 for a building; \$1,350 for Literary Institutions; and for Education \$557,465; Colonization Roads, \$77,300.

COL. STEWART'S thorough-bred Berkshire sow, which he purchased at the Exhibition last fall, had a litter of seven fine pigs a few weeks ago, which found ready purchasers at \$6 each.—*Amherst Gazette*.

A YEAR ago we announced the successful introduction by Mr. Andrew MacKinlay, Jr., of Sunnyside, of a new and remarkable kind of Duck—the PEKIN—which bears the same relation to ordinary ducks that the Braham and Cochin fowls do to the small poultry. Our readers will no doubt be glad to read the story of the finding and bringing over of Pekin Ducks to America, as given by Mr. George S. Anthony, Westerly, R. I., (in *The Poetry World*, for July, 1874):—

"Mr. McGrath, of the firm of Fogg & Co., engaged in the Japan and China trade, in one of his excursions in China, first saw them in the city of Pekin, and, from their large size, thought them a small breed of geese. He succeeded in purchasing a number of eggs, and brought them to Shanghai; placing them under hens, he in due time obtained fifteen ducklings, sufficiently mature to ship, in charge of Mr. James C. Palmer, who was about returning to America. He offered Mr. P. one half of the birds that he should bring to port alive, and the latter, accepting the offer, took charge of them. Six ducks and three drakes survived the voyage of 124 days, and were landed in New York, to be sent to Mr. McGrath's family (who never received them, as they were killed and eaten in the city). Mr. P. taking the three remaining ducks and drake, returned to his home at Wequetequee, in Stonington, Conn. They soon recovered from the effects of their long voyage, and commenced laying in the latter part of March, continuing to lay until the last of July. They are very prolific, the three ducks laying about three hundred and twenty-five eggs.

"The ducks are white, with a yellowish tinge to the under part of the feathers, their wings are a little less than medium length, as compared with other varieties, making as little effort to fly as the large Asiatic fowls, and they can be as easily kept in enclosures. Their beaks are yellow, their necks long, their legs short and red. When the eggs are hatched under hens, the ducklings come out of the shell much stronger, if the eggs are damped every day (after the first fifteen days), in water a little above blood heat, and replaced under the hen.

"The ducks are very large, and uniform in size, weighing at four months old about twelve pounds to the pair. They appear to be very hardy, not minding severe weather. Water to drink seems to be all they require to bring them to perfect development.

"I was more successful in rearing them with only a shallow dish filled to the depth of one inch with water, than those who had the advantages of pond and running stream."

Drakes and eggs of this breed may be obtained at Sunnyside or Lucyfield Farm, For prices see advertising columns.

As some of the remarks made respecting the action of the Board of Agriculture, in reference to choice of county for the Provincial Exhibition of 1877, are apt to give rise to confusion of ideas, we wish to state explicitly what that action was.

The Executive Committee of the Board met on the 26th January to receive applications from counties. Three were presented; one from Halifax (indefinite); one from Colchester offering a prize list of \$6,500; and one from King's offering prizes to the amount, "at least" of \$5,000. After due consideration the Executive Committee resolved to recommend the Board to accept the offer of the King's County Committee, and, in order to forward the business, that committee were requested to fix definitely the exact locality, and to prepare prize lists and plans, that the whole might be presented to full meeting of the Board. The Board meeting was held last week. The King's Committee, attended by delegates, announced their choice of Kentville, and presented plans and prize list. The several applications of Halifax, Colchester and King's were now before the full Board for the first time, and would have been dealt with at once, and no doubt in accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Committee; but, at this stage, a delegation of four gentlemen from Wolfville appeared, and asserted that there was dissatisfaction in the county with the particular site chosen. In these circumstances the Board deferred their decision till the 13th March by the following resolution:—"After fully considering the representations of delegates, from King's County Committee and from Wolfville, from which it appears that some difference of opinion exists as to the suitability of the site chosen for the Exhibition buildings, the Board resolve to defer their final decision upon the offers received from the several counties till the 13th day of March, in order to afford an opportunity for the King's County Exhibition Committee to reconsider the matter. In the meantime the Board will consider in detail the Prize List offered, and the necessary regulations, so that immediate action may be taken when the Board next meet on the date above mentioned.

It is confidently hoped that at the meeting of 13th March the Committee of King's County will be able to present matters in such a form as to justify the Board in at once accepting their offer.

CHILD-LIKE and bland, is the remark of the New York *Mail* concerning the Blue-Glass hallucination:—"The great charm of the discovery is that there is no lumbag about it."

We have omitted, till now, to notice a rare and interesting Fern shown to us some time ago by Robert Morrow, Esq., which had been found by his son, Mr. Geoffrey Morrow, in New Brunswick. The fern is *Woodsia Ilvensis*. The particulars are as follow:—

"The Fern was found at the Falls of the Neyandon River, about ten miles from Bathurst, N. B. It grew on the side of a granite cliff about 30 or 40 feet above the river and in very little soil. There were several other plants, but they could not be reached, unless a person were let down by a rope. —Date about 15th July, 1876.

GEORGE MORROW."

MR. GEO. M. PATTEN, Hebron, Yarmouth, has a cow  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths Jersey, Bess Butler by name, which is one of the best butter cows in Yarmouth County, so noted for its dairy stock. She has made, since he owned her, 15 lbs. of butter in seven days, on grass alone. He has had her for six years, and is raising nice stock from her with thorough-bred Jersey bulls.

THE annual meeting of the SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS was held at the Masonic Hall, Halifax, on 1st March, when, after the reading of the Secretary's report of the doings of the Society, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year:—

President—M. H. Richey, Esq.

Vice-Presidents—Hon. P. C. Hill, Professor Lawson, LL. D., Halifax; John P. Mott, Esq., Dartmouth, J. J. MacKinnon, M. P. P., Antigonish; Dr. Nathan Tupper, Amherst; Israel Longworth, Esq., Truro, James G. MacKeen, Esq., Port Hastings; Thomas Flint, Esq., Yarmouth; Dr. Shaw, Kentville; D. Matheson, Esq., Pictou; T. C. Hill, Esq., Sydney; C. E. Kaulback, Esq., Lunenburg.

Executive Committee—A. H. Woodill, Esq., M. D.; B. G. Gray, Esq.; Rev. R. Murray; J. C. Mackintosh, Esq.; S. M. Brookfield, Esq.; J. Harvey Frith, Esq.; J. F. Kenny, Esq.

Counsel—Messrs. Henry and Weston.

Secretary—John Naylor, Esq.

Treasurer—Mr. Hedley.

J. B. FRASER, Esq., of Shubenacadie, writes to us as follows, under date 27th February:—

"'Cambridge Witch' has this day dropped a dark roan Heifer calf and is doing well. I have also purchased from John Parker, Esq., 'Lady Mary' for \$250, and her Bull calf. She is a great milker and the calf is (good judges say) the finest calf they ever saw for its age."

Short Horn blood is evidently rising in the market. If the Board should import Heifers this year they will not be knocked down for \$105.

THE two following Short Horn items are from the Colchester *Sun* of 28th:—

"Yesterday morning the imported Short Horn Cow, MAID OF OXFORD 4TH, owned by Mr. Longworth, dropped a white bull calf, sired by the celebrated English Short Horn bull, Lord Ragman, bred by Lord Fitzhardinge, Berkeley Castle.

We are pleased to learn that J. B. Fraser, Esq., of Shubenacadie, in this County, has purchased the Short Horn Cow LADY MARY for \$250, and her bull calf, a splendid animal, by Ragman, that extraordinary Bull bred by Lord Fitzhardinge. The cow is from some of the best stock in England, full of Bates character; with several successive crosses of Duchess and Oxford blood. Sire Grand Duke of Clarence 28750. Grand sire Wild Boy from Mr. Bates's celebrated Wild Eyes tribe.

MR. JOHN C. ELLS, Pereaux, writes to the *Citizen* that as enquiry is often made as to the best time to prune fruit trees, he would recommend about the *twentieth of June* as best suited for the purpose, as at that time the wounds will not bleed, and will heal up soundly. He adds that long experience in pruning convinces him that pruning in April is very injurious, as the sap is then in full flow and causes the wound to rot.

D. MCG. JOHNSON, Esq., of Stewiacke, writes as follows:—

"I have several times thought of bringing to the notice of *Agricultural Board* the advantage that might accrue to Farmers by allowing 20 members to form an Agricultural Society by paying \$2.00 each. I will not venture many reasons at present, but if it should meet your approval, would be glad to discuss the point.

1st. Societies are too long, extending some eight or ten miles by one mile wide.

2nd. Stock that is imported is soon used up by having to accommodate so many \$1.00 members.

3rd. Hard work to trot up a Society where so much area has to be gone over.

At present the Agricultural Societies, according to their financial reports, are not very forehanded,—many of them weak,—yet we could not get along very well without them. But if the funds were more concentrated, I believe the profits generally would be greater."

CHARLES E. BROWN, Esq., Yarmouth, has sold the thorough-bred Jersey Bull PAST TYLER CXIII., to the Liverpool Agricultural Society in Queen's County. This bull was imported from Jersey by Edward Parsons Fowler, for P. B. Tyler, West Haven, Conn.

The distribution of the Legislative Grant to Agricultural Societies for 1876 is as follows:—

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.				HALIFAX COUNTY.			
	No. of Members.	Subscriptions.	Grants.		No. of Members.	Subscriptions.	Grants.
Bridgetown Agricultural Society.....	42	\$ 42 00	\$ 53 76	Halifax County Agricultural Society... ..	92	\$ 95 00	\$190 00
Port Williams Agricultural Society... ..	56	56 00	71 68	Upper Musquodoboit Ag. Society.....	43	43 00	86 00
Clements Agricultural Society.....	61	73 50	94 08	Lower Musquodoboit Ag. Society.....	41	61 50	123 00
Paradise Agricultural Society.....	46	46 00	58 88		176	\$199 50	\$399 00
Laurie Agricultural Society.....	40	40 00	51 20				
Annapolis Agricultural Society.....	35	55 00	70 40				
	300	\$312 50	\$400 00				
ANTIDONISHE COUNTY.				INVERNESS COUNTY.			
St. Andrew's Agricultural Society... ..	44	\$ 44 00	\$ 78 57	Mabou and Port Hood Ag. Society... ..	73	\$ 73 00	\$146 00
Morristown Agricultural Society.....	105	121 08	216 07	North East Margaree Ag. Society....	40	40 00	80 00
Arisaig Ag. Society.....	43	59 00	105 36		113	\$113 00	\$220 00
	192	\$224 00	\$400 00				
CAPE BRETON COUNTY.				KING'S COUNTY.			
Sydney Mines and Little Bras d'Or Agricultural Society.....	51	\$ 51 00	\$100 49	Aylesford Agricultural Society.....	40	\$ 40 00	\$ 21 20
North Sydney Agricultural Society..	55	55 00	103 38	King's County Agricultural Society, Lower Horton.....	41	41 00	21 72
Sydney Agricultural Society.....	44	44 00	86 70	King's County Central Ag. Society... ..	75	225 00	119 20
Boularderie Agricultural Society.....	53	53 00	104 43	Union Ag. Soc. of East Cornwallis... ..	41	164 00	86 89
	203	\$203 00	\$400 00	West Cornwallis Agricultural Society..	67	107 00	56 68
				Farmers' Ag. Soc. of N. E. Cornwallis	45	178 00	94 31
					309	\$755 00	\$400 00
COLCHESTER COUNTY.				LUNENBURG COUNTY.			
Onslow Agricultural Society.....	190	\$190 00	\$179 67	Mahone Bay Agricultural Society....	67	\$ 67 00	\$134 00
Tatamagouche Agricultural Society..	50	58 00	54 85	New Ross Agricultural Society.....	40	40 00	80 00
Shubenacadie Agricultural Society....	40	40 00	37 83		107	\$107 00	\$214 00
Stirling Agricultural Society.....	44	54 00	51 06				
Brookfield Agricultural Society.....	40	40 00	37 82				
Lower Stewiacke Agricultural Society.	41	41 00	38 77				
	405	\$423 00	\$400 00				
CUMBERLAND COUNTY.				PICTOU COUNTY.			
Parrsborough Agricultural Society... ..	137	\$137 00	\$ 98 30	Pictou Agricultural Society.....	79	\$ 93 00	\$ 88 94
Pugwash Agricultural Society.....	40	40 00	28 70	Merigomish Agricultural Society... ..	41	41 00	39 21
Wallace Agricultural Society.....	42	65 00	46 64	Millbrook Agricultural Society.....	44	44 00	42 08
Scotia Ag. Society of Fox Harbour... ..	69	71 50	51 30	Egerton Agricultural Society.....	66	174 25	166 65
Minudie and Barronsfield Ag. Society.	50	50 00	35 88	River John Agricultural Society.....	66	66 00	63 12
Malagash Agricultural Society.....	45	45 00	32 29		296	\$418 25	\$400 00
Oxford Agricultural Society.....	52	52 00	37 30				
Middleboro' Agricultural Society.....	50	50 00	35 87				
Amherst Agricultural Society.....	47	47 00	33 72				
	532	\$557 50	\$400 00				
DIGBY COUNTY.				QUEEN'S COUNTY.			
Clare Agricultural Society.....	52	\$ 52 00	\$104 00	North Queen's Agricultural Society..	40	\$ 40 00	\$ 80 00
Digby Central Agricultural Society... ..	157	157 00	250 00	Mutual Benefit of Queen's, Pleasant River, Ag. Society.....	40	40 00	80 80
	209	\$209 00	\$354 00	Liverpool Agricultural Society.....	53	53 00	116 00
					138	\$138 00	\$276 00
GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY.				SHELburne COUNTY.			
Glencol Agricultural Society, Cross Roads, St. Mary's.....	60	\$ 68 00	\$126 51	Wood's Harbour Agricultural Society	40	\$ 40 00	\$ 57 14
Guysborough Agricultural Society... ..	41	41 00	76 28	Shelburne Agricultural Society.....	46	46 00	65 72
Milford Haven Agricultural Society... ..	62	106 00	197 21	Clyde River Agricultural Society.....	40	40 00	57 14
	163	\$215 00	\$400 00	West Passage Agricultural Society... ..	60	60 00	85 71
				Barrington Agricultural Society.....	41	41 00	58 57
				Cape Negro Agricultural Society.....	53	53 00	75 72
					280	\$280 00	\$400 00
HANTS COUNTY.				VICTORIA COUNTY.			
Upper Nine Mile River Agricultural Society.....	41	\$ 41 00	\$ 41 63	Middle River, Victoria, Ag. Society..	83	\$ 83 00	\$166 00
Enfield Agricultural Society.....	41	41 00	41 63	St. Ann's Ag. Society. [Grant with- held for investigation].....	54	54 00	108 00
Fenwick Agricultural Society, Noel... ..	40	40 00	40 61	Baddeck Agricultural Society.....	56	56 00	112 00
Newport Agricultural Society.....	43	73 00	74 12		193	\$193 00	\$386 00
Union Agricultural Society of Hants, Majiland.....	56	56 00	56 83				
Windsor Agricultural Society.....	41	82 00	83 25				
Nine Mile River and Hardwoodland Agricultural Society.....	61	61 00	61 93				
	323	\$394 00	\$400 00				
				YARMOUTH COUNTY.			
				Yarmouth County Agricultural Soc... ..	118	\$815 00	\$250 00
				Yarmouth Township Ag. Society.....	73	76 25	150 00
					191	\$891 25	\$400 00

We publish the above list of Grants to Agricultural Societies in response to numerous inquiries which are made every year as to the method adopted in appropriating the monies in the different Counties. It will be seen that the grant for each County is distributed among its Societies in rateable proportion,—the whole amount to a County being limited to \$400, and no Society being empowered to draw more than \$200. Very full details of the working of Societies in every County in the Province will be given in the Annual Report of the Board now being printed for the House of Assembly. The Report will likewise contain a list of the Prizes awarded at the Provincial Exhibition held at Truro in October, 1876.

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Committee Room, Council Chamber, }  
Halifax, 26th Jan., 1877.

The Executive Committee of the Board, adjourned from Thursday, met again at 10.30 a. m. to-day, and continued their sittings till evening.

Present:—David Matheson Esq., V. P., Pictou; Israel Longworth, Esq., Truro; Col. W. E. Starratt, Paradise; Dr. George Lawson, Secretary.

The annual reports and attested returns of Agricultural Societies for 1876 were carefully examined by the Committee, for the purpose of ascertaining how far the respective Societies had complied with the requirements of the Act. The results are as follows:

County of Annapolis.

Clements Township Ag. Society. The Member for district No. 2 was requested to obtain the accounts of this Society for the information of the Board.

Annapolis Ag. Society. Passed.  
Port Williams Ag. Society. Passed.  
Paradise Ag. Society. Passed.  
Bridgetown Ag. Society. Passed.

Eastern Annapolis Ag. Society. The Member for district No. 2 was requested to obtain information respecting the organization of this Society, and report to the Secretary of the Board if satisfactory, before the end of January.

Wilmot Ag. Society. Not qualified. Suggested as a branch of the preceding Society.

Antigonish County.

Morristown Ag. Society. Passed.  
St. Andrew's Ag. Society. Passed.  
Arisaig Ag. Society. Passed conditionally.

Cape Breton County.

Boularderie Ag. Society. Passed. Secretary to request further information respecting horses British Lion and Lion of Canada, and success attending them.

North Sydney Ag. Society. Further information required.

Sydney Mines and Little Bras d'Or Ag. Society. Passed.

Sydney Ag. Society. Passed.

Colchester County.

Onslow Ag. Society. Passed. Further information requested respecting horse Brutus.

Tatamagouche Ag. Society. Passed.

Shubenacadie Ag. Society. Passed.

Stirling Ag. Society. Passed.

Brookfield Ag. Society. Passed. Items of account required.

Lower Stewiacke Ag. Society. Passed.

Earlton Ag. Society. The Committee regret that this society is not found to be qualified, and has failed to do the work contemplated on its formation.

Cumberland County.

Farrsborough Ag. Society. Passed. At-

tention to be called to the requirements of the new Act as to expenditure of moneys in future.

Fox Harbor Ag. Society. Passed conditionally.

Malagash Ag. Society. Passed.

Pugwash Ag. Society. Passed.

Wallace Ag. Society. Passed, with a request for further information as to revenue from animals.

Mnudie and Barronsfield Ag. Society. Passed.

Oxford Ag. Society. Passed.

Middleboro' Ag. Society. Passed.

Amherst Ag. Society. Correspondence on the subject of this Society's returns between the member for District No. 4 and H. Black, Esq., Amherst, was read, also opinion of Hon. Senator Dickey on the recent amendment of the Agricultural Act. Passed.

Digby County.

Digby Central Ag. Society. Passed.

Clare Ag. Society. Passed. Officers' attention to be called to requirements of new Act as to expenditure.

Guysborough County.

Milford Haven Ag. Society. Passed. Further information to be asked for as to revenue from the Society's animals.

Glenelg Ag. Society. Passed.

Guysborough Ag. Society. Passed.

Halifax County.

Halifax County Ag. Society. Passed.

Lower Musquodoboit Ag. Society. Passed.

Upper Musquodoboit Ag. Society. Passed.

Salmon River Ag. Society. Not qualified.

Hants County.

Newport Ag. Society. Passed conditionally, the Member for District No. 4 to make enquiry.

Enfield Ag. Society. Passed.

Upper Nine Mile River Ag. Society. Passed conditionally, Secretary of Board to ask for further information as to returns from wheat sold, and results of cultivation of the "Lost Nation."

Fenwick Ag. Society of Noel. Passed, on condition that fuller accounts, to be furnished before issue of warrant for grant, shall be found satisfactory.

Nine Mile River and Hardwoodland Ag. Society. Secretary of Board to apply for report and accounts.

Windsor Ag. Society. Accounts and prize list to be asked for.

Union Ag. Society of Hants, Maitland, Passed.

Inverness County.

Mabou and Port Hood Ag. Society. Accounts of income and expenditure to be furnished before issue of warrant.

N. E. Margaree Ag. Society. Passed.

King's County.

King's County Ag. Society. Passed.

Union Ag. Society of E. Cornwallis. Passed.

West Cornwallis Ag. Society. Passed.

King's County Ag. Society. Annual report to be asked for.

Aylesford Ag. Society. Passed.

Farmer's Ag. Society of King's County. Passed.

Lunenburg County.

Mahone Bay Ag. Society. Passed.

Pictou County.

Pictou Ag. Society. Passed.  
Egerton Ag. Society. Passed. Further information as to revenue from animals to be requested.

Millbrook Ag. Society. Passed.

River John Ag. Society. Passed.

Merigomish Ag. Society. Passed.

Queen's County.

North Queen's Ag. Society. Passed.

Kempt Ag. Society. Not qualified.

Mutual Benefit Ag. Society of Brookfield and Pleasant River. Passed.

Liverpool Ag. Society. On motion of Col. Starratt, seconded by Mr. Longworth, this Society was added to the list of recognized societies and its returns approved. Passed.

Shelburne County.

West Passage Ag. Society. Passed, with an expression of regret that so much money has been expended in the past for seeds and implements, yielding so small return to the Society's funds.

Barrington Ag. Society. Report and accounts to be requested.

Shelburne Ag. Society. Passed.

Clyde River Ag. Society. Reports and accounts required.

Wood's Harbor Ag. Society. Passed, but fuller details of accounts requested.

Cape Negro Ag. Society. Passed.

Victoria County.

Middle River Ag. Society. Not passed. Referred to Member of Board for District No. 6 to ascertain why Society's funds are not expended, and to report to general meeting of Board.

Baddeck Ag. Society. Correspondence with member for District No. 6 read in reference to the formation of this Society. Passed.

Yarmouth County.

Yarmouth County Ag. Society. Passed, but further information and list of Exhibition prizes required.

The following resolution was then passed by the Executive Committee for recommendation to the Central Board:—

"That Societies holding over moneys from year to year, which they do not expend in accordance with the intention of the Act for Encouragement of Agriculture, be required to refund to the Board any annual grants that may have been paid to them, and that application be made to the Government to introduce an Amendment to the Act empowering the Board to recover such moneys."

C. F. Eaton, Esq., attended as a delegate from a Committee of 24 gentlemen, named as an Exhibition Committee, at a public meeting in King's County.

The Committee proceeded to consider the subject of the Provincial Exhibition of 1877, for which provision was made by the Legislature of 1874, an annual grant of \$4,000 being appropriated for the purpose.

Applications for the Exhibition were

laid before the Committee from Halifax County, on the part of the Halifax Agricultural Society, from Colchester County on the part of the Truro Exhibition Committee, and from King's County on the part of the Committee represented by Mr. Eaton.

The Halifax Committee furnished no details. The Colchester Committee offered a prize list of \$6500, inclusive of the Government grant of \$4000. The King's Committee offered a prize list of "at least \$5000." Their application was signed by Messrs. J. E. Starr, chairman of meeting, C. C. Hamilton, secretary, C. F. Eaton, J. W. Margeson, E. C. Foster, Thos. S. Dodge, John P. Lyons, J. B. Bowser, E. R. Bishop, E. M. Jordan, Johnston E. Patterson, J. L. Fitch, Wm. McGee, A. McN. Patterson, Geo. W. Fisher, G. W. Kinsman, Berwick Graves, Augustine A. Pineo, Wm. E. Marsters.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Col. Starratt, and resolved as follows:

"The Executive Committee of the Board favorably entertain the offer of the Exhibition Committee represented by Mr. Eaton to hold the Provincial Exhibition this year in King's County, and are prepared to recommend its acceptance by the Central Board of Agriculture; that with a view to their recommendation being acted upon the Executive Committee request the King's County Committee to fix definitely the exact locality, and to prepare their Prize List and Regulations, and plans of grounds and buildings, in order that the whole may be submitted to the Board at their approaching meeting."

The Executive Committee requested the Vice-President to call the annual meeting of the Board for Tuesday, 20th Feb. at 3 o'clock, p. m., during the sitting of the Legislature.

#### GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD.

Halifax, 20th Feb., 1877.

The Board met at 3 p. m., in the Committee Room adjoining the Legislative Library. Present—Hon. Robert Robertson, Commissioner of Works and Mines; David Matheson, Esq., Pictou; Israel Longworth, Esq., Truro; Col. Starratt, Paradise; John Ross, Esq., Boularderie; Charles E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth; Dr. George Lawson.

In the absence of Col. Laurie, President, D. Matheson, Esq., Vice-President, took the chair,

Before proceeding with the regular business the Board directed the Secretary to reply to a telegram from W. H. O. Haliburton, Esq., Wolfville, President of the King's County Agricultural Society, stating that they had no objection to receive another delegation from King's Co., and suggesting Wednesday, 21st, at noon, if possible, as the most convenient time.

The Secretary laid on the table the returns of nominations by Agricultural

Societies to the Central Board of Agriculture, and read a communication from the Hon. P. Carteret Hill, Provincial Secretary, announcing the appointment by His Honor the Lieut. Governor of Members to the Board of Agriculture, in accordance with the Act and the nominations of Societies.

The Members of the Board nominated by Societies were as follows:

*Dist. No. 1.*—Counties of Halifax and Lunenburg.—Colonel Laurie, Oakfield.

*Dist. No. 2.*—Counties of King's, Annapolis and Queen's.—Colonel W. E. Starratt, Paradise.

*Dist. No. 3.*—Counties of Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth.—C. E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth.

*Dist. No. 4.*—Counties of Hants, Colchester and Cumberland.—Israel Longworth, Esq., Truro.

*Dist. No. 5.*—Counties of Pictou, Antigonishe and Guysboro'.—David Matheson, Esq., Pictou.

*Dist. No. 6.*—Counties of Cape Breton, Richmond, Inverness and Victoria.—John Ross, Esq., Boularderie.

Provincial Secretary's Office,  
Halifax, Feb. 19, 1877.

SIR.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., informing me of the names of the gentlemen nominated to the Central Board of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the law.

I have it in command to inform you that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council, has been pleased to appoint those gentlemen accordingly; and has further appointed the Honorable Robert Robertson, Commissioner of Public Works and Mines, to be a member of the Board in addition to the said gentlemen so nominated as above.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedt. servant,

P. CARTERET HILL.

Professor Lawson, Sec'y Central Board of Agriculture.

On motion of Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Ross, Colonel J. Wimburn Laurie, of Oakfield, was re-elected President.

On motion of Mr. John Ross, seconded by Mr. Brown, David Matheson, Esq., Pictou, was re-elected Vice-President.

On motion of Colonel Starratt, seconded by Hon. Mr. Robertson, Dr. George Lawson was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer.

The Secretary read the Report of the Executive Committee of the Board on the returns of Agricultural Societies; likewise supplementary reports and replies from Societies to enquiries made by order of the committee. The consideration of these documents occupied the Board till 6 p. m., when they adjourned to meet again to-morrow morning (Wednesday) at ten.

Wednesday, Feb. 21.

The Board met at 10 a. m., to-day. Present—D. Matheson, Esq., V. P., in the chair; C. E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth; Israel Longworth, Esq., Truro; John Ross, Esq., Boularderie; Hon. Robert Robertson, Col. Starratt, Dr. G. Lawson, Secretary.

C. F. Eaton, Esq., and Dr. C. C. Hamilton, having been appointed as delegates from the King's County Committee for the Provincial Exhibition of 1877, Mr. Eaton attended the Board meeting and apologized for the absence of Dr. Hamilton, who, although in the city; was prevented from attending. Mr. Eaton laid on the table a deed to King's County of the Mulloney site of ten acres of land at Kentville for the Exhibition; also plan of the land, plan of the Exhibition building and draft of the prize list. He also gave full explanations respecting the proposed arrangements for the Exhibition, and answered the enquiries of members of the Board.

The Secretary then read the following communication:

To the President of the Central Board of Agriculture:

Whereas, certain misrepresentations have been published and industriously circulated in reference to the Exhibition committee of this county in their selection of a site for exhibition buildings, &c.

We, the undersigned sub-committee, have been requested to prepare and place before your honorable Board a refutation of those misstatements.

A meeting was called by requisition to the Sheriff last October, said meeting was largely attended by the ratepayers, and a resolution passed requesting the Central Board of Agriculture to locate the Provincial Exhibition of 1877 in King's County. The Secretary of the meeting, D. B. Newcomb, Esq., failed to forward the resolution at the time for reasons best known to himself.

A further public meeting was held on the 28th December last, by request of the Central Agricultural Society. As it was a small attendance it was adjourned to the 11th January, when a very large gathering was had from every part of the County.

Samuel Chipman, Esq., occupied the chair, and D. B. Newcomb, Esq. was appointed Secretary. The first thing done was to re-affirm the action taken in October, and the Secretary was directed to forward immediately the resolution asking that the Exhibition be held in King's County in 1877. Twenty-four persons were also appointed as an Exhibition Committee, or responsible body to carry forward the Exhibition.

Berwick was the first to offer ground for Exhibition purposes, consisting of twelve acres near the railway station. Kentville followed with a subscription of \$550, with a promise of being increased to \$800, should the site be selected near Kentville.

Up to this time Wolfville offered nothing, nor yet asked for the Exhibition to be held there. On the 25th January the Exhibition Committee met and appointed their sub-com-

mittees. The sub-committee on sites was directed to examine the Berwick and Kentville sites, and report at our next meeting, which was held on the 7th February. On the day previous Mr. Haliburton requested our committee on sites to examine a site spoken of on Mr. William DeWolf's farm at Wolfville.

At the general committee meeting of the 7th, the sub-committee on sites made the following report:—The site at Berwick consisted of 12 acres of land, offered to the county free of expense, and was all that was desirable. Three sites near Kentville were examined, and the one on the Mulloney lot, overlooking Kentville, was preferred ten acres of which were offered for \$1,000.

The site at Wolfville was ten acres of land valued at \$800, beautiful for its prospect of Grand Pre, Minas Basin and Lower Cornwallis, distant from the railway station nearly a mile.

The general committee then carefully discussed the merits of these three sites, twenty-three of the twenty-four committeemen being present. Berwick adhered to her former offer. Kentville, through Mr. Jordan, pledged \$1000 if the Mulloney site was taken. Mr. Haliburton of Wolfville offered the 10 acres of land on Mr. DeWolf's farm provided he be allowed to take the annual crop. Subsequently he offered the lands as a free gift. In a few minutes he offered the land and \$500 as a bonus, and finally the land and \$1000 bonus. These several offers were all made within one-half hour of each other. Up to this time no subscriptions or other guarantee was offered by the people of Wolfville.

The committee voted as follows: four for Wolfville, eight for Kentville and nine for Berwick. In accordance with a previous understanding Wolfville was left out being the lowest on the list, and the final vote taken between Kentville and Berwick, when the Mulloney site was taken; two gentlemen who would have voted for Kentville being absent.

The site being, therefore, fixed the committee proceeded to further business, and directed Mr. Jordan to have the deed of the Mulloney site made out and executed by our next meeting, to be held on the 14th of February.

The General Committee met on the 14th, and the deed of the Mulloney site, properly executed, was placed on the table. At the same time a deputation of five gentlemen of Wolfville, headed by J. W. Barss, Esq., presented themselves before our committee, and offered a new site on John L. Brown's land, Wolfville, of 8 acres, valued at \$600. They also placed on the table a subscription list amounting to \$1,600, with a guarantee of \$400 more if demanded by the committee.

The committee took the whole matter into consideration and unanimously agreed that they could not honorably absolve themselves from the engagements entered into with Kentville.

The above is a plain statement of the proceedings of the committee in selecting the site. We are informed that a petition will be sent to your honorable Board, objecting to our selection of a site, and asking you to overrule our action in this matter.

Our main object in placing these facts be-

fore you is that you may be able to judge if we have acted honorably or not in the whole matter.

We have the honor to be,

Yours, &c.,

A. McN. PATTERSON,  
C. C. HAMILTON,  
C. F. EATON.

King's County, Feb, 15th, 1877.

A communication was likewise read from the Premium List Committee, recommending the Board to offer prospective prizes for the production of new and improved varieties of fruits and vegetables suited to the climate of Nova Scotia and originated subsequent to 1870, viz., seedling early and late potatoes, after a trial of three years by the public, each \$10; any other seedling vegetable, \$30; seedling pear, \$30; seedling apple of acid quality and good keeper, \$50; seedling grape for open air culture, after a sufficient trial, \$25.

Consideration of this communication was deferred.

The Board arranged to meet another delegation from King's County in reference to the Provincial Exhibition, at 2.30. The meeting was accordingly adjourned to that time.

Wednesday, 2.30 p. m.

Business resumed. Present—D. Matheson, Esq., V. P., Chairman; Messrs. Brown, Robertson, Starratt, Ross, Longworth and the Secretary.

The following gentlemen attended as a deputation from King's Co., viz.—W. H. O. Haliburton, Esq.; Reuben F. Reid, Esq.; J. W. Hamilton, Esq.; J. L. Brown, Esq.

The Chairman explained the position of arrangements in reference to the Provincial Exhibition, the steps that had been taken by the committee appointed in King's County, and the information that had been laid before the Board as to the general scheme for carrying out the Exhibition. The Chairman invited Messrs. Haliburton, Reid, Hamilton and Brown to make any statements to the Board which they desired.

The meeting was then addressed by Mr. Haliburton, who explained fully the action of the committees and sub-committees in the choice of a site at Kentville for the Exhibition. He complained that the offer of a free site and \$1000 in cash of the inhabitants of Wolfville, as made by Mr. H. was not accepted.

Mr. J. L. Brown then entered more fully into explanations of the business aspect of the matter. He stated that the real offer made by Wolfville was two thousand dollars, rather than one thousand, and the land.

To J. W. Barss, J. L. Brown, F. Brown, James McDonald and Reuben F. Reid, Esqs., delegates from a meeting at Wolfville, to lay before the General Committee, convened at Kentville, February 14th, 1877, certain proposals, guarantees, &c., relative to the location of the Exhibition to be held in the autumn of 1877:—

GENTLEMEN,—

We, the undersigned, having been appointed a committee to bring to your notice the action of the General Committee relative to the different sites offered at Wolfville for exhibition purposes, as well as the very munificent offer of \$1,000 over and above the grounds for site, as offered by you on the 14th inst., and also the offers made by Mr. Haliburton on the 7th inst., beg leave to say that up to the meeting of the General Committee, held at Kentville on the 7th, only sites at two places had been brought to the notice of the Committee, viz., at Kentville and Berwick. At which meeting a report, describing the advantages and disadvantages of the sites at Kentville and Berwick, was verbally laid before the meeting by G. W. Fisher, Esq., Secretary of the Locating Committee, and also the site on Mr. DeWolf's land at Wolfville. And we take great pleasure in assuring you that full justice was done to Wolfville in the Locating Committee's Report. After the report from the Locating Committee on the different sites examined by them, Mr. Haliburton stated that he was before the Committee to represent Wolfville in making propositions relative to the site at that place. Several offers were made by him, and each offer varying from all previous ones. As Mr. Haliburton was a stranger to a majority of the Committee, and as his propositions were not presented in a way that might be expected from gentlemen possessing the business qualifications of the inhabitants of Wolfville, a large majority of the Committee, although they had no right to doubt the truthfulness of Mr. Haliburton's statements, yet at the same time, there was no written guarantee, they feared that Wolfville might not accomplish all that Mr. Haliburton hoped for.

After a lengthy discussion on the merits of the different sites named, it was moved and seconded that if the people of Kentville present to the Committee a good and sufficient title of ten acres of the Mulloney land, as the Committee should select, that the site be located at Kentville. Whereupon it was moved in amendment, and seconded, that the Committee purchase ten acres of the Mulloney lot and locate the Exhibition on the ground. An amendment to the amendment was moved, and seconded, that, whereas Berwick had offered a good and eligible site to the county for exhibition purposes free of cost, consisting of twelve acres of land, or ten acres, together with one hundred and fifty dollars in cash, towards fitting up the ground with buildings, &c., that the offer from Berwick be accepted. It was then resolved that the Committee retire into the jury-room to decide the foregoing resolution and amendments.

In the jury-room it was argued that the resolution before the Committee, and the amendments thereon, shut out the Wolfville site from competition, till both the resolution and amendments were voted down; therefore it was thought advisable that the resolution and its amendments should be withdrawn,



which was conceded to, and the following resolution was carried unanimously, viz:—

That a paper should be headed Berwick Kentville—Wolfville; and the Secretary should call the names of the Committee, and their names should be respectively recorded under the heading that each would vote for, and the locality that took the lowest number should drop out, and the house should be divided on the other two.

This being done, the vote stood—Berwick 9, Kentville 8, and Wolfville 4. This vote, according to the last resolution, dropped Wolfville out, and the house was divided between Berwick and Kentville, which resulted in a "tie," and the chairman decided the vote in favor of Kentville, with the understanding that Kentville should have a good and sufficient deed covering ten acres of the Mulloney land, properly executed, to lay before the Committee at their next meeting. For further particulars we refer you to the report of the meeting in the county newspapers.

After the meeting of the Committee opened on the 13th instant, Mr. Mulloney presented to the Committee a deed of ten acres of land as was selected by the Committee, which was properly surveyed by E. Cogswell, Esq., and paid for by the inhabitants of Kentville. At this juncture in the meeting, E. R. Bishop, Esq., gave notice that there was in waiting a delegation from Wolfville, to make propositions to the Committee relative to a site at Wolfville, &c. What took place in the committee room while you were there we need not refer to. We can only say that the Committee sincerely regretted that the very generous offer made by the inhabitants of Wolfville through you had not been presented with the same force before, or at the time of the meeting of the Committee, on the 7th inst., as no doubt but the offer from Wolfville would have been accepted. But owing to the action that had been already taken on the Kentville site, the Committee felt that they were in honor bound to sustain the action they had taken; therefore the Committee felt that they were compelled to decline taking any action on your very generous offer.

We regret to have to trouble you with so tedious an explanation, but that the whole matter could not be fully explained with fewer words we think you will fully understand.

The Committee hope that you will exonerate them from intentionally and prejudicially setting aside the offer from Wolfville, and they feel assured that, although the site for the Exhibition is now fixed at Kentville, all prejudices will be set aside, and that the whole county will use their influence to make the Exhibition of 1877 a credit to the county and a complete success.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the General Committee,

J. E. STARR, } Committee.  
E. C. FOSTER. }

King's, Feb. 16th, 1877.

We, the undersigned, hereby certify that the subscription lists circulated for the purpose of raising funds to have the Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition for 1877 held in Wolfville, King's County, are genuine; and that the sums subscribed thereon, amounting to \$1682 or thereabouts, are bona fide; and we hereby guarantee the

payment of the said subscriptions to the extent of \$1600 for the purpose and on the conditions expressed in the said subscription lists.

Wolfville, N. S., Feb. 13th, A. D. 1877.

JOHN W. BARSS,  
JAS. S. MORSE,  
FRED. BROWN,  
S. S. BORDEN,  
JAS. S. McDONALD,  
J. W. HAMILTON,  
R. F. REID,  
JAMES J. ELDERKIN.  
J. L. BROWN,  
RUFUS FORSYTH.

J. W. Barss, as chairman of the committee, when tendering the above, agreed to add \$400 to the above by a written guarantee, if required, so as to make the amount \$2,000.

To the Honorable Central Board of Agriculture,—

The undersigned humbly submit the following statement:—

The people of Eastern Horton are dissatisfied with the action of the Exhibition Committee with reference to the site.

1. Because the site at Wolfville is admitted to be by far the most eligible and desirable of the several sites under consideration.

The Exhibition Committee in their reply to the Wolfville Committee acknowledge that had the offer been made on the 7th inst. which was made on the 14th inst., "no doubt but the offer would have been accepted."

2. That the meeting on the 11th was an adjourned meeting of the 7th at which there was no resolution passed, nor other action taken touching the transfer of the land, therefore any action taken in the meantime was without warrant or authority.

3. To the objection to the Wolfville offer of the grounds and \$1,000 made by Mr. Haliburton, on the 7th inst., not being accompanied with a written guarantee, we reply that neither Kentville nor Berwick offered any such guarantee, nor was any required.

4. That the Wolfville offer of the 7th inst., confirmed by the offer of \$2,000 on the 14th inst. and guaranteed by a number of the principal men of the place, was the most liberal offer made from any section.

5. That the proposed trotting park, to be located near Kentville, and towards which it is said \$4,000 of stock is already subscribed, some of the stockholders being members of the Exhibition Committee, this may have had some influence in determining the location.

We, therefore, in view of the feeling of hostility induced by what is felt to be the ill-advised action of the Exhibition Committee, believe that the confirmation by your honorable Board of the Kentville site will seriously affect the success of the proposed Exhibition. We therefore humbly suggest that your honorable Board shall send a Committee of your number to view the several sites, and to their decision the people of this section will cheerfully submit.

J. W. BARSS, H. B. WITTER,  
J. L. BROWN, JAS. J. ELDERKIN,  
JAS. S. McDONALD, C. FRITZE.  
REUBEN F. REID, JAMES S. MORSE,  
FRED. BROWN, ALFRED ELDERKIN.  
J. W. HAMILTON,

Wolfville, Feb. 20th, 1877.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Colonel Starratt and resolved as follows:

After fully considering the representations of delegates from King's County Committee, and from Wolfville, from which it appears that some difference of opinion exists as to the suitability of the site chosen for the Exhibition buildings, the Board resolve to defer their final decision upon the offers received from the several counties till the 13th day of March, in order to afford an opportunity for the King's County Exhibition Committee to reconsider the matter. In the meantime, the Board will consider in detail the prize list offered, and the necessary regulations, so that immediate action may be taken when the Board meets on the date above mentioned.

Committee Room, Leg. Library,  
Feb. 22nd, 1877.

Business was resumed by the Board this morning at 10 o'clock.

Present—D. Matheson, Esq., V. P., Chairman; I. Longworth, Esq., Truro; C. E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth; John Ross, Esq., Boularderie; Col. Starratt, Paradise; Dr. Lawson, Secretary.

It was agreed to hold the next general meeting of the Board, (in terms of the Act) on Tuesday, 13th March, at 3 o'clock p. m., when the Board will decide finally in reference to the Provincial Exhibition of 1877.

Mr. Brown reported that he had communicated with Donald Archibald, Esq., M.P.P., chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, and it was thought the best time for a conference with the committee would be during the March meeting, when the annual report and accounts of the Board would be in the hands of the members.

A letter was read from Irad Benjamin, Esq., requesting payment of a prize awarded to him at the Provincial Exhibition of 1874. Deferred for inquiry.

The Board then proceeded with the examination of the Draft Regulations and Prize List for the Provincial Exhibition of 1877.

It was resolved that the Exhibition should commence on the 1st day of Oct., instead of the 8th, as suggested by the Committee.

Several changes were suggested on the prizes for cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, roots, vegetables and grains, and on motion of Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Brown, the Draft Prize List was referred back to the Exhibition Committee of King's Co., with the Board's suggestions, so that it may be adjusted and brought before the Board again for final consideration, on 13th March.

A letter was laid before the Board from Messrs. S. Cunard & Co., in reply to an application of the Secretary, stating that Messrs. Allan, Bros. & Co., had authorized them to refund \$243.33 as rebate on freight of cattle received from England

in October last. The best thanks of the Board were voted to Messrs. Allan Bros. & Co., for their considerate liberality, and to Messrs. S. Cunard & Co., for the trouble they had taken in bringing the matter under Messrs. Allan's notice.

The Secretary read an application from the New Ross Agricultural Society, which had been disqualified in consequence of its papers having been destroyed by the burning of the Secretary's dwelling house. Moved by Colonel Starratt, seconded by Mr. Ross, and resolved that under the circumstances the New Ross Society's application be now received as if it had been lodged prior to the close of the year.

The application of the Centreville Agricultural Society was submitted. Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Colonel Starratt, and resolved, that this society be recognized as entitled to qualify for the grant for the ensuing year.

The Secretary having reported upon Mr. Benjamin's prizes for fruit, awarded in 1874, not previously applied for, and not paid, was authorized to pay the same. It was resolved, however, to recommend that in future prize lists an intimation be given that prizes not claimed within three months after the close of the exhibition shall be forfeited.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Hon. Mr. Robertson, and

*Resolved*, That the Prize List of the Provincial Exhibition at Truro, with names of successful competitors, &c., be embodied in the Report of the Board to the Legislature, now in the hands of the printer.

Letters were read from Dr. Regel, sending Russian publications on the climate and vegetable products of Russia, and from Hobson, Hurtado & Co., in reference to Peruvian guano. The Secretary was directed to make suitable replies.

The consideration of importations of live stock, next fall, was deferred. Mr. Brown suggested that Jerseys might be advantageously imported, and remarked that the loss upon them would be less than upon the more expensive Short Horns. &c.

At 6 o'clock the Board adjourned till Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

*Friday, 23rd Feb., 1877.*

The Board resumed business at ten o'clock this morning. Present D. Matheson, Esq., V. P., Chairman; I. Longworth, Esq., Truro; Hon. R. Robertson, Colonel Starratt, Paradise; John Ross, Esq., Boularderie; C. E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth, and the Secretary.

Moved by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Longworth, and resolved that with reference to the recommendation of the King's County Committee that the Board should offer prizes for seedling po-

tatoes, vegetables and fruits, the Board have no funds to appropriate to this object, apart from the annual grant for Provincial Exhibition fund. Smaller prizes from the general fund might be devoted to the items named, if considered desirable by the County holding the Exhibition.

Mr. Ross stated that very successful meetings had been held in Cape Breton in reference to an Exhibition. The four counties proposed to unite for this purpose. He accordingly gave notice that at a future meeting he would lay before the Board an application for holding the Provincial Exhibition of 1878 at Baddeck or some other convenient central point in Cape Breton Island.

The Board made some preliminary arrangements in reference to the importation of stock this season. It is intended to import two Short Horn Bulls and two Heifers or Cows, two Ayrshire Bulls and four Heifers or Cows, two Devon Bulls, two yearling Jersey Bulls and four Heifers or Cows of that breed, also a few Pigs and Sheep.

It is intended that the imported animals shall be sold by public auction at the Provincial Exhibition during the first week of October next.

#### EXHIBITION COMMITTEE MEETING.

*(From the Western Chronicle and King's County Official Gazette.)*

THE Exhibition Committee met at the Court House, on Saturday, 24th February, at 11 a. m.

Present:—C. F. Eaton, President; Johnson Patterson, Wm. C. Bill, J. B. Bowser, J. P. Lyons, E. R. Bishop, Leonard Fitch, W. H. O. Haliburton, T. L. Dodge, G. W. Fisher, A. McN. Patterson, E. C. Foster, Beriah Graves, George Kinsman, E. M. Jordan, John W. Margeson,—16; and the Secretary, Wm. Eaton.

The President, C. F. Eaton,—who with Dr. Hamilton, were appointed at the previous meeting Delegates to the Central Board of Agriculture,—reported: That Dr. Hamilton was ill, and Mr. E. met the Board on Wednesday, 21st inst. The plans, &c., of the King's County Committee were laid before the Board, who highly approved of them, and considered they were an improvement upon the Truro Exhibition buildings erected last year,—and expressed great satisfaction with the work of the King's County Committee. A deputation from Wolfville met the Central Board during the afternoon and evening, who urged their views with regard to holding the Exhibition at Wolfville, resulting in the passage of a resolution, asking the Committee to reconsider that point. The Central Board took the view that unless Wolfville could be harmonized, the success of the Exhibition might be endangered, which might lead to their feeling it their duty to hold the Exhibition in another county. Mr. Haliburton first addressed the Central Board. I replied. Although the Wolfville delegation had submitted to the Board their five objections as

contained in a document published in the *Morning Chronicle*, I was not supplied with a copy of the document until after the meeting of the Central Board closed. I gave a particular and detailed statement of all the transactions of the King's County Committee, and showed that they (the Board) had thrown an amount of responsibility upon the Committee, which I thought, should have been assumed by the Board. I referred to the purchase of lands by Kentville, and the delivery of Deed to the General Committee, as having been caused by me, at the request, and under the direction of the Central Board. I had a subsequent interview with the Wolfville delegation in the hope of arriving at an amicable settlement,—and a request was made that Wolfville choose a committee of five to confer to-day at two o'clock, with an equal number of delegates from this Committee. On motion the following Committee were appointed to meet the Wolfville delegation:—C. F. Eaton, J. Patterson, George W. Fisher, E. R. Bishop, J. B. Bowser,—who were instructed to report the terms submitted by the Wolfville delegation to the General Committee.

The sub-committee, and the Wolfville delegation consisting of John L. E. own, H. C. Witter, Reuben Reid, J. S. McDonald, and J. W. Hamilton, held a conference in the adjoining Jury room.

After a prolonged conference, the sub-committee reported to the General Committee, that the Wolfville delegation proposed that the question of site be finally determined by three persons, out of the county.

An animated discussion ensued, the General Committee appearing to be unanimously of opinion that, having been convened at the request of the Central Board, to reconsider their decision upon the site, they expected to hear reasons for a change adduced by the Wolfville delegation, to which they were prepared to give a patient and impartial consideration; they had no authority to delegate their powers to an irresponsible Committee. The Committee were of the opinion that the rate-payers of Kings would be unwilling to have three strangers come into this county and fix the site, and oblige them to accept it for all time to come;—for this, and other reasons, they declined to entertain the proposal, and it was unanimously resolved that the proposition of Wolfville be not acceded to.

The Wolfville delegation were informed of this decision, whereupon, after further consultation with the sub-committee, they changed their proposition to the selection of two men in the county and one out of it,—to be chosen as first proposed.

The amended proposition was also rejected, for reasons similar to those before mentioned, viz.: that the third man, and he a stranger, would fix the site.

A further discussion then arose. A desire was freely expressed to reconcile Wolfville, if possible.

The deputation closed by stating they had no further proposition to make, and the President notified them that the Committee would deal with the statements of the Wolfville deputation presented to the Central Board, as grievances.

The final offer of Wolfville, made to the General Committee to-day, amounts to this: They guarantee a subscription list of \$1,400 in money, and give the site, which Mr. Brown said would cost \$600, making a total

of \$2,000. At an earlier stage of the proceedings, an offer was made by Kentville of a guaranteed Subscription List in money of \$1,500, and a Deed of the site, previously delivered, (at the request of the Committee) for which they (Kentville) paid \$1,000,—making in all \$2,500.

The Prize List, as amended by the Central Board, was considered through the day, and agreed to,—and on motion of W. H. O. Halibarton, seconded by W. C. Bill, resolved,—“That eight prizes should be offered for Milch Cows, and that the exhibitor be required to produce a certified statement embracing a period of four consecutive weeks, within the months of June and July, showing the yield of milk by weight; also, a verified statement of the quantity of butter made in any four consecutive weeks, between the 1st of June and 30th September.”

By this time some of the Committee having left, it was resolved to adjourn to Wednesday, 28th inst., at one p. m.

#### ADDITIONS TO NOVA SCOTIA STOCK REGISTER.

##### SHORT HORN BULL CALVES.

CCLXX.—ACHILLES. White. Calved October 18th, 1876. Bred and owned by C. F. Eaton, Esq., Cornwallis. Sire, Baron Clayton, 33 N. B. H. B. Impt. dam Belle Clayton CXXX.

gr d Lady Brunswick 9 N. B. H. B., by Brunswick,

g gr d Peerless 8 N. B. H. B., imported, by Joe [371],

g g gr d White Lily by Wentworth [800],

g g g gr d Snowdrop by Wellington [792], 183,

g g g g gr d White Rose by Mayduke [452], 102,

g g g g g gr d Young Lily by Young Farmer [243], 52,

g g g g g g gr d Lily by Warden [1563],

g g g g g g g gr d Beauty by Rockingham [560],

g g g g g g g g gr d by Sir Harry [1444]

g g g g g g g g g gr d by Colonel [152],

g g g g g g g g g g gr d by a son of Hubback [319].

CCLXXI.—GENERAL GWYNNE. Roan. Calved Dec. 6th, 1876. Bred and owned by C. F. Eaton, Cornwallis. Sire, Gwynne of the Forest, CXIX.

dam Rose CXXIX. by Halton [844],

gr d Jessie by Joe [371],

g gr d Snowbird by Halton [333], 536, (11552),

g g gr d Snowbird by Durham [213], 1788,

g g g gr d Flora by Wellington, [792], 183,

g g g g gr d by Agricola [4], 1614,

g g g g g gr d Beauty by Snowball, [2817],

g g g g g g gr d by Lawnsleaves (375).

g g g g g g g gr d by Mr. Mason's Charles (127),

CCLXXII.—PRINCE GWYNNE. White. Calved Dec. 28th, 1876. Bred and owned by C. F. Eaton, Cornwallis. Sire, Gwynne of the Forest CXIX.

dam Princess Mary CXXV.,

gr d Empress by Majestic (20261)

g gr d Regina by Constantine (15318),

g g gr d Lucy Long by Duke of Lancaster (10929),

g g g gr d Eliza by Gainford 2nd (6030),

g g g g gr d Princess by Wharton (2833),

g g g g g gr d Countess by Count (1883),

g g g g g g gr d by Baronet (1686),

g g g g g g g gr d by Young Rockingham (2549),

g g g g g g g g gr d by Wellington (2824),

g g g g g g g g g gr d by Styford (103),

g g g g g g g g g g gr d by Lane Bull (358),

g g g g g g g g g g g gr d by Bolingbroke (86).

CCLXXIII.—COLONEL GWYNNE. Red and White. Calved January 21st, 1877. Bred and owned by C. F. Eaton, Cornwallis. Sire, Gwynne of the Forest CXIX.

dam Rose of the Valley CXXXIX, by Bismarek 39 N. B., by Bellabona, by Ray Duke of Gloucester [629], 5155,

gr d Flora, imported by Provincial B. of Ag. N. B., 1870,

g gr d Rosehill by Prince Alfred [553],

g g gr d Daisy by Duke of Athol, [183], 1462,

g g g gr d Strawberry by Prince Albert [545], 5085,

g g g g gr d Rosanna by Young Forester 67,

g g g g g gr d Beauty by Brilliant [73], 30.

CCLXXIV.—SIR GEORGE MOORE. Red with white spot on face and top of shoulder. Calved September 2nd, 1876. Bred and owned by J. B. Bowser, Grand Pre, King's Co., N. S.

Sire Skiddaw, Imported, No. CXXI.

Dam Lily by Brunswick [831].

gr d Peerless [425] of vol. I.

g gr d White Lily by Joe [371].

g g gr d Snowdrop by Wellington, going back direct to Hubback.

##### SHORT HORN HEIFER.

CCLXXV.—LADY PEERLESS. Bright roan. Calved August 19th, 1876. Bred and owned by J. B. Bowser, Grand Pre, King's Co., N. S.

Sire Skiddaw, No. CXXI. (imported.)

Dam Nellie York by Lord York LXIII. (126,766).

gr d Lily by Brunswick [831].

g gr d Peerless [425] of vol. I., CII.

g g gr d White Lily by Joe [371].

g g g gr d Snowdrop by Wellington, back to Hubback.

##### JERSEY CATTLE.

CXVIII.—PAST TYLER.\* Bull. Owned by C. E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth. Fawn and white. Calved 17th April, 1870.

Dam Hortense. Imported from Jersey by Edward Parsons Fowler for P. B. Tyler, West Haven, Conn.

Sire Arab, A. J. C. C. R., of best milking stock in United States.

CXIX.—BYANITZA. Cow. A. J. C. C. R. 5388. Owned by C. E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth. Grayish Fawn. Calved 4th April, 1871. Bred by S. Sheldon Stephens, Montreal.

Dam Joliette, A. J. C. C. R.

Sire Defiance, A. J. C. C. R., from Royal Windsor Herd.

gr d Fancy, A. C. C. R., from Royal Windsor Herd.

CXX.—DARLING. Bull. A. J. C. C. R., 1371. Owned by Yarmouth County Ag. Society. Bred by Rev. W. Clift, Mystic Bridge, Conn. Grey, black tongue and switch. Calved March, 1874.

Sire Quoque, A. J. C. C. R.

Dam Sally Bunker, A. J. C. C. R.

\*“Past Tyler.” Sold to Liverpool Ag. Society. To be delivered in April.

We have received from Mr. Alfred Saunders, 192 Argyle St., his CATALOGUE OF FARM, VEGETABLE, GARDEN AND FLOWER SEEDS, BULBS, &c.. It is quite a full, descriptive Catalogue, and will be found useful by purchasers. Mr. Saunders gives the following “reason why”

ALSKYE CLOVER should be extensively cultivated in Nova Scotia:—Being a native of a very cold climate (Sweden) it is particularly adapted to Nova Scotia. It will grow where no other plant could be made to vegetate—on bare, obdurate soil—flourishing with an uncommon degree of luxuriance. There is no other Clover equal to it for the purpose of cattle feeding. It will last for a great many years in full vigor, and produce annually a great quantity of herbage of excellent quality. It may be “turned on” sooner than any other variety. It does not suffer from the severest frosts. It will flourish on the most barren soil, where few grasses will grow at all; and where land has become “clover sick” this has never been known to fail. The hardiness of the plant is proved by the fact of its thriving by transplanting, so that the farmer need have no bare spots in the field. Farmers, give it a trial and you will be satisfied with the result.

JOHN PARKER, Esq. has sold the Short Horn Cow LADY MARY, and her Bull calf, to J. B. Fraser, Esq., Shubenacadie, for \$250. Lady Mary was imported by the Board from England last Fall, and sold at the Truro sale for \$105. Short Horn blood is rising.

EATONVILLE is a busy, pleasant village, located among the hills of the extensive lumber forests situated on the north shore of the Bay of Fundy. It is composed of those employed by Messrs. D. R. and C. F. Eaton, of Canard, Cornwallis, in connection with their extensive lumber and ship-building business.

In winter its inhabitants number more than one hundred, and in summer the number is largely increased.

An extensive steam mill, erected in the very heart of the village, rapidly converts the rough timber into the finest of lumber. The quantity thus prepared for market, and each year, is very large, amounting, in the aggregate, to millions of feet. For example, in 1876 the total amount of lumber shipped was 4,125,251 feet. Beside this about 100,000 feet was used in the shipyard.

A railroad of about 2½ miles in length, laid from the mill to the shore, conveys the lumber to the place of shipping; and the timber to the shipyard. During the summer, when the mill is in operation, the whole village is in quick motion. Upon the railroad the horse cars are in lively motion, thus contributing to the activity seen upon the wharf, where the lumber is piled and shipped. Last, but not least, the clang and click of the shipbuilder's axe and mallet go far in adding to the interest of the busy scene.

Eatonville is a community by itself. For miles on either side there are no inhabitants. Dense forests rear their heads far above the loftiest buildings, and stretch their shaggy arms away both to the right and to the left of the little village. Yet the inhabitants are not at all lonely. A tri-weekly mail keeps them well posted in the affairs of the great outside world; and the frequent visits of shipping supplies the community with every needed good.

Nor is Eatonville neglected in reference to the things of religion. The Messrs. Eaton are pious men, and so have made provision that those in their employ should have the opportunity of meeting in public for the worship of God. A comfortable place of worship has been erected, and in it the people assemble almost every Sabbath either to hear the word of God preached or to wait upon God in social worship.

In the woods the men are divided into four or five different companies, each of which inhabits a different camp. These camps are log-sided, and double-roofed, with windows, stoves, and many of the other comforts and conveniences which go to make up a comfortable home.—*Cor. C. Messenger.*

We hear that Mr. Longworth's splendid Short Horn cow LADY MARY is doing remarkably well.

LUCYFIELD FARM, February, 1877. Improved Yorkshire (Ellesmere) Pigs sold:—

<i>Fairy Princess the Fourth</i> , No. 10. (Dam Fairy Princess, by Earl of Ellesmere's boar,) to D. McG. Johnson, Esq., Brookfield, Co. Colchester.....	\$14 00
<i>Fairy Princess the Fifth</i> , No. 11. (Dam Fairy Princess, by Earl of Ellesmere's boar,) to James Patterson, jr., Esq., Aylesford, King's County.....	14 00
<i>Lord Lop Ear</i> , No. 13. (Dam Lovely Lady Lop Ear, by Worsley Hall boar), to Alexander Ross, Esq., for Millbrook Agricultural Society, Co. Pictou...	13 00
<i>Lord Bacon</i> , No. 7. (Dam Fairy Princess. Sire Earl of Ellesmere's boar at Worsley Hall), to Mount Hope Asylum, (for exchange.)	

A DOUBLE variety of LILIUM AURATUM has appeared in France. Mr. M. H. Merriam, of Lexington, Mass., writes to the "Gardeners' Monthly" that he has discovered a double flowered individual among his own plants, and, although it failed to produce seeds, the bulb will be carefully watched. He adds that after particular enquiry among florists, he ascertained that their testimony was unanimously in favour of Italian tuberoso bulbs over American ones, and that they were willing to pay a larger price for the former, asserting that the yield of flowers was from 15 to 20 per cent. more from Italian than American grown bulbs. It is remarkable that the Tuberoso,—the admiration of which by Americans amounts almost to a passion—is scarcely known to our Halifax Horticulturists.

ANY new evergreen tree that is hardy with us is a welcome addition. We observe that Messrs. Lee have obtained a cream coloured variety of the hardy Red Cedar of Canada, for which a first class certificate was awarded by the Floral Committee at South Kensington, in July, 1875. It was raised from seed in Messrs. Low's grounds, in 1869, and is perfectly constant, suffering neither from summer's sun nor winter's frost.

MR. SAMUEL PARSONS, of Flushing, R. I., gives in the "Gardeners' Monthly" the following list of perfectly hardy RHODODENDRONS. He observes, however, that scarcely any variety remains absolutely uninjured under conditions that occur at wide intervals:—*Roseum-grandiflorum*, *Bicolor*, *Everestianum*, *Purpureum-grandiflorum*, *Album-elegans*, Mrs. Milner, H. W. Sargent, *Caractacus*, Charles Bagley, *Lady Armstrong*.

As a sequel to the List of Prizes to Nova Scotian Exhibitors given last month, we have prepared, from the *Gardener's Monthly*, a list of the awards to Canadian Exhibitors in the Pomological Department of the Centennial Exhibition, Philadelphia:—

Province of Nova Scotia, Collection of Fruits.

Fruit Growers' Society of Ontario, General Collection of Early Berries and Fruits.

Ditto, Additional Apples.  
Charles Arnold, Paris, Apples.  
James Dougall, Windsor, Ontario. Apples.

William Gourney, Hamilton, Salem Grapes.

W. F. Taylor, do. Clinton Grapes.  
Mayor Pafford, Niagara, Exotic Grapes.  
Thos. H. Parker, Woodstock, Grapes under Glass.

Chas. Arnold, Ontario, Seedling Grapes.  
Donald Smith, Ontario, Apples.

Hugh Scott, Jr., London, Apples.  
James M. Stacy, Masonville, Ont., London Pippin Apples.

J. Morgan, Jr., Quebec, Collection of Grapes.

J. W. Newman, Lachine, Seedling Apples.

Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, Pears.

Fruit Growers' Association of Canada, (Province of Ontario), Grapes.

Fruit Growers' Society of Ontario, Collection of Fruit.

Dominion of Canada, (from the Province of Manitoba), Esculents.

THE Earl of Ellesmere, whose peculiar Pigs are now so favourably known in this Province, has nearly completed a mansion near to Brackley, on his Northamptonshire estates, the cost of which, with stabling attached, will amount to near four millions of dollars. His famous Piggery, however, is at Worsley Hall, near Manchester.

THERE is a squabble in the "Rural New Yorker" and the "Gardeners' Monthly" over the name of the *Hydrangea*, so commonly cultivated as a house plant. It was named, says the latter journal, not *H. hortensis*, but *Hydrangea Hortensia*, and this in "memory of the wife of a French watchmaker, not of a royal example of feminine profligacy."

THE Annual Ploughing Match of the "Mid Lothian Double Furrow Ploughing Association," took place at Wester Cowden on 23rd December, when money prizes and silver medals were given for excellence in ploughing, for horses, and for harness.

## AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.— WHERE SHOULD IT BEGIN?

THE agricultural class is the largest class of citizens in every civilized country on the globe. The character of this class then, must be of the highest importance to the general welfare. Their occupation tends to regular habits and orderly industry. But, unlike the mercantile, mechanical, and professional classes, who are mostly located in towns and are brought into the closest business and social relation, farmers are scattered over the whole country—are so isolated as to have little daily intercourse with each other. Their minds are not sharpened by the friction of society, where new ideas are suggested and developed by association. They thus become, necessarily, the most conservative class, and are inclined to follow traditional routine so closely, that innovations are seldom suggested or made by those born on the farm. So widely is this true, that nearly all the machinery which so facilitates and cheapens the labor of our present agriculture, was invented and adapted to its work by amateur farmers or by those outsiders who had observed the need of such helps in farm operations. The farmer, therefore, needs some stimulant to cause him to use his brain as well as his hands. He must be educated in the principles that underlie his practice. He must become an active observer, a discoverer. He must experiment, analyze and compare his experiments. It is for the want of such observation and experiment that everything is afloat in agriculture, and nothing settled. In architecture, surveying, engineering or navigation, definite rules and instructions lead the student on to a safe knowledge of the art. But the farmer has no idea of fixed principles in agriculture. Indeed, he regards the whole business as entirely independent of rules, and not to be brought into subjection to order and reasonable certainty. Yet an examination of the subject will show that every process in agriculture is as capable of being reduced to system and order, as capable of being taught, as other applications of the natural sciences.

Where, then, shall this scientific education of the farmer begin? The writer has advocated, for ten years past, that the rudiments of agricultural science should be taught in the

### COMMON SCHOOLS.

Here the minds of the vast majority of young Americans receive their earliest and most impressive training. This is the common nursery of knowledge for the people. Here should the young mind imbibe, in the simplest forms, the elements of chemistry, geology, mineralogy, meteorology, entomology and botany.

Some object to this because the young mind is not capable of understanding such instruction; but the elements of these natural sciences are no more beyond the comprehension of young minds than geography, arithmetic, or grammar. They can mostly be taught with objects to aid the understanding. In this way the child comprehends technical terms as easily as the philosopher. His mind should not be crammed with technical terms without a presentation of the objects to which they are applied. Children readily comprehend the facts of nature, when illustrated with the objects, much more readily than abstract ideas. All of these sciences may thus be taught to the young. This theory is already in practical operation in Germany. The German system is, common schools, middle schools, and academies; and the last step is from the academy to the agricultural course in the university. The common school gives theoretical or practical lessons in agriculture; veterinary lessons and demonstrations, and surveying. The middle schools, beside the ordinary branches, give chemistry, physiology, botany and zoology; agricultural management in general, with lectures on veterinary treatment, drawing, building, and agriculture laws. These two schools are designed to give the best practical education to those who are not able to take the higher schools, but are to become small farmers or overseers of small farms. In the latter class of schools they are required to practise all kinds of farm work, under the direction of qualified teachers, that they may acquire practical judgment and skill for the same themselves, or for directing others.

According to late statistics, it appears that there are 150 of these first two classes of schools distributed through the empire, some of them limited to teaching the local specialities, such as vine and fruit culture, horticulture, bee-keeping, &c. I think, in our country, we should unite these two classes of schools in the common school. Our common schools take the pupil at the start and finish him for the active duties of life, in about forty-nine cases out of fifty. The period of education extends from five to twenty-one years, a period sufficiently long to give instruction in the rudiments of these sciences. The school to benefit the farmer must be in his own neighbourhood; the knowledge must be brought to his own door. The routine farmer is wont to impress upon his son's mind that farming consists merely in the practical manipulations which he sees and assists on the farm. The son thence infers that farming is mere drudgery, and nothing else, and he longs for something to sharpen up his wits—something which shall call out his mental energies,

and thus he escapes from the farm into anything that will gratify this desire. But when the rudiments of agricultural science shall be introduced into the common school—when the farmer's son finds that agriculture is an intellectual pursuit—that it is of such importance as to be taught him at school—that the natural sciences are his servants—that the most clever professors may here find scope for all their learning—this changes the whole picture. What was mere drudgery becomes a manly exercise directed by science, and the advanced farmer becomes a savant! When he learns that all the processes on the farm should be governed by definite knowledge, and conducted under as exact rules as mechanics or engineering, his respect for his father's calling increases,

He will there learn that the breeding and rearing of stock successfully, requires a knowledge of the laws of life, both vegetable and animal. He studies into cause and effect; learns that the intelligent feeder requires a knowledge of the structure and functions of the animal he grows; that the food must be adapted to the purposes intended; that as the animal has no power of transforming one element of food into another, but can only appropriate what it finds ready made for use, the food must contain just such elements, and in the proportion required to build up the frame, the muscle, and lay on the fat; that the starchy parts of food supply animal food, and that if the animal is exposed to a low temperature it will require just so much more food to keep it warm than if in a stable of uniform and moderate temperature. The study of the vegetable will greatly awaken his interest when he learns that it, like animals, must be fed, and that the food must be exactly adapted to its wants; and, on surveying the whole routine of agriculture, he finds it an intellectual process.

The interest of the children will also excite the interest of the parent and farmer himself. It will soon cause him to revise his opinion of "book farming." He will begin to see that books and newspapers are as necessary to the farmer as to the doctor and lawyer. The introduction of the elements of scientific agriculture into the common school will also be the beginning of success for the agricultural college. These studies in the common school will develop the aptitude of the boys for the college course. Thousands, who would not otherwise have their attention turned to it, would here find great delight in the study of these sciences. When a boy shows an aptitude for this course he will be pointed to the agricultural college as a place where this taste can be gratified.—*Country Gentleman.*

## POTTING.

As a "Young Gardener" doubts the necessity of being so particular about placing drainage in flower pots, and of the little details of potting frequently recommended, let him and other young gardeners read the following, and "little details" will not then, we trust, be considered too trivial for adoption.—EDS.

Of all the numerous operations which come within the range of the gardener's art, that of potting and shifting tender plants from one pot into another must be regarded as one of the most important. A volume could be written on it without exhausting its details or exaggerating its importance in its relation to the numerous varieties of plants and fruits now cultivated in pots. If in anything in gardening "practice combined with intelligence" be necessary, certainly it is in potting. By potting we do not merely mean the mechanical operation of surrounding the roots of a plant with soil. A mere machine might possibly be invented to do that. It might even, perhaps be taught to a Saturday Reviewer!

Not only does every family and genus of plants require different treatment in this respect, but each species and variety requires to be studied, and the potting adjusted to its peculiarities of constitution and growth. The intelligent observation and sound reasoning of the cultivator must be carefully exercised in the performance of this important operation, or high cultivation need not be looked for as a rule. And very much as has the progress of horticulture depended on the observation and notice-taking of practical men, we question if from any other source improved practice in cultivation has resulted so much as it has from the observations and deductions of practitioners at the potting bench. However the fact can be accounted for, it has come within our knowledge that men who could discourse eloquently on the science of horticulture, and profess to teach the sound principles of all its branches, make a most complete bungle of potting or shifting a plant, and succeed chiefly in violating every principle on which the health of their subjects depends. In very many instances the practitioner has had to navigate his way to success with little or no extraneous aid, and this forcibly applies to the potting.

We have often thought it a pity that in purely botanical serials, and in the very interesting botanical descriptions of new plants which appear in gardening periodicals, the botanist does not condescend to tell how much he knows of the soil and other conditions in which plants are found thriving in native homes. This is to be regretted, seeing that they have opportunities of learning this which gar-

deners cannot have, and which plant-collectors do not always attend to. The consequence is, that the "right way" has to be found out by the experiments and observations of practical men; and is it surprising that at first they miss the way? It is more surprising that they should be sometimes sneered at for the first failure or two.

In most instances pots are a necessary evil. This being the case, it is of paramount importance to mitigate the evil as much as possible. By way of throwing out a few hints calculated to be useful to beginners at the potting-bench—among whom we would include our scientific friends who may try their amateur hands at this operation, by way of relaxation perhaps—we would remark that the first thing to be considered in potting a plant that is to be placed in a glass house is that in nearly every respect it is being placed in circumstances that are thoroughly artificial. The space for its roots is unnaturally restricted, and contains, comparatively speaking, but a few handfuls of soil, which, along with the roots, is exposed to the drying influence of the air, not only on its surface, but at the bottom and sides of the ball as well. This exposes the plant to be constantly and rapidly robbed of the moisture necessary to its existence, and much of the food supplied to it within the compass of its pot. This unnatural loss has consequently to be made good by large supplies of water artificially supplied to soil in the very artificial position of being in a pot. This state of things has a constant tendency to call into play a host of other evils which have to be carefully obviated in the choice of materials for, and in the operation of, potting. It being necessary to administer copious supplies of water almost daily, and sometimes oftener than once a day, the two most prominent and destructive conditions incident to such a necessity are those of stagnant water and the rapid decomposition of the organic substances in the potting material. To some extent these evils are dependent on each other, and are nearly always in existence at the same time.

Perhaps the draining or crocking of pots may at this era of horticulture be considered too common or too trifling a subject to dilate on with profit to readers. Good cultivators do not regard any point trifling, and we are content to submit our verdict to the most successful growers when we say that the draining lies at the foundation of successful pot plant culture, and that it is one which, if not properly performed and adjusted to the nature of individual plants, will thwart the most careful and correct attention to all other points of culture. Not only so, but we are convinced that

the carelessness and unbusiness-like way in which it is performed in very many instances warrants that its importance should be made very prominent; and, in a long and extensive practice, we are now more convinced than ever that ill-health and disease and death are caused by inefficient drainage of pots more than by any other cause, or perhaps all other causes put together. Is it not, therefore, strange, as Mr. Speed of Chatsworth once put it in these columns, that the crocking of pots is often intrusted to the boy or woman of the establishment? It is an operation which we have long ago ceased to delegate to such hands except in the case of the most common plants that have to be in pots but for a very short time. We should much rather see the foreman of the establishment doing this than the boy when plants of any importance are concerned. This much by way of impressing the importance of the drainage of pots on the minds of the careless and inexperienced.

It is not only nor so much on the quantity of crocks put into a pot, as on their proper adjustment, that success in carrying off all the superfluous water from the soil depends. A pot half full of crock may not be so well drained as another may be with only an inch. In all well-ordered gardens where pot plants are grown there should be three or four different sizes of crocks, sizes that may be termed for ordinary purposes, inch, half-inch, and quarter inch crocks, which, in breaking up a mass of crocks, can be easily assorted by using sieves of different sizes. These should be clean as the pots themselves, and all dust should be separated from them. Speaking generally the largest of them should form three-fourths of the drainage of large pots, and the other fourth, consisting of the second size should be blinded with the smaller, and over all a little dry moss, or a portion of the most fibry of the soil, should be placed. In a moist stove, where plants have to be heavily syringed, or in the case of delicate hardwooded plants, a 14 or 16-inch pot should never have less than 3 or 4 inches of drainage thus arranged; while in the case of special and shallow-rooting plants it should be double this amount, or even more, just as the tendency of the plant is found to be surface-rooting. An 11-inch or 8-inch pot will be sufficiently drained with a lesser depth of crocks in proportion to its size; 2 inches and 1½ being generally sufficient, but always arranged with the same scrupulous care. This rule applies with augmented force to all plants that are plunged, such as Pines, and to plants of delicate constitution, whether they be soft or hardwooded. The concave side of the pot or piece of broken

pot should be placed undermost in placing it over the holes in the bottom of the pots, for, if placed the other way, it too often fits too closely to the pot to admit of the ready passage of the superfluous water. Thus arranged, the soil used in potting does not get down amongst the crocks, and prevent their serving their intended end.

If anyone wants to prove—who has not done so already—that this is a trifling part of plant culture, let him take two heaths, Azaleas, Camelias, or even a Pine plant or a Pelargonium, and drain the pot for one of them as above described, and the pot for its fellow carelessly—a by no means uncommon practice—rumbling into the bottom of the pot a few large and ungainly pieces of dirty pot or brick, and subject the plants to the same treatment otherwise, and they will be witnesses to results so diverse that the matter will soon come to be regarded as of paramount importance; and they will not consider that we have insisted on the strict observance of a trifling point of culture. We might almost say that what the foundation is to the structure, the proper draining is to the successful growth of plants in pots.

Only the other day we were engaged in shifting some Azaleas which had their pots properly drained two years since, and on turning them out of their pots the crocks fell from their balls as clean as the day they were put in. The roots of these plants were in the most perfect health, ready for increased feeding ground. In the case of others which had a few large pieces of crocks pitched carelessly into their pots, the passage for water was next to entirely filled up by the soil working down among the crocks to the bottom of the pots. The consequence was that half the ball stuck to the pot, and it was a soured mass of peat, in which the roots had perished, if ever they had entered it all. Such crocking in conjunction with old unwashed pots is in time certain death to plants, if the evil is not timeously put right.—*The Gardener.*

THE Highland and Agricultural Society's Show is to be held at Edinburgh this year on 24th to 27th July. Prizes are offered;—for Horses, \$3955; for Cattle, \$4675; for Sheep, \$2190; Wool, \$75; Swine, \$465; Poultry, \$690; extra to Bulls and Stallions, \$1125; implements, \$400; total, \$13,300

CATTLE PLAGUE has broken out in various parts of Russia, and in six villages of Austria. Stringent measures are being taken to prevent the importation of diseased beasts into England. This will encourage the cattle trade with America, and tend to raise prices here.

### THE AYRSHIRE COW.

THE Ayrshire is a breed that is thoroughly appreciated in Canada, where it ranks next to the Shorthorn in importance. Our farmers possess a great number of as pure bred animals of this class as money will buy, and certainly money could not be invested in a better-paying animal. The Ayrshire is thoroughly hardy, thrives well, gives a great quantity of milk and holds it for a long time—in fact, gives a greater quantity of milk for the food consumed than is given by any other breed. Now that the dairy business has become so systematized that all which a farmer has to do, in districts where factories exist, is to supply as much milk as possible, the Ayrshire is becoming more valuable both as a pure-bred animal and as a means of grading up the native stock. Mr. Ayton, a dairy authority, gives the following description of an Ayrshire:—"Head small, but rather long and narrow at the muzzle; the eye small, but smart and lively; the horns small, clear, crooked, and at their roots placed at a considerable distance from each other; neck long and slender, tapering toward the head with no loose skin below; shoulders thin, forequarters light, hindquarters large; back straight; broad behind; the joints rather loose and open; carcass deep, and pelvis capacious, broad and square, stretching forward, and neither fleshy, low hung nor loose; the milk veins large and prominent; teats short, all pointing outwards, and at a considerable distance from each other; skin thin and soft; hair soft and woolly; the head, bones, horns, and all parts of least value small, and the general figure compact and well proportioned."

There are two other characteristics which seem so thoroughly belonging to this breed that they ought not to be passed over. The one is the black muzzle, and the other is the yellow red, which seems to be the natural colour of the race, arranged not in considerable quantities, but in blots and patches. Thus the animals generally present a sort of checked aspect of golden-yellow, red and white.—*Toronto Globe.*

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the proposed Canadian International Exhibition a resolution was passed, recommending that the year for holding the proposed Exhibition be altered from 1878 to 1879, in view of the French Exhibition being arranged for the former year. A meeting of Mayors, Wardens, Presidents of Boards of Trade, and manufacturers from all parts of the Dominion was to be held in Toronto in the month of January to consider the matter and make arrangements.

THE American Commissioner of Agriculture prefaces his annual list of Agricultural Societies by some statistical notes and general observations that may be interesting and profitable to the promoters of such Societies everywhere:—

The Department of Agriculture views with favor the organization of agricultural societies throughout the land, and issues this list to present to the public a fair record of the condition of such associations, to encourage all who are especially interested in rural pursuits to form such societies, or join those already in existence; to the end that the knowledge they have severally gained by experience and observation may be exchanged, and a love for the grand profession of agriculture be developed and fostered.

The necessity for these societies is becoming more and more apparent, as, in order to make agriculture profitable, farmers must infuse a high degree of intelligence into their business, systematize their labor, and devote their energies to increase the productive capacity of the soil, and thereby secure a fair return for the capital invested and labor bestowed, enabling them to adopt those rules and regulations of business life which yield such satisfactory results in commercial and manufacturing pursuits.

The list contains the names and address of the officers of the various societies, enabling those persons interested in agriculture to open correspondence with farmers in every part of our country, it also places the farmers in agreeable and valuable relations with each other, by which they may aid one another in their calling, and thus benefit the cause of agriculture generally; it also gives the year of the organization of each society; whereby we can trace the growth of this principle of association; the earliest societies on the books of the department being The Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, established in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1785; The Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, Boston, Mass., in 1792, and the Agricultural Society of South Carolina, Charleston, S. C., in 1795. Dividing the American century into four parts, the number of Societies now in existence were organized as follows: From 1776 to 1801, inclusive, 3; from 1802 to 1826, 16; from 1827 to 1851, 374; and from 1852 to 1876, over 1,500.

The number of members of each society is given, from the few of the select clubs having some special branch of agriculture in charge, to the hundreds of the county societies, including in their membership all who pay a yearly sum during the autumnal fair.

The list gives the returns from the inquiries concerning libraries and the number of volumes they contain, if an

annual fairs are held, and whether correspondence is established between the societies in the counties and the State agricultural societies.

The large number of libraries reported by the societies is an indication of a wholesome sentiment pervading their membership, and is a step in the right direction; and it will be a happy day when the farmers make ample provision, in this respect, for the intelligent and earnest members of their families, when books shall be the companions of their households, and their homes, by means of culture and enlightenment, shall realize the ideal of domestic bliss. Then shall the isolation which now weighs with peculiar heaviness upon their wives and children be removed; then shall the pleasures and allurements of the homestead rival those of the city, and the young remain at home to stimulate each other by studies and experiments in the interest of their calling, thus increasing their knowledge and enabling them to become useful members of society.

Fairs are also a commendable way of increasing public interest in rural affairs, and an important element in the education of the people, being a good school for object-teaching, by exhibiting what can and has been done on the farm by farmers and members of their families. Their value is also becoming better understood by adding a more intellectual observance of the occasion, in having addresses delivered and essays, prepared by persons of experience, read, in which the practical and domestic duties of the farm are publicly and wisely considered.

Agricultural societies have been chartered by the Legislatures of a number of States, and this Department indorses most emphatically these State organizations; they form a nucleus around which the agricultural interests of the State can gather, and by means of the various associations in their counties can more readily develop the resources of the commonwealth, and confer the blessings of plenty upon its citizens.

Holding the soil in trust, not merely for ourselves, but for those who come after us, we fail in our duty if we neglect its thorough cultivation; it is therefore eminently proper that we obtain all the aid possible from association and co-operation, in order to secure a careful return of the various methods of farming, and learn the many ways by which thrifty and intelligent farmers succeed; and these results, with many others of a kindred character, are published for the common benefit by this Department in its annual and monthly reports.

The Department avails itself of these societies to distribute the seeds issued under the law creating it. The amount of seed for such distribution is limited

by Congressional appropriation; hence much care and discretion are required and exercised in its distribution; and the result so far has been that the Department has no cause to complain of any lack of attention on the part of the societies, many of them making intelligent and, in some cases, comprehensive reports of the results of the planting of seeds thus distributed. The Department reserves to itself the right to withdraw such appropriation of seeds on account of any special neglect to report as required by the law.

The annual and monthly reports of the Department are also sent to these societies for their libraries and circulation among their members, but the number issued is likewise limited by the appropriation of Congress; hence, where there are more than two societies in a county, a selection is made of the societies to receive the seeds and documents, so that each part of the country shall be reached.

MR. ROGER LEIGH, in an address lately delivered in England, gave an interesting description of a system adopted in France whereby the children attending 30,000 primary schools in the rural districts receive instruction in the culture of the soil. The child is shown the soil which best suits a certain plant to be cultivated, he is made to prepare it for planting, to sow it, to free it from weeds, to wage war against insects and grubs, and finally to record in his school books the advantages derived from the selection of special soils, the application of new manures and variations in the time of planting. These lessons are never forgotten, and the land allotment of the French peasant is made to produce a variety of vegetables fit for any man's table. The agricultural societies throughout France cordially second the Government in its efforts by bestowing on pupils and masters their counsel and assistance, and offering prizes for competition.

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF MAINE.—The *Journal's* correspondent says there are some 50,000 farmers in Maine who probably own three millions of acres of land, valued at \$100,000,000, or about one-half of the State valuation. During the year these sturdy tillers of the soil have been rewarded by generous crops. The yield of hay and potatoes, their two staple crops, has been unusually good, while other products have also yielded abundantly. No occupation in Maine pays better than farming, the annual value of the crops being some \$60,001,000—nearly, quite one-half of which comes from the hay crop alone. A Bangor potato dealer estimates the potato crop this year to be 7,000,000 bushels, of which 1,000,000 bushels have been exported from the State.

FREE trade suits France but not England in this case:—In the course of the discussion on the budget of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, at Versailles last week, the Minister of Agriculture referred to the deplorable state of the cattle markets on the coast of Brittany, England, he said, having placed difficulties in the way of the importation of cattle into the British Isles. The trade has been reduced to a mere nothing. England was under a great mistake in its opinion of the sanitary condition of the Breton cattle. The error ought to be dissipated. Whereas the sale of Breton cattle in England in 1868 had amounted to 38,000, this year only 800 head had been sold. The purchases also had been reduced from 15,900,000fr. to an insignificant sum, in consequence of the measures of the Privy Council of England. The Minister said he had taken the matter, and more especially the existing state of things, into consideration, and had endeavoured to establish certain sanitary arrangements which would satisfy England. The urgency of these measures was now better understood, and there was reason to hope that England would again open the ports to the French cattle markets.

THE TAMING OF VICIOUS HORSES by a Mexican officer is thus described:—"He took a cord about the size of a common bed cord, put it into the mouth of the horse like a bit, and tied it tightly on the animal's head, not painfully tight, but tight enough to keep the ear down and the cord in its place. This done he patted the horse gently on the side of the head and commanded him to follow; and instantly the horse obeyed, perfectly subdued, and as gentle and obedient as a well-trained dog, suffering his legs to be lifted with impunity, acting in all respects like an old stager. That simple string, thus tied, made him at once docile and obedient as any one could desire." The gentleman who thus furnished this exceedingly simple means of subduing a very dangerous propensity intimated that it is practised in Mexico and South America in the management of wild horses. Be this as it may, he deserves the thanks of all owners of such horses, and especially the thanks of those whose business it is to shoe or groom the animal.

THE most useful American CATALOGUE OF FRUIT TREES AND PLANTS we have seen for a long time is that of W. S. Little, *Commercial Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y. State*. It contains in terse, descriptive terms the exact information which a purchaser requires, and those of our readers who mean to plant will do well to send for a copy. Mr. L's advertisement will be found in another column.



**RIBSTON PIPPIN APPLE.**—We have been under the impression that this popular English apple is not adapted to America, and believed it was now seldom grown, and yet we noticed it in no less than fifteen different exhibits from the north west and from Canada, and in splendid condition. Its frequent and superior appearance in this way must have bothered those who believe in old varieties wearing out. — *Gardeners' Monthly.*

**THE ALEXANDER APPLE.**—This large, very showy, and yet comparatively poor apple, appeared in many collections at the Centennial. It goes to show that size and appearance after all go a good way in the selection of varieties, in spite of the warning to "plant only the best." — *Gardeners' Monthly.*

The American Commissioner of Agriculture states that almost the only complaint about the Apple Crop of 1876 is that its superabundance has greatly diminished its market value. In Genesee the best winter apples are selling for \$1 per barrel; in Henry, Kentucky, "the yield is so great as almost to annihilate the market price." In Illinois most of the apples are being manufactured into cider.

At Kew a Physiological Laboratory is all but completed, and large additions are being made to the building containing the herbarium and library.—The South African International and Intercolonial Exhibition, approved by Lord Carnarvon, was opened on the 15th February, 1877.—The average weight of oats in Scotland this season is 37 lb. per bushel, the lowest being 34 lb. and the highest 39½ lb.—Mr. A. R. Whitney, Franklin Grove, Ill., has marketed 2000 bushels of winter apples this season, and gathered over 20,000 bushels of cider apples, besides which he has purchased from his neighbours nearly 15,000 more, and has already made 2700 barrels of cider; his presses are still running. Let some Annapolis farmer step forward and beat that.

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