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Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH, 1872.

No. 75.

Ten Copies of this Journal are sent, Postage Prepaid, to every Agricultural Society in the Province, in payment of which a reduced rate of \$4 is deducted annually from each Society's Grant. Societies requiring a larger number of Copies may obtain them at the same rate of \$40 per hundred. The Annual Subscription for a single copy is Fifty Cents, payable strictly in advance. The subscription year commences with the present (March) number.

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Halifax, 20th February, 1872.

WHEN we consider the peculiar difficulties under which the Board of Agriculture has laboured during the past season, we must regard the present condition of the Agricultural Societies of the Province as highly satisfactory. There are now Societies actively at work in every County of the Province, except Richmond, and some steps have been taken towards filling up the blank there. Shelburne and Pictou have each six Societies. Colchester and King's have five each; Annapolis, Cape Breton, Cumberland, Digby, and Halifax, have each the original statutory number of four. Hants and Queen's have each three; in Antigonish, Victoria and Yarmouth there are two in each, and Guysborough, Inverness and Lunenburg have each one. The total number of active Societies is 57, and there are several

additional ones in course of formation. The total number of Members of the Societies, counting only those whose subscriptions have been attested as paid in proper time, is 3245. These three thousand two hundred and forty-five farmers have paid in to their respective Societies during the year annual subscriptions amounting to \$3672.80. In addition to that amount they have raised extra money for Exhibitions, for purchase of new seed and live stock, agricultural publications, &c. It would be a strange thing if an organization like this did not tell upon the welfare of the country, and we look forward to its increase in extent and importance as not unlikely to lead, in course of time, to practical results such as even the most sanguine do not at present anticipate.

In order, however, that the natural

development of this organization may go on, it will be necessary to provide, from time to time, the requisite legislation and the requisite funds to maintain it in a healthy condition. The list of grants to Societies, published in the present number, cannot fail to receive some attention from those who are interested in the "encouragement of Agriculture," for we fear that some of the Societies will consider their annual allowances this year as not extravagantly liberal. In Pictou County four of the Societies receive less than twenty dollars each, and in Colchester and King's the grants to several of the Societies are not much higher. Such piteances arise from the circumstance that the Legislative Grant is inadequate to meet the original intention that every Society should receive two dollars for every dollar subscribed. The arrangement

made in the year 1864 was based upon a total subscription list for the Province of about \$1859.00. Since then the amount has doubled, but the grant remains still the same, with only this difference that instead of the County allowance being divisible among two or three Societies, it has now to be more thinly spread over five or six. In every County the grants have been very carefully calculated in accordance with the rule laid down in the Act.

Mr. Thomas A. Fraser, of Pugwash River, writes to us that a number of the farmers of that place have organized themselves into an Agricultural Society, and that, having received the necessary information from the Hon. Senator Macfarlane, they wish to obtain any further instructions as to what course to pursue, as they wish to move in the matter immediately. A meeting was to be held on the 15th Feb. We have written to Mr. Fraser.

In previous numbers we published all the information received in reference to the nomination of Members to the Board of Agriculture. Within the last few days we have received the following additional nominations:—

David McNair, Esq., has been nominated by the Representatives of Societies in Antigonish County.

Dr. C. C. Hamilton, M. D., Canard, has been nominated by the Representatives of Societies in King's County.

We are glad to notice that our suggestions on the subject of Farmers' Clubs are already beginning to bear some fruit. It appears from the *Kentville Star* that a Farmers' Club has been organized at Lower Horton and "moves flourishingly." "Attendance large." "Discussions very lively and interesting." Two evenings have been spent in discussing "Manure, its preparation, preservation and application," and these three P's. are to be followed by the Raising and Feeding of Stock.

THE ANNUAL REPORTS published during the last two months show very clearly: (1.) The healthy and efficient condition of our Agricultural Societies. (2.) Their rapid increase in numbers. (3.) Their earnest desire for the improvement of

Live Stock. (4.) The impossibility of their obtaining in the Province, or within convenient reach, animals sufficient to meet their present or prospective requirements. And (5.) the absolute necessity of a large importation by the Board of Agriculture, without which Societies will be completely discouraged. The Reports which we publish this month all serve more or less strongly to enforce the same arguments.

The Morristown Society of Antigonish County expended \$353 during the year, chiefly in importing Stock. The chief production of that county being cattle and sheep, it was thought that "the importation of improved breeds would be of much more benefit than the holding of Exhibitions." The farmers depend upon their stock for their maintenance, and endeavour to raise as great a number as possible, but the common breeds bring such small prices that they scarcely pay for their keep. "This Fall, Grade heifers 2½ years old, have sold for \$18, whilst common cattle at the same age bring only \$10." The Society has not hitherto advanced beyond Grade stock; but, they say: "We now look forward to the next importation from Canada by the Central Board, as the Committee have resolved to procure, if possible, some *thoroughbred* stock."

The St. Andrew's Society, also in Antigonish County, devoted its whole funds to the purchase of sheep, chiefly Shropshires. "It is most satisfactory to state that the prices realized amounted in the aggregate to the cost price, even after deducting the usual discount of 25 per cent to members." The Society calculated upon commencing the present year with a fund of \$150., and it is proposed to purchase Chester Pigs and Bulls.

The expenditure of the Pictou Society during the year has been \$684. A County Exhibition was held in conjunction with the other Societies, each paying \$50 and the County Society the balance. Prizes to the extent of \$485 were offered, and \$422 actually paid to successful Exhibitors.

The Merigomish Society imported during the year four White Chester Pigs, and a quantity of Early Rose Potatoes. Balance in hand \$30.

The Fenwick Society of Noel and Maitland report: "considerable improvement in this section through the stock purchased by the Society, particularly in pigs." Quantities of seed wheat, alsyke clover &c., have been imported, and an Exhibition is proposed for next Fall.

The Directors of the West Cornwallis Society (who ought to be good authorities on the matter of which they write), report to the Annual Meeting of Members, "the success that has attended their efforts in the stock raising department." "We would (they say) call attention to the marked improvement in the Short Horn Stock obtained from "Major Rowland" as one of the most substantial arguments in favor of purchasing *thoroughbred* animals. We must admit that improvements have been made through the introduction of half-bred bulls, but at the same time *express our certain knowledge, from the experience of the past, that no such advantages can be looked for from their importation or use as are almost certain to follow the use of thorough-bred cattle.*" It is proposed to add one or two more to the number of the Society's thorough-bred Bulls this Spring, if possible. The expenditure during the season has been \$163.

The Amherst Society held an Exhibition, of which we saw some account in the New Brunswick papers at the time, and copied it for the information of our readers. It does not appear from the Annual report that there is the same interest manifested at Amherst in thorough-bred stock which we see growing-up in many other localities. The Society has expended \$135, chiefly on Exhibition.

The Aylesford Society owns two superior Grade Durham Bulls, but say: "It is the opinion of many of our best stock growers that the Devons are best adapted to our farmers, the oxen are hardy and active, the cows are good milkers, and they fatten easily on grass. The Society has agreed to purchase one *thorough-bred* Bull, "it will be of much greater benefit to us than the Grade animals we now have." The Society's prospects are improving, the subscription list is increasing and greater interest is manifested than formerly.

The Sterling Society in Colchester have decided to purchase a thorough-bred Short Horn Bull, *if one can be obtained.* A special meeting of the Lower Stewiacke Society was held on 14th October for the purpose of taking measures to procure thorough bred Stock. A white Chester Boar was purchased at the sale of pigs imported last fall by the Central Board. A number of Reports have been necessarily deferred till next month.

If the following article, taken from the *Colonial Farmer* of Fredericton, is anything like a true picture, and we have no reason to doubt its accuracy, then the record of our Agricultural organization in Nova Scotia during the last seven years will compare favourably with that of New Brunswick. The discrepancy in the amounts voted by the respective Legisla-

tures of the two Provinces is very remarkable:—

Our Legislature, with a laudable desire to encourage agriculture, passed, in 1854, an Act authorizing the expenditure of the large sums of \$11,200, or \$10,400 per annum, as certain conditions were complied with, to be drawn from the Treasury in order to foster the pursuits of farming; and the records of the Provincial Secretary's office will show how much money has actually been drawn during all these years for that purpose. Supposing the annual draft has been only to the extent of the latter sum, there has been appropriated \$176,800, which is surely of sufficient magnitude to show such tangible results that there should be no cavilling about the judiciousness of the expenditure, at least of farmers! In addition to the above, there has been, since 1860, a triennial grant of \$3,000, to aid a Provincial Exhibition, and the machinery of an Agricultural Board put in motion, costing annually perhaps, \$1,200 more. Since 1860, therefore, there has been a further cost to the Province, in aid of its agriculture, of \$25,000; so that the agricultural appropriations directly made by the Provincial Government since 1854, have been considerably over \$200,000. As far, then, as farmers are concerned, they cannot but feel that their interests have been carefully cherished and looked after; and now comes up the complaint, that the local shows are not of such importance as to call for much encouragement in sustaining their annual occurrence.

Indeed, the Agricultural Bill passed last winter, provided that only double of the amount of the local subscriptions should be awarded as premiums. In other words, supposing a Society just pays in subscriptions of the minimum amount, to entitle it to the agricultural grant, viz., \$60.00; it can only give in premiums \$120.00, and the balance must be spent in some other way. Now the sum of \$120 is an exceedingly small amount to form a premium list for an agricultural show, and here, therefore, comes up the question, whether it is judicious to encourage such petty shows? Their very paltriness brings them into such contempt, that the question is now asked by legislators and people—what is the use of them?

Supposing this state of things is continued from year to year, the Report of the Board of Agriculture can only continue to receive and publish the Reports from the local secretaries that the local shows are being held—of the small encouragement they receive—of their lingering life, and their weakened vitality. To be sure some secretaries, who are what the Phrenologists term of a sanguineo-nervous temperament, write with a great flourish, that their society has introduced some thorough-bred stock, and sold it for one-third or one-half the first cost—or of having imported a mowing machine and patent horse rake to hire out to the members,—or a threshing machine or a seed sower, or patent ditcher for a like purpose,—or a quantity of Norway oats to experiment with.

These may in the opinion of over-zealous amateurs or country traders, be considered highly commendable way, to aid in disbursing the balance of the Agricultural grant, but it is still a matter upon which people will entertain different ideas notwithstanding. There are some views of the question, however, that occur to the writer, and they are given to aid in a further elucidation of the subject during the leisure season of the winter.

GRANTS TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES FOR 1871.

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.

Bridgetown Agri. Society, - - -	\$55 86
Eastern Annapolis Agri. Society, -	50 78
Annapolis Agri. Society, - - -	71 10
Paradise Agri. Society, - - -	55 86

\$233 60

ANTIGONISH COUNTY.

Morristown Agri. Society, - - -	100 00
St. Andrew's Agri. Society, - - -	102 00
	\$202 00

CAPE BRETON COUNTY.

Boularderie Agri. Society, - - -	67 74
Sydney Agri. Society, - - -	58 40
Sydney Mines & Little Bras d'Or Agricultural Society, - - -	53 73
North Sydney Agri. Society, - - -	53 73
	\$233 60

COLCHESTER COUNTY.

Shubenacadie Agri. Society, - - -	27 56
Sterling Agri. Society, - - -	33 08
Onslow Agri. Society, - - -	115 08
Tatamagouche Agri. Society, - - -	30 32
Lower Stewiacke Agri. Society, - - -	27 56
	\$233 60

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Amherst Agri. Society, - - -	36 80
Parvborough Agri. Society, - - -	90 70
Malagash Agri. Society, - - -	68 45
Wallace Agri. Society, - - -	37 65
	\$233 60

DIGBY COUNTY.

Digby Central Agri. Society, - - -	72 25
Union Agri. Society of Digby, St. Mary's Bay, - - -	55 39
Clare Agri. Society, - - -	52 98
Weymouth Agri. Society, - - -	52 98
	\$233 60

GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY.

Milford Haven Agri. Society, - - -	\$114 00
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HALIFAX COUNTY.

Lower Musquodoboit Agri. Society, - - -	43 72
Upper Musquodoboit Agri. Society, - - -	47 94
Dartmouth Agri. Society, - - -	47 09
Halifax County Agri. Socy, - - -	94 85

HANTS COUNTY.

Fenwick Agri. Soc'y of Noel and Maitland, - - -	62 97
Windsor Agri. Society, - - -	113 75
Mardwoodland or Nine Mile River Agri. Society, - - -	56 88

\$233 60

INVERNESS COUNTY.

Mabou and Port Hood Agri. Soc'y, - - -	\$80 00
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KING'S COUNTY.

Union Ag. Soc'y of East Cornwallis, - - -	72 47
Aylesford Agri. Society, - - -	48 55
King's Co. Agri. Society of Lower Horton District, - - -	28 85
Cornwallis Central Ag. Soc'y, - - -	30 26
West Cornwallis Agri. Society, - - -	53 47

\$233 60

LUNENBURG COUNTY.

Mahone Bay Agri. Society, - - -	\$116 00
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PICTOU COUNTY.

Pictou Agri. Society, - - -	67 46
River John Agri. Society, - - -	19 01
New Gairloch Agri. Society, - - -	91 90
Maxwelton Agri. Society, - - -	18 11
Egerton Agri. Society of Fish Pools, East River, - - -	19 01
Merigomish Agri. Society, - - -	18 11

\$233 60

QUEEN'S COUNTY.

North Queen's Agri. Society, - - -	74 16
Mutual Benefit Agri. Society of N. Queen's, - - -	79 72
Kempt Agri. Society, - - -	79 72

\$233 60

RICHMOND COUNTY.

(No Societies.) - - -	\$00 00
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SHELburne COUNTY.

West Passage Agri. Society, - - -	34 73
Barrington Agri. Society, - - -	34 73
Shelburne Agri. Society, - - -	44 29
Sable River Agri. Society, - - -	38 21
Eastern District of Shelb. Ag. Socy, - - -	35 61
Cape Negro Agri. Society, - - -	46 03

\$233 60

VICTORIA COUNTY.

St. Ann's South Agri. Society, - - -	94 00
Middle River Agri. Society, - - -	134 00

\$228 00

YARMOUTH COUNTY.

Yarmouth Township Agri. Society, - - -	40 67
Yarmouth County Agri. Society, - - -	192 93

\$233 60

Total amount of Grants to Societies, 1871, - - -	\$3543 20
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MR. ROBERTSON'S PADDOCKS.

We often wish to see one or two energetic and wealthy men go into farming in our own Province somewhat in the style of the Western Canadian or Australian farmers. In a recent Melbourne paper an account is given of the farm of a plain Mr. Robertson, who, if he were to do things on the same scale here, would be justly looked upon as a prince of farmers, and by a good many no doubt as a madman. However that may be, it will do our readers no harm to hear how he manages his twenty-three paddocks of thirty thousand acres:—

This pretty station—the cream of the colony of Victoria it may be called without fear of contradiction—is about four miles from Colac, on the Western-road. The homestead is prettily situated on the side of a hill, which is tastefully and naturally studded with blackwood trees, and commands a view of the township of Colac and lake also of the same name, with Mount Gellibrand in the background—one of the prettiest views conceivable. The station comprises some 30,000 acres of rich black and chocolate soil country, subdivided into twenty-three different paddocks securely fenced, all of which are extensively furnished with splendid and costly tanks, dams and made-springs for the use of the stock during severe droughts, or else by large, deep and natural lakes of water; as well as some of them having large cow-sheds on improved principles for the housing and feeding of

stock during the severe winter. To give a good idea of the magnitude of this establishment, and the expense the owner has gone to in improving this property, it may be necessary to mention that the improvements alone, as they stand, represent some £60,000, and the cost of clearing the place of rabbits up to the present time is estimated at something like between £13,000 and £14,000; and it is a strange fact, but, nevertheless, a true one, that some years back, at some station not far remote, an individual posted notices up on his property threatening to take proceedings against any person or persons found interfering with the propagation of these pests. The cattle on this property number between 8,500 and 9,000, about 6,000 of which are Mr. Robertson's own breeding, the balance store-cattle fattening for market. In one paddock are to be seen 130 pure Short-horn cows, the pick of the main herd of that strain of blood, especially reserved to breed bulls from to keep the herd up, and supply casual customers. They consist chiefly of first-prize animals at leading shows in England, and their progeny by first-prize bulls in the Old Country as well, and are now being served by a few choice bulls bred from imported stock. The pedigrees of these cows and of the bulls are undeniable. The owner, whilst purchasing in England, never trusted to his own judgment, but bought first-prize takers, having a view to breeding bulls in course of time, knowing the value attached in the colonies to the get of stock that has passed faultless among such judges as are to be met with at first-class shows in England, Ireland and Scotland. Another paddock contains the Hereford strain of blood, equally as pure, and reserved for the same particular purpose, all being imported for their progeny. Some cows among the above lots have cost their owner over £400 at home. Next we come to the main breeding herds of cows, each different strain of blood in their respective paddocks, all of which are carefully culled yearly, any aged or otherwise objectionable beasts being thrown out, speyed and placed in the fattening paddocks. First, we will take the 900 Shorthorn cows, from which the 100 cows of similar blood are picked for breeding bulls. They form a really magnificent lot, and impress a person at once with the amount of care and judgment displayed in their selection, etc., every animal showing the rich color and peculiar points that this particular breed possesses, as well as a docile, fattening disposition. Adjoining these are to be seen the Hereford herd of cows—some 900 head—also evidently as carefully selected and cared for, and the more noticeable on account of their particular rich red color and white faces, and as being the only herd of pure Hereford

cows in the colony. The greater part of the cows in each of these paddocks have splendid calves at foot, and in a majority of instances, especially among the Short-horns, the colonial-bred cattle are better grown than either their imported sires or dams. In fact, taking these two different herds of breeding cows, comprising some 1,800 as a whole, that is, taking numbers and quality into consideration, they are, without doubt, not only the finest in the colonies, but probably the best in the universe as well. The same regularity and good management seems to exist with regard to the remainder of the herd. Each different class and age of each breed have their separate enclosures, which thereby enable the proprietor to work them to advantage. The heifers are not put to the bull until three years old, and the number of paddocks enables the breeder to guard against in-and-in breeding, not a very easy nor unimportant matter either. The steers are all kept until a proper age, when they are fattened and sent into market, principally the Melbourne one, where they are greatly admired, and generally make very long prices. Two thousand five hundred head of prime cattle were forwarded to market from the station last year, and there are some 3,500 ready now for the coming winter of 1871. Only a few bulls have as yet been sold out of this herd, but those already disposed of have given such satisfaction that, to meet the increasing demand, it has been found necessary to increase the number usually kept for sale twofold.

ADDITIONS TO THE CHASE HERD OF SHORTHORNS.

LADY YEOMAN, N. S. Register, No. 48. Roan. Calved 9th April, 1870. Bred by Mr. Chase, Cornwallis. Got by Yeoman, Nova Scotia Stock Register No. 11.

Dam: Kentucky Heifer, imported from Ontario by Board of Agriculture, autumn of 1866.

BELL DUKE OF CORNWALLIS, N. S. Register, No. 49.

Roan. Calved 2nd September, 1871. Bred by Mr. Chase, Cornwallis. Got by Bell Duke of Markham, (imported by Board of Agriculture from Ontario in autumn of 1870), Canada Short-horn Stock Register, No. 30.

Dam: Lady Lucy (bred by Professor Lawson, Lucyfield Farm), N. S. Register, No. 45.

g.d. Beauty, N. S. 17, by Kossuth 619 or 1753, vol. 3.

g.g.d. Snowdrop by Durham 1488.

g.g.g.d. Flora by Wellington 183.

g.g.g.g.d. Victoria by Agricola alias Sir Walter (1614.)

g.g.g.g.g.d. Beauty by Snowball (2647).
g.g.g.g.g.g.d. by Lawnsleeves (365).
g.g.g.g.g.g.d. by Mr. Mason's Charles (127).

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH QUEEN'S AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

NAME.

This Society shall be called the Mutual Benefit Agricultural Society of North Queen's.

MEMBERSHIP.

Interest in the business of farming and the annual payment of one dollar shall constitute membership in this Society.

OFFICERS.

The officers shall be a President, Vice ditto, Secretary and Treasurer, and five members directors.

MEETINGS.

There shall be not less than four meetings each year, three quarterly and one yearly. Other meetings called "special" may be called by the President and Secretary, or upon the written request of five members.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

The President shall act as chairman at all the meetings, when present, call special meetings, and perform the usual duties pertaining to that office.

The Vice-President shall assist the President, and in his absence, act in his place.

The Secretary shall keep a record of the business of the Society, minutes of the meeting, an account of receipts and expenditure, call meetings by advertisement when properly directed to do so, conduct the correspondence, and perform such duties as may be required for the advancement of the interests of the Society.

The Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Society, and disburse on the order of the President and Secretary, and report the state of the funds at the annual meetings.

The officers and directors shall take charge and keep for the benefit of the Society all animals, plants, seeds, roots, models, implements, &c., with all and every article and thing that may become the property of the Society, by purchase or otherwise, and shall make such use of the Society's property as in their judgment shall be most beneficial to the agriculture of the district. Shall report at the annual meeting in December upon the proceedings, offer remarks upon the state of agriculture, and recommend measures to advance the interests of the Society.

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members pre-

sent, in favor of such amending, at any quarterly or yearly meeting.

NOVEMBER 13, 1871.

The foregoing Constitution was adopted, and the following officers chosen:—*Pres.*, Z. S. Murray; *Vice-Pres.*, J. S. Darby; *Sec'y.* J. M. Freeman; *Treas.* Albert Harlow; *Directors*, Wm. Hendry, A. J. Leadlutter, Harvey Leadlutter, Rufus Hendry, Wm. Colp.

J. M. FREEMAN, Sec'y.

Communications.

STOCK YOUR BEE PASTURE.

As this is about the best time for obtaining Bees, and conveying the hives to their new stands, I should like to lay before your numerous readers a few reasons why their Bee-pastures should not be allowed to run to waste.

To the injunction contained in the above caption, some may be inclined to reply that they have no Bee-pasture to stock, or at least that they don't think they have, while some others may doubt whether it will pay to keep Bees at all—much less to stock their pasture to its fullest capacity.

My object then, in this short paper, will be to try and show that there is a Bee-pasture surrounding every home in the country, and that it would be a paying business to stock it well with Bees. And first let me remark that, in one sense, Bees are not kept by any one. They are simply provided with lodgings. As a rule, they keep themselves, and pay well for their lodgings besides.

Some Bee-keepers have an idea that Bees will not go farther than three miles from their hives in search of honey; while others again assert that they will go as far as ten miles. But while the extent of a Bee-pasture may be uncertain, there is no uncertainty in the fact that, from some pastures, several tons of honey are collected every year, all of which, but for the pastures being well stocked with Bees, would not yield an ounce of honey for man's use. What amount of honey could be collected from any given pasture in this country it may not be possible to say; but that there is a large amount always ready for collection at the right season, no one can dispute. And this I know for a fact, that one person in the States sent, in one season, to a honey salesman in New York, as much as *twenty thousand pounds of honey* from his own Bees—for every pound of which he realized 30 cents. We may not have such rich pastures, nor get such a good price, but if our pastures would average only one thousand pounds and this be worth only ten cents the pound, he that would be wise enough to obtain this, would find the addition of one

hundred dollars to his income—a very acceptable thing. If any man could be sure of obtaining a ton or even half a ton of honey by a month's *hard labour*, would he not willingly undertake the labour for the sake of the gain? How much more, then, ought not every one to try and get at least a share of what is so providentially placed within his reach—more especially as it is obtainable without any drudgery. In fact, no mere human labour could collect it; but common foresight can so arrange matters as to ensure its being collected. Then, why is it not collected? Why does not every farmer stock his Bee-pasture? It really is the most profitable one he has, taking into consideration the capital and labour required; for while his other pastures may, through neglect, get poorer and poorer, the Bee-pasture is not likely to deteriorate, but, on the contrary, is much more likely to be growing in value every year.

In conclusion let me ask the reader to look at this subject in another light. God, in his Providence, has placed this delicious sweet within the reach of all. Are we not then despising the goodness of God, if we neglect to make such arrangements for collecting it, as it is in our power to make? The cost of one hive and a *Bee-keeper's Guide*, will not amount to much; and though this would be but a small beginning, still, with a little care and self-denial in reference to taking the honey, a full stock of bees may soon be obtained. My advice then is to stock your Bee-pasture as soon and as effectually as you can—and, if possible, get the pure Italian or yellow Bee and use the Quinby hive; for instruction in the making of which get his book on the Management of Bees.

J. W. HODSON,

Bedford, Feb., 1872.

Reports of Agri. Societies.

SYDNEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The President and Directors of the Sydney Agricultural Society beg to report that the Society's operations in the past year have not been so active as, in closing last year's report, they ventured to anticipate. No County Exhibition has been held, nor any district one, because it was impossible. Changes in the organization of the Board and the future's uncertainty, have had the effect of paralyzing our efforts as well as those of other societies, from whom we required co-operation to render any exhibition a success, whilst the heavy drain on our people for local Railways and other public works has circumscribed farming, diminished production, and injured the quality of the product; as compared with former seasons.

The general character of the weather—cold and wet.

Of the crops—Hay far in excess of 1870, and above the average of many former years—much badly saved, and of inferior quality.

Wheat very sparsely sown, so much so as to call for no comment.

Oats and Barley which, at one time, looked very promising, are found to yield badly. Cold and wet weather prevented the grain from filling, and much has been cut unripe. There is abundance of straw.

Potatoes, on the whole, very inferior, probably one-half the yield of 1870, where the yield was good, the tubers much diseased, but generally these are small. This crop was late planted, and early blighted. Some of the new kinds, as Climax and Early Rose, in fact, all the early kinds, when early and well secured, have done better than the later kinds.

Turnips, a bad crop, which may be attributed to their requiring more care and attention than it is possible to give them when labour is so scarce, as at every stage Turnips require much care and attention.

Garden stuffs, as carrots, beets, parsnips, and cabbages, about as usual. Some very fine sample of cabbage and carrots have been raised.

Apples very medium in quality, and deficient in quantity.

Small fruits have suffered less from insect attacks than for several years past; have been very plentiful, and wild fruits unusually so. *Plum*; also a heavy crop.

The Society retains the prize cattle bought last year. The Devon "Theodore" has gone into winter quarters at the North West Arm, and the Ayrshire "Johnny" at the Forks. both are in high condition, and improved in weight.

Owing to the collapse of the old Central Board, no importation of cattle or sheep was made during the year. Pigs are required here, and it will be as well to make inquiries for them in time for spring. Sheep may be imported by the Board in time for the fall, when it will be essential to secure at least two good Rams to replace those we have lost. The good already effected by former importations is too manifest to admit of dispute, as by universal consent both meat and wool are superior to what was formerly produced here.

The great demand for meat of all kinds, and its now remunerative price throughout the year, with the prospect of a supply not equal to the demand, renders it a duty to the Society, we should urge more attention to the improving and raising of stock; otherwise our miners must look principally for their supplies elsewhere.

The public mind is awakening to the value of cheese factories; and we hope,

before the year 1872 closes, one, at least, will be established in this County.

The number of members attested for the grant is 50 (should be 70), which is in excess of last year; and if all would pay up in time, our share of the County Grant would be much larger than it is. Why will not members bear this in mind?

The Treasurer's account shows a balance in hand of \$64.04½; and if the additional members desirous of enrolling will do so early, we shall have funds sufficient, and be enabled very materially to extend the Society's usefulness in the incoming year.—Read and adopted.

The following Office-bearers for 1872 were then elected:—*President*, Henry Davenport; *Vice-Pres.*, Roderick McLennan; *Treas.*, Duncan McKenzie; *Sec'y.*, Thomas LeCras. *Directors*, Mr. Patrick Mulligan, Lowpoint District; J. S. Ingraham, West Side River; J. L. Hill, Sydney; J. G. Andrews, Forks, Sydney, North and South Side; Wm McLeod, North West Arm.

Meeting adjourned to 16th—then to meet for special business.

Recpts, \$292.57. Expenditure, \$128 15½
Balance on hand, \$64.4½.

THOS. LECRAS, *Secy.*
Sydney, C. B., Dec. 5th, 1871.

MABOU AND PORT HOOD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the Annual Meeting of the Mabou and Port Hood Agricultural Society for the year ending 5th Dec. 1871, the following persons were appointed as officers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, John McKeen; *Vice-Pres.*, G. C. Lawrence, Jr; *Sec'y and Treas.*, Robert McDougall. *Directors*, Hugh Cameron, Esq., M. D., Lewis McKeen, Edward D. Tremain, John McNeill, Raymond Smyth.

George C. Lawrence, Esq., *Senr.*, Member of the Central Board.

Amount in funds of Society to date.....\$215 33
Amount of Subscription for 1871..... 40 00

\$255 33

The Directors and Officers beg to state that no importation of stock or seed had taken place during the year ending, except 3 pair of Chester Pigs; and that they have decided to import next summer some Threshing Machines, or Stock, &c.—as the Directors may think proper at a meeting to be held early next spring.

L. S. McKEEN, *President.*
ROBT. McDOUGALL, *Sec'y.*

SYDNEY MINES AND LITTLE BRAS D'OR AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SYDNEY MINES, Dec. 1871.

At a meeting of the members of this Society, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz:—*Pres.*, R. H. Brown, Esq.; *Vice-Pres.*, Arch.

McArther; *Treas.*, Arch. McQueen; *Sec'y.*, Albert Corben; *Directors*, John Cox, Michael Phalen, William Young, "Gal," Yorke Barrington, R. A. Hamilton.

As our situation is not such as would warrant our joining any of the sister societies, therefore we would respectfully request your Honourable Board to recognize us as an Agricultural Society, to be named the "Sydney Mines and Little Bras d'Or Agricultural Society." The limits of the Society to be as follows:—Bounded on the North by Little Bras d'Or Channel, on the East by the Sea, on the South by Sydney Harbour, on the West by the road leading from the Temperance Hall at North Sydney, to the water of the Little Bras d'Or, near Jos. Howitson's.

ALBERT CORBEN, *Sec'y.*

MORRISTOWN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Receipts, \$358.76. Expenditure, \$353.65. Balance in hand, \$5.10.

STOCK IMPORTED IN 1871.

The amount of stock imported by this Society, in the year 1871, was:—Three bulls, bought in the Spring, one of which was sold at a loss at the end of the season—the remaining two being still in the possession of the Society, to be wintered at a cost of \$44. Also, fifteen sheep, from P. E. Island, which were sold to members of the Society at a small loss, and one pair of pigs, which are to be kept for the benefit of the Society. The chief production of the county being stock, and there being such large numbers exported of late without actually much improvement in the breed, it was thought by the Committee that the importation of improved breeds would be of much more benefit than the holding of exhibitions. Though the crops of last season were rather better than usual, still, on an average, there seems to be a gradual falling off in the production of grain to the acre in this district, which is no doubt caused by the running out of the land and want of thorough draining and manuring, but the cost of this is such that it is impossible for the majority of farmers in this county to accomplish it. They then have to fall back on their stock for a maintenance, and endeavor to raise as great a number as possible of the common breeds of the country, which sell at so low a figure as sometimes to scarcely pay for their keeping. This Fall there have been instances of heifers, two years and a half old, grade stock, selling for \$18.00; whereas the common cattle of the country, at the same age, brought but \$10.00. This is beginning to open the eyes of a great many, and we look for something better in future.

Owing to the small sum subscribed by our Society, it has been impossible for us to purchase anything but grade stock, but we now look forward to the next importation from Canada, by the Central Board, as the Committee have resolved to procure, if possible, some thorough-bred stock.

JOHN CHISHOLM, *Pres.*
B. W. OGDEN, *Sec'y.*

At the annual meeting of the Morristown Agricultural Society, December, 5th, 1871, the following were elected as officers, viz:—*Pres.*, John Chisholm; *Vice-Pres.*, Martin Brophy; *Sec'y.*, B. W. OGDEN; *Treas.*, A. McGillivray; *Committee*, Donald McDonald, (N. R.), David McNair, Donald McDonald, (miller), Robert Trotter, Angus McGillivray.

David McNair, Esq., was elected to represent the Society at the Central Board.

B. W. OGDEN, *Sec'y.*

ST. ANDREW'S AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The office-bearers and directors of the St. Andrew's Agricultural Society, of the county of Antigonish, beg to submit the following resume as the proceedings of this the first year of its existence:—

The Society is composed of fifty members, and was duly organized under the Act for the encouragement of Agriculture, on the 15th of July last; when it was resolved that the whole funds of the Society should be devoted to the purchase of sheep—accordingly D. Chisholm and Lauchlin Cameron, Esqrs., were appointed a committee for this purpose. Their ten sheep and lambs of the Shropshire breed were procured at Shubenacadie, one ram of which was imported by the Central Board of Agriculture in 1866, and the remaining were all from imported stock. Six sheep and lambs were also procured from Cape George, a locality famous for raising the best sheep in the County. The whole being a very fair lot, were duly sold at auction, the purchasers, with one exception, were members of the Society. It is most satisfactory to state that the prices realized amounted in the aggregate to the cost price, after deducting the usual twenty-five per cent. discount allowed to members of the Society, as the following statement will show:

Expenditure.

Shubenacadie Sheep.....\$118 05
Cape George Sheep..... 23 50
\$141 55

Receipts.

Amount of Subscriptions.....\$50 00
Proceeds of Sheep.....141 37½

\$191 37½

The above will leave a balance of \$49 82½ to the credit of the Society, as can be seen, independently of the Provincial grant, which we trust will add \$100 more to our funds—making the entire sum to commence the forthcoming year \$149 82½, which, with the funds accruing, it is proposed that Chester Pigs and Bulls be purchased.

Approved by the Annual Meeting held this 5th day of December, 1871, at St. Andrew's.

JAS. McDONALD, Pres.
A. CHISHOLM, Sec'y.

MERIGOMISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society held its annual meeting on the 5th of December, and the Secretary gave in the following report, which was adopted:—

To meet the wants of the Society we imported four White Chester Pigs, (two boars and two sows). The boars was sold to members, to be kept one year for the free use of the Society; the sows were sold to members, to be kept for two litters. We also got two barrels of the celebrated Early Rose potatoes, which were distributed free among the members.

We have also to inform you of the financial affairs of the Society. (The accounts show a balance in hand of \$30.86½.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year, viz:—*Pres.*, William Olding; *Vice-Pres.*, William Dunn; *Sec'y.* and *Treas.*, John S. Copeland; *Directors.* James Lumer, James Roy, Edwd. Finlayson, Duncan McIntosh, James R. McDonald.

WILLIAM OLDING, Pres.,
JOHN S. COPELAND, Sec. & Tres.

PICTOU AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The directors of the Pictou Agricultural Society, in closing the business of the year just ending, beg leave to report that the receipts of your Society for the past year have amounted to the sum of \$615.68½, while the expenditure for the same time has been \$684.71, leaving a balance against the Society amounting to \$69.02½.

The provincial grant for the present year has not been received, so that that sum, together with fifty dollars promised by the Gairloch Agricultural Society as a contribution to the Exhibition fund, but not yet paid, will, when received, leave a small balance in favor of your Society.

The membership of your Society numbers 132, a list of whose names we give you.

With regard to the operations of your Society, during the past year, your directors have to report that but little has been done in adding to the stock owned by

your Society; having but purchased one Chester Boar.

In compliance with a recommendation contained in the last annual report, a correspondence was opened with the several Agricultural Societies in the County, asking their cooperation in holding a County Exhibition, which resulted in securing the assistance of River John, Egertown and Gairloch Societies in holding a County Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition in Pictou, open to the Province, each of the above named Societies agreeing to pay the sum of \$50.00, your Society agreeing to pay the remainder.

Your directors have much pleasure in reporting the complete success which crowned their efforts in this matter, being the best exhibition, in all respects, ever held in this County. The sum of \$485.50 was offered in prizes, of which sum \$422.50 was paid to successful exhibitors.

Judging by the numbers on the Society's list of members, and the amount of funds paid in during the past year, your directors have much pleasure in reporting this Society in the most prosperous condition ever attained during the thirty-six years of its existence.

With regard to the crops we have to report the Hay an average crop; Wheat, a good crop; Oats, good; Potatoes, a small crop; Turnips and other roots good; Buckwheat, good; Barley, good; Peas, Beans, &c., a good crop.

The stock owned by the Society has been placed, during the past year, in localities where it was believed the greatest service would be secured to the largest number of members, a course which your directors would recommend to their successors in office during the ensuing year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID MATHESON, Pres.
JOHN MCKENZIE, Sec'y.

PICTOU, Dec. 5th, 1871.

The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the year 1872, viz:—*Pres.*, David Matheson; *Vice-Pres.*, Donald Fraser; *Treas.*, James Ives; *Sec'y.*, John McKenzie; *Directors.* Thos. Grant, Hugh Donovan, Roderick McKenzie, Robert Patterson, Alexander McKay.

JOHN MCKENZIE, Sec'y.

STERLING AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We have to report for the information of the Central Board of Agriculture, that the annual meeting of the Sterling Agricultural Society was held on the first Tuesday of December. When the report of the proceedings of the Society for the past year was presented to the meeting, it was moved and seconded that the report be received, which passed unanimously.

The following are the office-bearers for the ensuing year:—*President*, David Wilson; *Vice-Pres.*, Andrew Warwick; *Treas.*, Wm. Byers; *Sec'y.*, Wm. Creighton. *Directors*, Thomas McDonald, Jas. McCulley, James Cox, Robert Wilson, and Alexander Swan.

The meeting decided that the Directors purchase a pure Durham Bull, if he could be obtained to supply the place of the one sold. Also, the meeting appointed the Secretary of this Society as their Representative to the meeting with the other representatives of the County.

The receipts and disbursements of the Society for the past year, are as follows:

RECEIPTS.		
	<i>N. S. Cy.</i>	<i>D. Cy.</i>
Balance from last year	\$41 61	\$40 53
Provincial Grant	33 00	32 12
Services of Bulls	15 90	15 68
Bull sold		19 50
Members' Subscription	48 00	\$155.63

EXPENSES.		
Paid for keeping of Bull	\$29 01	
Deduction on Clover Seed	6 38	
Secretary's Salary, Postage, &c.	6 50	\$41.89

Balance.....\$113 75

D. WILSON, *President.*
WM. CREIGHTON, *Sec'y.*

WEST CORNWALLIS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

To the members of the West Cornwallis Agricultural Society—

Gentlemen—The officers of your Society have the gratification of reporting to you the uniform progress of the Society, and the success which has attended your efforts in the stock raising department. We would call your attention to the marked improvement in the stock produced from the "Major Rowland," as one of the most substantial arguments in favour of purchasing thorough-bred animals. We must admit that improvements have been made through the introduction half-bred bulls, but at the same time express our certain knowledge, from the experience of the past, that no such advantages can be looked for from their importation or use as are about certain to follow the importation and use of thorough-bred cattle. We therefore recommend the importation of one more thorough-bred bull for the Society's use the coming season.

We have to report to you the most satisfactory condition of your finances, although your receipts are something less for membership this year than on former occasions. Your receipts the present year are, 1st—fees of annual subscriptions of membership, seventy six dollars; 2nd, Provincial grant, seventy dollars; 3rd, for use of bulls, nineteen dollars and fifty cents; 4th, balance on hand last year, nine dollars and twenty-three cents; total, one hundred and seventy-four dollars and seventy-three cents, (\$174.73). The whole expenditure of the Society

during the past year amounts to one hundred and sixty-three dollars and forty-eight cents, (163.48), the items of which will fully appear in the account presented.

Crop.—Upon this subject we have to report the Hay crop largely in advance of former years. Wheat—quite below average—owing chiefly to rust, but considerable losses were made by the midge. Winter Rye good, Summer Rye less than an average. Oats quite above average. Indian Corn, full average. Some of our members have been cultivating the Long Orange Carrot, during the present year, for stock feeding. The crop is good, producing about six hundred bushels to the acre on their sandy soil, and ordinary manuring. One member raised five hundred and seventy bushels on three quarters of an acre. The Potato crop is altogether below an average one.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, George W. Kinsman; *Vice-Pres.*, John Power; *Secy. and Treas.*, Alfred S. Rand; *Directors*, Edward Parker, Henry Shaw, James N. Spicer, James P. Kinsman, James A. Cox.

The person chosen to elect a member for the Central Board of Agriculture is Geo. W. Fisher, Esq.

Receipts, \$174.73. Expenditure, \$168.48. Balance in hand, \$10.95.
SOMERSET, Dec. 5, 1871.

AMHERST AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS, 1871.

Your Board beg leave to report upon the proceedings of the closing year as follows:—That in accordance with your wishes, as expressed at the last annual meeting, the Board made the necessary arrangements for holding a Show, and offered as generous a prize list as the funds would warrant, the show was held on the 24th of last October, and although the day was fair, the entries were not as numerous as the previous year, nor the exhibition as creditable as should be in the Shire town.

On the day of the exhibition one of the Leicester Rams was sold at auction for three dollars, (\$3), the other was offered, but could not find a purchaser. When we remember that the Ayrshire Bull that was bought at great expense, was sold for beef, and now an important Ram sold for even less than his value for mutton, it is time for the Society to seriously consider if it be an advantage to import thorough-bred stock or not.

It is a matter of deep regret that only 43 persons, in this fine section of the country, find it to their interest or pleasure to belong to an Agricultural Society.

Your Board seriously think, in view of the facts of so small a membership, even considerably less than formerly, that some change in the working was desired that would interest a greater portion of the agricultural community, failing which, to wind up the operations of the Society.

The Treasurer's account will shew the receipts and expenses of the Society for current year.

We trust that your deliberations in annual meeting will result in devising some plan that will give an impetus to Amherst Society, and make it the useful and vigorous institution which should exist and be a credit to the county.

The following is the list of office-bearers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, Thos. R. Black; *Vice-Pres.*, Torrey Bent; *Treas.*, Charles H. Bent; *Secy.*, Hiram Black; *Directors.*, Jas. M. Layton, Jas. E. Page, Thompson Coates, Howard Smith, Ansley Black.

Receipts, \$130.21½; expenditure, \$135.47; balance due to Treasurer, \$5.22½.

The following persons were awarded prizes at the Exhibition held in Amherst, Oct. 24th, 1871:—

HORSES.

Best Brood Mare and Colt.....	John Embra, Jr.
2nd do do	Joseph Coates.
Best Carriage Horse.....	Fred. W. Bent.
2nd do do	Ansley Black.
3rd do do	John Atkinson.
Best Draft Horse.....	Thomp. Keillor.
2nd do do	Joseph Coates.
3rd do do	Thos. R. Black.
Best 3 yrs old Colt.....	Joseph Coates.
2nd do do	Torrey Bent.
3rd do do	Thos. R. Black.
Best 2 yrs old Colt (1 entry).....	Daniel Freeman.
Best 1 yr do	Joseph Coates.
2nd do do	Hood Coates.
3rd do do	John W. Smith.

NEAT CATTLE.

Best pair Oxen.....	Joseph Coates.
2nd do do	Howard Smith.
3rd do do	Thomp. Coates.
Best pair 3 yrs old Steers.....	David McElman.
2nd do do	John Atkinson.
3rd do do	Thomp. Coates.
Best pair 2 yrs old Steers.....	Wm. L. Pipes.
2nd do do	John W. Smith.
3rd do do	D. McElman.
Best pair 1 yr old Steers.....	D. McElman.
2nd do do	John W. Smith.
3rd do do	Joseph Coates.
Best pair Steer Calves.....	Thomp. Keillor.
2nd do do	Howard Smith.
3rd do do	Thomp. Coates.
Best Cow.....	Torrey Bent.
2nd do	D. McElman.
3rd do	Wm. L. Pipes.
Best 2 yrs old Heifer.....	Joseph Coates.
2nd do do	Wm. Fitchet.
3rd do do	May. Freeman.
Best 1 yr old Heifer.....	Wm. Fitchet.
2nd do do	Samuel Black.
3rd do do	John Atkinson.
Best Heifer Calf.....	Torrey Bent.
2nd do do	Thomp. Keillor.

BULLS AND PIGS.

Best Bull, 2 yrs old & upwards.....	Wm. L. Pipes.
2nd do do	Thomp. Keillor.
Best Bull 1 yr old & upwards.....	D. McElman.
2nd do do	May. Freeman.
Best Bull Calf (1 entry).....	Torrey Bent.
Best Boar (1 entry).....	Thomp. Keillor.

SHEEP.

Best Ram.....	Joseph Coates.
2nd do	Hood Coates.
Best Ram Lamb.....	D. McElman.
2nd do do	N. J. Gordon.
Best Ewe.....	N. J. Gordon.
2nd do	D. McElman.
Best Ewe Lamb.....	Thomp. Keillor.
2nd do do	Thomp. Coates.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Best Firkin Butter.....	Torrey Bent.
2nd do do	J. Glendinning.
3rd do do	Hiram Black.
Best Tub Butter.....	Torrey Bent.
2nd do do	Wm. Fitchet.
3rd do do	Ansley Black.
Best Cheese.....	May. Freeman.
2nd do	Wm. Freeman.
3rd do	John Logan.

CEREALS.

Best Wheat.....	J. Glendinning.
2nd do	May. Freeman.
Best Barley.....	John Logan.
2nd do	H. Delesdernier.
Best Buckwheat.....	May. Freeman.
2nd do	Thos. R. Black.
Best Oats, White.....	Jas. M. Layton.
2nd do	J. Glendinning.
Best Oats, Black.....	Jas. M. Layton.
2nd do	May. Freeman.
Best Timothy Seed.....	Jas. M. Layton.
2nd do	H. Delesdernier.
3rd do	M. Harrison.

HORTICULTURAL.

Best Potatoes (table).....	N. J. Gordon.
2nd do do	Torrey Bent.
Best Potatoes (stock).....	H. Delesdernier.
2nd do do	Ansley Black.
Best Turnips.....	Thos. R. Black.
2nd do	Hiram Black.
Best Beets.....	Thos. R. Black.
2nd do	Hiram Black.
Best Mangolds (1 entry).....	Thos. R. Black.
Best Parsnips.....	Ansley Black.
2nd do	Hiram Black.
Best Carrot (white).....	Thos. R. Black.
2nd do do	S. Harrison.
Best Carrots (orange).....	Thos. R. Black.
2nd do do	Ansley Black.
Best Onions (1 entry).....	S. Harrison.
Best Corn.....	Sam. Black.
2nd do	Jas. M. Layton.
Best Cabbage.....	Thos. R. Black.
2nd do	John W. Smith.
Best Cauliflower.....	D. McElman.
2nd do	S. Harrison.
Best Pumpkin.....	May. Freeman.
2nd do	Hiram Black.
Best Tomatoes.....	S. Harrison.
2nd do	Jas. M. Layton.
Best Beans.....	Jas. M. Layton.
2nd do	Ansley Black.
Best Peas (1 entry).....	S. Harrison.

WOOLENS.

Best Hearth Rug of any material (1 entry).....	John W. Smith.
Best Hearth Rug (rag).....	Hood Coates.
2nd do do	C. Farrington.
Best pair Mittens.....	John Atkinson.
2nd do do	Thos. R. Black.
Best pair Socks.....	Thos. R. Black.
2nd do do	John Atkinson.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. R. BLACK, Pres.
HIRAM BLACK, Secy.

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