

THE GLEANER:

AND NORTHUMBERLAND, KENT, GLOUCESTER AND RESTIGOUCHE
COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

OLD SERIES.]

Nec araneorum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.

[COMPRISED 13 VOLUMES.]

NEW SERIES, VOL. V.]

MIRAMICHI, TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9, 1847.

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Agricultural Journal.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RESTIGOUCHE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, JANUARY 5, 1847.

The Agricultural Board of last year laid before you a comparative statement of Imports, shewing a saving to the County, of about twelve thousand pounds annually, the then last two years as compared with the first two years of the existence of this Society; and Accounts shewing funds in hand to the amount of £100 16s. less balances then unknown, that were due to Mr. McCaw, our correspondent in Ayrshire, and to Mr. John Dykes, of Kilmarnock, Seedman.

Your Committee having full confidence in the progressive improvement of the Agriculture of the County, as well as in its increase of population, deemed it advisable to comply with the wishes of several of your members, expressed at your last annual Meeting, to import with their available funds, a further supply of superior animals, with a view of stamping a character for pre-eminence on the stock bred within its limits, and of extending the benefits derived therefrom—requested one of their number, Arthur Ritchie, Esquire, to purchase for them, when in Britain last winter, a Bull and two Heifers, each of the Ayrshire and West Highland breed. He not having met with the West Highland cattle, and seeing a favourable opportunity of securing Ayrshires, from the stock that have been awarded premiums at the Cattle Show in and near Glasgow, for several years, selected the whole number ordered, from that stock, all of which arrived in good condition, and were disposed of at public auction; and although not realising the cost of their original purchase and expenses, still they approximated nearer to it than any other animals that have been imported by our society; thus shewing a decided advantage in introducing into the County, cattle of the very best description, and most celebrated pedigree, with good milking qualities, and fine breeding points.

The *British American Cultivator* was ordered and distributed as usual; but from the interest your subscribers take in that paper, and the useful information contained in it, your committee recommended that the number should be increased, and in future to be distributed as premiums at the Grain Shows and at other exhibitions.

The *Annual Grain Show* took place at the Court Hall, at Dalhousie, on Tuesday the 14th day of April last, when the following prizes were awarded and paid, viz—

For the best sample of Spring Wheat, weighing 64 lbs 12oz per bushel, Winchester measure, to J. Currie,	0 15 0
Second best 63 lbs 11oz to J. Conacher	0 11 3
Third do 64 lbs 9oz to D. McNish,	0 7 6
The best 4 rowed Barley, 51 lbs 14oz, to David Alexander,	0 15 0
Second do 52 lbs 8oz J. Robertson,	0 11 3
Best 6 do do 54 lbs 6oz John McLean,	0 15 0
Second best do 51 lbs 10oz J. Conacher	0 11 3
Best Siberian Wheat, 82 lbs 10oz, A. McNair,	0 15 0
Second best do 64 lbs 14oz W. Blair,	0 11 3
Best White Oats, 47 lbs 2oz D. McNish	0 15 0
Second best do 45 lbs John Murchy	0 11 3
Best Black Oats, 41 lbs 10oz J. Currie	0 15 0
Second best do 42 lbs 5oz W. Blair,	0 11 3
Best Field Pease, D. Stewart,	0 15 0
Second best do W. Blair,	0 10 0
Best Clover Seed, weighing 50 lbs 14oz per bushel, A. McNair,	2 0 0
Best Timothy Seed, 41 lbs 9oz W. Blair	0 15 0
Second best do 44 lbs 6oz D. McNish	0 10 0
Best Homespun cloth, D. Fraser,	1 0 0
Second do, J. Robertson,	0 15 0
Third do, J. Ferguson,	0 10 0
Best samples of Stockings, J. Menzies	0 15 0
Second do, W. Blair,	0 12 6

GRATIFICATIONS.

To R. McIntosh, parish of Durham, for a superior sample of dressed Flax and Seed,	1 0 0
To J. Menzies, for a Threshing Mill	1 0 0

Amounting to £18 7-6

The seeds and guano ordered from Britain last Spring, did not arrive in time, owing to the disaster that the barque *Eliza*, of Troon, in which they were shipped, met with at sea, but they ultimately were received in good order, and are now for sale, together with two samples of Timothy seed, imported from Quebec. Notwithstanding the funds of your society were so limited, your committee felt disposed to risk the probability of a quick arrival and sale of a few labour saving implements of husbandry, as models, determined on profiting by the ingenuity and experience of the inhabitants of the nearest older settled country, and ordered from the United States a variety of such articles as they deemed most simple, useful, and applicable to the country, amounting to £30 6s. 7d. In doing so, they have paved the way and opened a communication that may be used and extended at the discretion of your society in future; and although a loss was sustained on them also, your committee consider the money well expended, and can recommend the articles to the Agriculturists of the County, with every assurance that they will be found worthy of imitation, and a great saving of manual labour and time.

On the sixth of August, your committee remitted Mr. Dyke, a set of exchange, to cover the balances due to Mr. McCaw and himself since the last year, together with amount of seeds and guano received this season, and leaving a balance in his hands of £2 7s. 11d. sterling, towards an order sent at the same time for a further supply of seeds, to be shipped in the fall. But as there was not any direct conveyance for this port, he deferred the shipment until next spring; and writes, that any further commands from your society, in the mean time, as well as the former, will meet with cheerful and prompt attention from him.

On the 14th of September, the *Cattle Show* and Fair was held at Cambellton, when Premiums were awarded as follows: viz—

For the best 4 years old Bull, John Duncan,	2 12 6
The best 2 years old do, A. Ritchie,	1 2 6
The best year old do, A. Ritchie,	0 15 0
The best Calf, Thomas Murray,	0 7 6
The best 2 year old Heifer, J. Ferguson	0 15 0
The best year old do, J. Duncan,	0 11 3
The best Calf, A. Ritchie,	0 7 6
The best 3 year old Ram, J. Duncan	0 15 0
The best 2 year old do, J. Pratt,	0 11 3
The best year old do, J. Gerrard,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, Robert Blair,	0 7 6
The best 3 years old Ewe, A. Douglas	0 15 0
The best 2 year do, to do,	0 11 3
The best year old do, R. Blair,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, to W. Downs,	0 7 6
The best Boar, Rev. James Steven,	0 15 0
The second best do, to do,	0 11 3
The best Sow, to do,	0 15 0

Amounting to £12 15 0

This exhibition was much better attended than was that of last year, and the improvement perceptible, particularly in the younger animals, exceeded the most sanguine expectations of your committee.

At Dalhousie another *Cattle Show* took place on the 17th agreeably to advertisement; where the animals entered for competition, sustained the credit of that parish, for careful management in breeding, both Neat Cattle and Sheep. Prizes were awarded as follows—

For the best 3 year old Bull, P. Charlefour,	1 17 6
The best 2 year do, D. Fraser,	1 2 6
The best year do, A. McPherson,	0 15 0
The best Calf, P. Stewart, mountain brook,	0 7 6
The best 2 year Heifer, D. McIntosh,	0 15 0
The best year do, H. Montgomery,	0 11 3
The best Calf, to do,	0 7 6
The best 3 year Ram, W. Hamilton,	0 15 0
The best 2 year Boar, R. Blair,	0 11 3
The best year do, J. Barberie,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, Mrs. Hunter,	0 7 6
The best 3 year Ewe, Cunard Barberie	0 15 0
The best 2 year do, J. Barberie,	0 11 3
The best year ditto, John Currie,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, W. Hamilton,	0 7 6
The best Boar, S. McGregor,	0 15 0
The best Sow, D. Stewart,	0 15 0
The second do, Dr. Carter,	0 11 3

Amounting to £12 0 0

And in conformity with the order made at your last general meeting; a third *Cattle Show* and fair was held on the Premises of Mr. Robert Hervie, for the first time, in the parish of Durham, on the 19th of the same month, the following prizes were distributed: viz.

For the best 4 year Bull, A. McNair,	2 12 6
The best 3 year do, G. Maxwell,	1 17 6
The best 2 year do, R. Connacher,	1 2 6
The best year do, A. McPherson,	0 15 0
The best Calf, to do,	0 15 0
The best 2 year Heifer, D. McIntosh	0 15 0
The best year do, John McLean,	0 11 3
The best Heifer Calf, A. McPherson	0 7 6
The best 3 year Ram, John Marchy	0 15 0
The best 2 year do, J. McCormick,	0 11 3
The best year do, A. McPherson,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, D. McMillan,	0 7 6
The best 3 year Ewe, J. McCormick	0 15 0
The best 2 year do, Robert Hervie,	0 11 3
The best year do, to do,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, D. McMillan,	0 7 6
The best Boar, Marcus Devereaux,	0 15 0
The best Sow, W. McMillan,	0 15 0
The second do, R. Hervie,	0 11 3

Amounting to £14 12 6

On this occasion many of the Inhabitants appeared not to understand or appreciate the meaning or intention of such an exhibition, but merely came as spectators; they however returned to their homes satisfied with its usefulness, and expressed a determination to attend as competitors in future.

There was but one *Ploughing Match* the last season, which, as advertised, was in Dalhousie; but your committee was disappointed in the number that attended; the persons that took the first prizes last year being excluded; many young aspirants were looked for. Your committee however avail themselves of this opportunity, to congratulate your society on the great improvement perceptible in that branch of husbandry, throughout the cultivated parts of the County. Immediately after the prizes were decided and paid to the following persons, viz.

To John Robertson, as first or best ploughman,	1 17 6
To James Connacher, second best ditto,	1 10 0
To William Douglas, third best ditto	1 2 6

Amounting to £4 10 0

As many of the society as were present, adjourned to the hotel of Mr. Michaud, where they partook of a substantial dinner, after which an animated conversation took place, on subjects connected with agriculture; and all retired well pleased and gratified, at an early hour, with the business of the day.

The accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer have been audited and found correct, showing business transactions since your last meeting, to the amount of £352 18s. 3d.; yet overrunning your funds but £12 14s. 2d.; with the exception of which, the Legislative grant for 1846, the arrears of subscription to collect, the sales of stock on hand, remain available to meet the ordinary encouragement for the best specimens of growth, produce and manufactures of the county, as well as those who excel as Ploughmen, and for the introduction of other implements as models if deemed necessary or desirable. In examining these accounts, you will perceive that the Imperial duties amounting to £2 4s. 4d. and Provincial to £3 4s. 4d. were paid on the agricultural implements imported per schooner *Hero*, and a Provincial duty £5 4s. 5d. on the animals received per *William Glen Anderson* with £11 13s. 1d. for a return of which, your committee respectfully recommends an application by petition to the Legislature of the Province, in full confidence that it will refund your society the amount paid, and thereby countenance and encourage the introduction into the country, of implements and stock so useful, essentially necessary and beneficial.

Your committee having now taken a review of their year's proceedings in detail, beg leave to call the attention of your society to the fact, that there has not been shipped any barley for exportation the last season; from which they infer that it has not proved profitable to the shippers; and that in future, a surplus quantity of the grain will remain on

hand, inconvertible to any profitable use, unless the restrictions imposed by the present laws of the province (amounting to a prohibition) on malting and distilling be removed, or reduced to in equality with the duty on imported whiskey and malt liquor, which will have the effect of encouraging domestic manufacture, and saving a large sum of money now sent out of the port, to purchase beer and spirits elsewhere. Large quantities of Pork may be fattened on the grains or draught after distillation, adding thereby to the saving already effected in that article also.

Several efforts were made by your committee to procure a two horse power threshing machine, of the lightest and most simple construction, yet efficient as a model; in which they have not succeeded; still they advise perseverance; and an addition of a clover thresher and separator; also, a portable self-acting cheese press.

In conclusion, it is the mournful duty of your committee to record the death of your respected and worthy vice-president Mr. Walter Blair, than whom there was not a more attentive and intelligent member of your society. The vacancy thus occurred, it will be the business of this meeting to fill up. Submitted, by order,

DUGALD STEWART,
Secretary and Treasurer.

The following Resolutions were then unanimously agreed to.

Moved by Mr. J. Cowper, and seconded by John Cunningham, Esquire,—That the report now read, be received, published, and distributed as usual.

Moved by C. Simonds, Esquire, and seconded by Peter Stewart, Esquire,—That the thanks of this meeting are due, and hereby tendered to the Office-bearers for the past year.

Moved by John Cunningham, Esquire, and seconded by Mr. Peter Rigby,—That Andrew Barberie, Esquire, be re-elected President; and Hugh Montgomery, Esquire, vice-president of this society.

Moved by J. U. Campbell, Esquire, and seconded by C. Simonds, Esquire,—That James McPherson, Esquire, be elected vice-president in room of Mr. Walter Blair, deceased.

Moved by Mr. G. Cowper, seconded by John Cunningham,—That Donald Stewart, Arthur Ritchie, and John Douglas, Esquires, be re-elected members of the Committee.

Moved by Peter Stewart, Esquire, and seconded by J. U. Campbell, Esquire,—That Mr. John Ferguson of Athol House and David McIntosh, of Eel River, be the members of the committee, for the ensuing year; also, that Dugald Stewart, Esquire be re-elected Secretary and Treasurer.

Moved by J. U. Campbell, and seconded by W. S. Smith, Esquire.—That 40 copies of *The British American Cultivator* be ordered this year, and distributed as premiums, under the direction of the Agricultural Board.

Moved by Peter Stewart, Esquire, and seconded by C. Simonds Esquire,—That the president of the society do petition the Legislature of the province, for a return of the duties paid on implements of husbandry and cattle imported by the society last year.

Moved by Peter Stewart, Esquire, and seconded by John Ferguson, Esquire.—That C. Simonds, W. S. Smith, and John Cunningham, Esquires, be a committee to draft a bill, to be submitted to the Grand Jury, at the present general Sessions of the Peace, having for its object, the reduction of the Duty on Whiskey distilled in the county of Restigouche.

Ordered,—That the Agricultural Board of this year, do import a two horse power Threshing Machine, a Clover Thresher and Separator, and a portable Cheese Press; to be sold by Public Auction, to any Members of the Society; the upset price being cost and charges, by order.

DUGALD STEWART,
Secretary and Treasurer.