

THE GLEANER:

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

OLD SERIES]

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

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LOCAL.

THE NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Restigouche Agricultural Society

SUBMITTED JANUARY 2ND, 1849.

THE period having again arrived when the Annual Meeting of the Restigouche Agricultural Society is held, for the purpose of investigating its affairs, reviewing its progress, and electing Office Bearers for the ensuing year—your Committee, as required by Constitution, submit the following Report of their proceedings of the past year.

On the 24th of January last, the British American Cultivator was ordered, as directed at your last Meeting, to be distributed as premiums at the several exhibitions; but only thirty copies were received, instead of forty, as formerly, for the sum of Five Pounds.

The Annual Grain Show was held on the 11th April, in the Court House in Dalhousie, at which the following Prizes were awarded;

For the best sample of Winter Wheat, weighing 63lb 7oz., No 6 to Dugald Stewart,	£1 0 0
The second best, weighing 63lbs, No 46, to Robert Parker,	0 11 3
For the best sample of Spring Wheat, weighing 66lbs, No 22, to James Currie,	0 15 0
The second best, weighing 65lbs 14 oz., No 45, to Robert Parker,	0 11 3
The third ditto, weighing 64lbs 4 oz., No 39, to Wm. Hamilton,	0 7 6
The fourth ditto, weighing 65lbs 11oz No 38, to John Robertson, a Cultivator,	
For the best Siberian Wheat, No 64 to N. Perrot,	0 15 0
The second best do, No 24, to John McLean,	0 11 3
The third do, No 23, to R. Jeffrey, a Cultivator,	
For the best two rowed Barley, to John Douglas,	0 15 0
For the best four rowed ditto, to John Douglas,	0 15 0
The second best do, to Daniel McMillan,	0 11 3
The third do, to David Alexander, a Cultivator,	
For the best six rowed Barley, No 49, to J. Ferguson,	0 15 0
The second best do, No 25, to Robert Jeffrey,	0 11 3
The third do, No 26, to D. McMillan, a Cultivator,	
For the best White Oats, to Donald McNish,	0 15 0
The second best do, to Robert Jeffrey,	0 11 3
The third ditto, to D. McNish, a Cultivator,	
For the best Black Oats, No 4, to John Douglas,	0 15 0
The second best do, No 9, to Peter Stewart,	0 11 3
For the best Peas, No 63, to Nathaniel Perrot,	0 15 0
The second best do, No 62, to Nathaniel Perrot,	0 10 0
For the best Timothy, No 13 to John McLean,	0 15 0
The second best, No 65, to Robert Parker,	0 10 0
The third, No 12, to John Douglas, a Cultivator,	
For the best Cheese, No 1, to Dugald Stewart,	0 10 0
The second best do, No 2, to Donald McMillan,	0 7 6
For the best Butter, No 2, to Marcus Devereux,	0 15 0
The second best do, No 1, to Dugald Stewart,	0 10 0
The third do No 3, to A. McNair, a Cultivator,	
For the best Plaiding or Blanketing, No 3, to D. Fraser,	0 15 0
The second best do., No 6, to Marcus Devereux,	0 10 0
The third do, No 10, to Donald McMillan,	
For the best piece of Homespun, No 4, to D. Fraser,	1 0 0
The second best do, No 8, to John McCormick,	0 15 0
The third do, No 11, to John Robertson,	0 10 0
The 4th, No 5, to Donald Fraser, a Cultivator,	
For the best sample of Stockings, to Robert Blair,	0 15 0

DISCRETIONARY PREMIUMS.

For an improved Spinning Wheel, to E. Hoare,	0 15 0
For a Clover Thresher and Separator, to A. McNair,	2 0 0

Amounting to £22 3 9

The different Cattle Shows and Ploughing Match followed, as hereinafter stated, agreeably to previous notice, and the Prizes awarded as specified.

The first Cattle Show this year, was held at Campbellton on the 2nd day of October: Prizes as follows—

For the best four year old Bull, to John Ferguson,	£2 12 6
The best three year old do, to John Duncan,	1 17 6
The best two year old do, to Thomas Murray,	1 2 6
The best year old do, to John Douglas,	0 15 0
The second best do, to Joseph Pratt, a Cultivator,	
For the best two year old Heifer, to Joseph Pratt,	0 15 0
The second best do, to the Rev. J. Steven, a Cultivator,	
For the best year old do, to John Robinson,	0 11 3
The second best do, to John Duncan, a Cultivator,	
For the best Bull Calf, to Thos. Murray,	0 7 6
For the best Heifer Calf, to Lauchlin Sinclair,	0 7 6
For the best three year old Ram, to John Robinson,	0 15 0
The second best, to James Gerrard, a Cultivator,	
For the best two year old do, to Thomas Murray,	0 11 3
The second best do., to Robert Reid, a Cultivator,	
For the best Ram Lamb, to John Douglas,	0 7 6
For the best year old do, to do,	0 7 6
For the best three year old Ewe, to John Duncan,	0 15 0
The best two year old do, to John Duncan,	0 11 3
The best year old do, to do	0 7 6
The best Lamb, to John Robinson,	0 7 6
The best Boar, to do.,	0 15 0
The second best do, to Thomas Murray,	0 11 3
For the best Sow, to do,	0 15 0
The second best do, to Allan Andrew,	0 11 3
For the best three year old Horse or Filly, to John Ferguson,	1 0
The best two year old do, to Daniel Malcolm,	0 15 0
The best year old do, to William Jamieson,	0 10 0

Amounting to £17 8 9

The next Cattle Show was held at Dalhousie on the 4th of October, and Prizes awarded as follows—

For the best three year old Ram, to John Robinson,	0 15 0
The best two year old do, to Doctor Carter,	0 11 3
The best year old do, to do,	0 7 6
The second best do, to Peter Rigby, a Cultivator,	
The best Ram Lamb, to William Hamilton,	0 7 6
For the best three year old Ewe, to John Barberie,	0 15 0
The best two year old do, to James McPherson,	0 11 3
The best year old do, to Cunard Barberie,	0 7 6
The best Ewe Lamb, to William S. Wands,	0 7 6
For the best two year old Heifer, to Dugald Stewart,	0 15 0
The best year old do, to John Curry,	0 11 3
The best Calf, to Donald Stewart,	0 7 6
For the best Bull Calf, to William S. Smith,	0 7 6
For the best four year old Bull, to D. Fraser,	2 12 6
The best three year old Bull, to Alexander McPherson,	1 17 6
The best two year old do., to Thos. Murray,	1 2 6
The second best do, to Robert Blair, a Cultivator,	
The best year old do, to John Douglas,	0 15 0
For the best Boar Pig, to Wm. Hamilton,	0 15 0
The second best do, to John Robinson,	0 11 3
For the best Sow, to Peter and Donald Stewart,	0 15 0
The second best do, to Cunard Barberie,	0 11 3
For the best Horse or Filly, 3 years old, to James Coucher,	1 0 0

The best two year old do, to Donald Malcolm,	£0 15 0
The best year old do, to P. Stewart, Mountain brook,	0 10 0

Amounting to £17 8 9

The third Cattle Show was held in the Parish of Durham, the 7th October, when were distributed—

For the best four year old Bull, to Donald Fraser,	2 12 6
The best three year old do, to Wm. Kearney,	1 17 6
The best two year old do, to Marcus Devereux,	1 2 6
The best year old do, to Alexander Ferguson,	0 15 0
The best Calf, to Patrick Doyle,	0 7 6
For the best two year old Heifer, to Peter Hamilton,	0 15 0
The best year old do, to Chas. McAllister,	0 11 3
The best Calf to Patrick Doyle,	0 7 6
For the best 3 year old Ram, to W. McMillan,	0 15 0
The best two year old do, to John McCormick,	0 11 3
The best year old do, to Archibald Hamilton,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, to William McMillan,	0 7 6
For the best three year old Ewe, to John McCormick,	0 15 0
The best two year old do, to D. McMillan,	0 11 3
The best year old do, to do,	0 7 6
The best Lamb, to Alexander McPherson,	0 7 6
For the best Boar, to William Kearney,	0 15 0
The second best do, to William McMillan,	0 11 3
For the best Sow, to John Murchy,	0 15 0
The second best do, to William Kearney,	0 11 3
For the best Horse or Filly to P. Connacher,	1 0 0
The second best do, to J. Connacher, a Cultivator,	
The best two year old do, to John Kelse,	0 15 0
The second best do, to A. McPherson, a Cultivator,	
The best year old do, to William Cooke,	0 10 0
The second best do, to Isaac Frelott, a Cultivator,	

Amounting to £17 8 9

The Annual Ploughing Match was held this year at Dalhousie, on the 17th October, and the prizes adjudged—

The first to Robert Watson,	£1 17 6
The second to William Douglas,	1 10 0
The third to Archibald Douglas,	1 2 6
The fourth to David Currie, a Cultivator.	

Amounting to £4 10 0

Thus, distributing upwards of £85, among the Agriculturalists of the county, to stimulate them to increased exertion, and create a spirit of emulation, with a view of developing the capabilities of the agricultural resources of the county, and encouraging its inhabitants (more particularly its young) to the cultivation of the soil, as the most healthy pursuit, and surest source of substantial independence.

A general assortment of Field and Garden Seeds suitable to the climate, were imported in the spring, and retailed out during the season; and in the autumn a fresh supply was received, to be on hand ready for the spring demand.

The only stock that was deemed necessary to import since your last meeting, were three pair of the largest sized sheep of the Dishley, Cotswolds, and Bakewell, or Lincoln breeds; but although ordered in good time, your committee were disappointed in consequence of their correspondent mislaying the letter containing their order, and not being able to find it up to the sailing of the last vessel, nor did he recollect the particular kind wanted, but requests a renewal of the order that he may have time to look up animals from the best stock. The improvement already effected in our breed of sheep, induces your committee to recommend occasional importations, so as to prevent the necessity of breeding on the in and in system.

In consequence of the last being unusually cold and wet season, the Grain

crops were not so productive as in former years, particularly the Wheat, which was in some instances affected with rust; as were also the potatoes, but not to a greater extent than on the two preceding years; nor have they been so subject to rot in the cellars as formerly—consequently it is hoped there will be a sufficiency, with economy, remaining in the spring, for seed the ensuing season. Your Committee would strongly recommend the cultivation of Peas, Beans and Indian Corn, on a more extensive scale, as the best substitute in case of a continuation of the disease in that valuable root. Peas will be found an excellent crop to prepare the ground for wheat the following season, if sown on old green sward turned down in broader furrows than it is the customary practice, say from ten to twelve inches broad, by six or seven deep, which will afford sufficient earth to cover the seed, at the overlapping of the furrows, when they will have the appearance when growing of having been drilled. The small white Beans are sometimes sown broadcast in the same manner, but they require more: it appears to your committee that the drilling system will answer best for them. The favourite method of planting Indian Corn is in hills, particularly in new land; but it is sometimes grown to advantage in old land, either in straight drills, or by drilling the ground across, and setting the seed in each cross so made, when it may be manured from a cart drawn in amongst it, in the usual manner of manuring straight drills, and covered in lightly with a plough or hoe, which will place them in spots or hills, and effect a great saving of manual labor.

Although many of our farmers will experience a severe loss in their crops the present year, as compared with former years, still there will be a sufficiency in the county both for food and seed; and when we look around and contrast the peaceable and happy condition of this country with others that we hear and read of, it should be theme of thankfulness to the Divine Giver of all Good, that we are free from distractions, famine, pestilence and disease that they are afflicted with.

The threshing mill has not yet been repaired, but your committee submit a communication they have received from William Hamilton, Esq., and in whose possession the mill still remains.

The accounts of the receipts of the expenditure of the last year show a balance in favor of the Society of £62 3 5, including outstanding debts. The Stock of Field and Garden seeds are in good order, and such as can be recommended to the members of your society with confidence.

It is with no small degree of satisfaction that your Committee invite a review of the present agricultural state of the county, compared with what it was nine years ago, when your Society was first formed. The general prejudice against, and distrust in the climate that then existed, will be found to have given place to a well-grounded confidence, the result of experience in remunerating crops, under ordinary circumstances, in return for labor judiciously applied. The degenerated animals that then constituted the farm stock, are supplanted by the improved Durham, Ayrshire, and thirty West Highland Cattle. The Teeswater, Leicester, Cheviot, and Southdown sheep are introduced into almost every settlement; whilst the neat careful manner of tilling the soil, and consequent luxuriant appearance of our grain crops, are the admiration of strangers visiting the county, where a few years ago but occasional patches of grain, so mixed and foul, were met with, that it was difficult to determine what species was intended to be grown, as if the persons who ventured to sow any, were desirous to ascertain by the shortest possible process, if either would ripen; these were the only specimens to be seen of Agricultural industry. Your Society, however, like the County, is only in its infancy, with a wide field before it for improvement, requiring the united efforts of all classes to foster and encourage it, yet it is to be regretted that so many of those, for whose benefit it