

Resolved unanimously, That John Wright, Esq., be President of this Society for the ensuing year.

On being re-elected, Mr Wright addressed the meeting in his usual familiar, but interesting and effective style, on sundry topics deeply affecting the welfare and working of the Society.

The Secretary was requested to read the Report of the past year, which having been done—it was moved by Peter Mitchell, Esq., seconded by John M. Johnson, Esq., and

Resolved unanimously, That the Report now read by the Secretary, being highly satisfactory and creditable to this Society, be received and adopted; and that the same be handed to Mr Pierce for publication in the Gleaner newspaper, and with a request that he prepare for the use of this Society 200 copies of said Report, in pamphlet form.

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1850-51.

John Wright, Esq., President.
John M. Johnson, and John Porter, Esquires, Vice Presidents.

George Kerr, Esq., Treasurer.
James Caie, Secretary.

Directors.

Daniel Elkin, John Wyse,
Donald McKay, Peter Mitchell,
Alex. Goodfellow, William Loch,
Michael Searle, Geo. Johnston, Napan,
Richard Coulter, Finlay McDiarmid,
Daniel Wetherall, James A. Pierce,
John Mackie.

JAMES CAIE, Secretary.

N. B. The new Board are requested to meet at White's Hotel, on the morning of Thursday next, at 11 o'clock.

REPORT

of the District Agricultural Society for the Parishes of Blackville, Blissfield and Ludlow, in the County of Northumberland, for the year 1850.

The formation of an Agricultural Society in the upper parishes on the river Miramichi, has been already attended with greater success than could have been reasonably anticipated, when the recent failures in the Agricultural Products of the district, and the extreme depression which existed in the general trade of the County are taken into consideration. The society was originally proposed by the Hon. Alexander Rankin, whose valuable suggestions respecting it, and ready contribution towards its objects, demand the gratitude of the inhabitants. Great praise is also due to Alexander McLaggin, Esq. and to Thomas W. Underhill, Esq. for their zealous exertions and liberal contributions. The society is likewise indebted to the Hon. Joseph Cunard, and to Peter Mitchell, Esq. for many useful hints in maturing its constitution, and in directing its subsequent operations. The first meeting of the Society took place on the 22d day of March, 1850. The result was gratifying.

A subscription amounting in the aggregate to £30 10 0, was declared, application was forthwith made for the bounty so munificently provided by the Legislature of the Province and the preliminary steps taken for the due appropriation of the society's funds.

It was deemed expedient by the committee which met on the 1st of April, to offer premiums for superior Ploughing, and for some of the most useful Productions and Manufactures of the district. The sum of £41 19 6, was therefore appropriated for these purposes.

The large importations of Seed which had been made by the Northumberland Agricultural Society, and the facilities afforded by several mercantile houses in the county, for the purchase of the best varieties, in the ordinary course of trade, seemed to render unnecessary on the part of this society any extensive operations in respect to seeds: but the attention of the Committee having been directed to the superior quality of a variety of Oats, grown by Alexander McLaggin, Esq. forty-two bushels of the sort were purchased for the use of the society, and deposited for sale in suitable places. It is to be regretted that any part of these oats should have remained unsold, as the returns from them, wherever they were used, is highly satisfactory. The important effects in husbandry of a careful selection of the best seeds, of whatever kind, do not appear to be well understood among us. Yet it is certain that no advantages of soil or climate can fully compensate for the use of defective or inferior seed. Husbandmen should therefore purchase for seed the best varieties of all kinds, without regard to any trifling difference in price. If unable to do this, let them, when it can be done, for the exchange with their neighbours, or else set apart for the purpose, the best which their own fields afford.

It having been intimated to this society that the Northumberland Agricultural Society had entered into negotiations to obtain the services of an Entire Horse, of good breed, for this section of the County, an offer was made to it to assume one half of the expense which might attend procuring the use of the said Horse, provided one half of the benefits to be derived from him were allotted to the District comprised in this society. This proposition was ultimately acceded to by the Northumberland Agricultural Society, and the advantages that accrued from the horse were thus extended to the whole County.

Though this measure, in consequence of the scarcity of money, occasioned by the depressed state of trade, and perhaps from a slight degree of mismanagement in the details, incident to the novelty of the arrangements, may not have produced the amount of good which might have been anticipated from it, yet it has doubtless proved beneficial to many persons in the community, and is at the least one important step towards improving the breed of horses among us. The cost to the society was £37 10 0.

The Ploughing Match took place at Mr. Robert Wasson's, in the Parish of Blissfield, on the first Wednesday in October. The specimens were creditable to the competitors, five of whom were rewarded with premiums. All the prizes, except the first, were awarded to Native Ploughmen. An exhibition of Ploughs made in the district, and an exhibition of Cattle, also took place on the same day, at Mr. John DeCantillon's, in the same parish. The several exhibitions were well attended, and the people displayed on the occasion a great degree of the proper spirit and determination. Numerous Prizes were awarded farmers, an aggregate of £21 0 0. Only one of the Premiums offered for Ploughs made in the district was awarded.

The Animals exhibited at the Cattle Show, though not in each individual instance deserving of high eulogium, yet certainly, on the whole, constituted a fair beginning, and would have been no discredit to more practised farmers. Few districts, however, in the Province possess greater natural advantages for grazing than these parishes afford, and it is evident that with due attention to agriculture, a lucrative trade in cattle might soon be established. But in the meantime more care must be observed in selecting suitable animals to breed from, the number of our enclosed pastures must be increased, and a greater degree of attention given to the renovation of our exhausted grass lands. More pains must also be taken to increase the warmth of our stables, and to furnish our domestic animals with a suitable supply of turnips or other roots, for the length and severity of our winters most assuredly make a proper regard to these points essential to their well being.

On the second Wednesday in January, 1851, the Society's Exhibition of Home Manufactures, Produce of the Dairy, and Grains, was held at John DeCantillon's. The ample display of homespun cloth, flannel, and other woollen products, affording gratifying evidence of the favorable progress which has been already made in this branch of industry, and incited a hope that ere long we will become independent of foreign aid in the requisite supply of all the most essential articles that are produced by the manufacture of wool. The butter and the cheese exhibited were of good quality, displaying the skill and pains which had been bestowed in their production. Five samples of grains of various kinds were brought forward by the several competitors, furnishing undeniable proof of the capabilities of our soil and climate. Indeed, it would appear that the light esteem in which this part of the Province has been heretofore held as an Agricultural District, must have been owing to the fact, that a fair trial of its capacity had not been made. Absorbed in lumbering operations, the inhabitants have been in the practice of applying mere fragments of their time to agricultural pursuits, and the result has too often been, what might have been easily foreseen, failure, vexation and discouragement. It is gratifying, however, to perceive the evidences around us of the approach of a better state of things, the tokens of an increasing disposition in the community at large to gain the preference to agriculture and home manufactures, and to make other pursuits subservient to them. Wheat weighing 66 1/4 lbs. to the bushel, and Oats weighing 50 lbs. 2 oz. to the bushel, Indian Corn 64 lbs., Barley 45 1/2 lbs. 2 oz., Buckwheat 58 1/2 lbs., Beans 70 lbs. 2 oz., were exhibited. The premiums awarded at this Exhibition amounted to £15 10s.

The recurrence of a few fruitful seasons is alone required to establish the confidence of our population in agricultural pursuits. The abundance with which our late harvest was crowned has done much towards reviving their drooping energies. It ought likewise to fill our minds with earnest gratitude to the Almighty Disposer of all good. Moreover in the midst of our present comparative poverty it behooves us to cultivate strict habits of industry, temperance and frugality, that when evil days again come over our land, as come they may, we at least may be exempt from the unpleasant reflection that we have omitted to do what under the Divine blessing we might have done, to escape from or to mitigate our troubles.

JOHN McALLISTER, President.
JAMES L. PRICE, Secretary.
8th January, 1851.

UNITED STATES.—It is rumoured that the Steamers belonging to the Collins line are to be laid up, as they are unable to withstand the force of the winter seas. We question the truth of this report.

By the following paragraph our readers will be able to form an idea of the value set on the Fisheries, by the American government. Our Legislature might take a useful hint from the information it conveys:—

"The owners and crews of cod-fishermen, belonging to Provincetown, are claimants for, and will be paid bounty, this week, amounting to over twenty-two thousand dollars!"

THE RECENT APPOINTMENT.

The Gazette contains the following announcement:

"His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to appoint provisionally, John Ambrose Street, Esq., Attorney General, and a Member of Her Majesty's Executive Council, for this Province.

By His Excellency's Command.
J. R. PARTELOW.

Secretary's Office, 10th January, 1851." We confess we are somewhat puzzled how to comment on this appointment. Mr Street's high standing at the Bar, his acknowledged talent, and honorable deportment, points him out as a fit and proper person to fill the important situation to which he has been called, and we question much if His Excellency could have made a more judicious selection. We now speak of him as a Legal adviser; but unfortunately, the individual who is Attorney General must occupy a seat in the council, and as a Politician he does not stand so high as a Lawyer. He is not so Liberal as we would wish the Leader of the Government to be. The people of this County have fresh in their memories his speeches at the late election, and while there was much to approve they heard many things they condemned. They complain of his unwillingness to forward all the leading measures of reform which they are desirous of seeing carried out. We enumerate a few.

Reduction of the Salaries of all Officials to meet the condition of the Province.

Municipal Corporations, the People having the sole control of their local matters in each County and Parish.

The Initiation of Money Grants in the hands of the Government.

The Development of the Resources of the Province by the Government.

The greatest Economy in the Public Expenditure.

Free Schools.
The power to regulate our trade, and other matters without the interference of the Colonial Secretary.

They also dislike the idea of his having attached himself to the present tottering Government. He must be aware from what he witnessed during his recent canvass, that his constituents are heartily tired of their reign, and most ardently desire a change. In joining himself to the present Cabinet, we think he has damaged his character in the estimation of his friends here, and lessened his chance of success in the Legislature.

We understand it is Mr. Street's intention, if returned, to re-model the Cabinet. If this be true, and he pledges himself to collect around him the Liberal members of the Legislature, and to separate himself entirely from the present incumbents, the Freeholders will have perfect faith in his promises, and we feel persuaded no opposition will be offered to him. If, however, in his Card, no such pledge be given, he may expect to meet with opponents.

On the meeting of the Legislature, we understand a Writ will be issued by the Speaker, for a new Election, and in all probability it will come off about the middle of February. We shall anxiously look for the political creed of Mr Street, and until it be issued, we feel persuaded the inhabitants of Northumberland will not commit themselves by hasty promises.

CANADA.—It would appear by recent intelligence from this quarter, that the Government of Canada is like our own—tottering, with every prospect of a speedy dissolution. The following paragraphs are copied from late papers:—

"There are several vague rumours abroad regarding the retirement of Mr Price, and the accession of the Hon. W. Robinson, and the Hon. W. Cayley to the Cabinet. Mr Robinson filling the office of Chief Commissioner of Public Works, and Mr Cayley that of Inspector General, in room of the present incumbent, the hon. Francis Hinks, who retires from the office to manage one of the Banks to go into operation soon, under the new Banking system. We do not vouchsafe for the correctness or incorrectness of this information. A few days or weeks will unriddle the whole mystery.—Port Hope Watchman.

"(If the present English members were out of the Cabinet, we should say that from principle the Conservatives and French are much more likely to unite, than that the Clear Grits and French should. There is hardly a sentiment in unison with the latter, while the principles of the former are becoming more and more those of the French.)—Montreal Gazette.

"The Hamilton Spectator says it is reported, on pretty good authority, that the Chief Commissionership of Public Works has been offered to Mr Joseph C. Morrison, 'one of

the partners in the 'flourishing concern,' and representative of the 2nd Riding.'

"There are indications of a break up in the Ministry, which we rather regret than rejoice at. We should have been pleased to have waited a little longer. The Ministry have become so conservative, since the Indemnity Bill time, that we have been quite in raptures with them. They are as slow to progress as the 'old Tories,' with whom perhaps they will yet form a coalition. It is their quondam friends, the 'clear grits,' who are 'driving them' from power and not the dear old Tories. We find the following paragraph in the Toronto Patriot of the 3rd inst.:

"There was a rumour afloat yesterday, that the Hon. F. Hincks, has been appointed Post Master General, and that Joseph C. Morrison, Esq., M.P.P., is to succeed Mr Hincks in the Inspector Generalship. Should the rumour be correct, both gentlemen will of necessity return to their constituencies for re-election, but their success is very problematical."

The Annual meeting of the British North American Electric Telegraph Company was held at Quebec on the 9th inst. We select from the Report the following paragraphs, which show what the board of Directors have done to carry out the objects of the society:

"That your directors in accordance with the Resolutions passed at the general meeting of Stockholders held 18th October last, have made a contract with Mr Torney for the construction of a new line, as well as for the superintendence of the repairs of the line between Point Levy and Riviere du Loup, and they have the pleasure to state that the works are proceeding in a very satisfactory manner, and the line as far as Riviere du Loup will be in perfect working order by first of February, and complete to Woodstock by the latter end of July.

"Your directors are happy to state, that the lines between Fredericton and Woodstock, will be finished by midsummer, thus furnishing one uninterrupted chain of Telegraphic communication through the whole of the British Provinces of the Canadas, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, from Niagara to Halifax."

The papers report that the inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands have petitioned Her Majesty to Annex them to Nova Scotia, as the Government of Canada pays no attention to their interests.

The weather has been extremely cold in Canada, and a vast quantity of snow has fallen in the Lower Province.

The Montreal Courier says:—
"There is a rumour that the Provincial Parliament will meet for the despatch of business on the 5th of February, and that it is possible a scheme will be submitted for the Federation of all the British North American Colonies. This measure, it is said, is taken at the suggestion of the Imperial Government."

COUNTY YORK.—The Head Quarters of Wednesday furnishes us with the following election news:

"We understand that a requisition, very respectably signed, has been, or is about to be, presented to the Hon. Charles Fisher, requesting that gentleman to allow himself to be put in nomination as a Candidate for the seat vacated by the elevation of the Hon. the Attorney General to the Bench. We also notice that Mr J. H. Reid has addressed a letter to the Freeholders of York, announcing his intention of being a candidate for their suffrages at the approaching election. Besides these, the names of other Gentlemen are mentioned as being likely to come forward to contest the seat, but on this point we have no information on which we can rely. The people of Douglas, it is said, are to have a public meeting for the purpose of deciding who they will support, at which some of the candidates for the vacant seat will in all probability be present. Some time, however, must elapse before the election can take place, but we presume the people have made up their minds to be prepared in time for the event.

"Since the above was in type, we learn that a Requisition addressed to Charles Macpherson, Esq., is in course of signature, and that Mr Macpherson has intimated his intention of complying with the wishes of the requisitionists and his friends, to allow himself to be put in nomination as a Candidate at the approaching Election."

Marriages.

At Chatham, on Wednesday last, by the Rev. Richard Vereker, Mr WILLIAM GORDON, to Miss MARGARET GRANT, both of the Lower District, Parish of Newcastle.

At Richibucto, on the 13th instant, by the Rev. James Law, A. M., Mr ALEX. CAMERON, to Miss JANE BARTON, both of the Parish of Carleton.

Deaths.

At Carleton, St. John, on the 14th December last, Mr ELIJAH PARSONS, aged 57 years, formerly of Miramichi.

WANTED,

ON LOAN, to the County of Northumberland, the sum of FOUR HUNDRED POUNDS. Apply to the Clerk of the Peace, THOS. H. PETERS, Committee of R. HUTCHISON, of Sessions. H. B. ALLISON,