

# 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.*

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Miramichi, Monday Afternoon, February 2, 1852.

No 15.

By Telegraph to Miramichi.

St. JOHN, January 27.

The Steamer America, with Liverpool dates to the 10th instant, arrived at Halifax on Saturday last, with 68 passengers, among whom was Sir Gaspard Le Marchant, Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland.

The America experienced one continued succession of westerly gales for the last 10 days.

A dissolution of the England Cabinet seemed inevitable. It was admitted on all sides that the Whig Government could not hold together much longer, and many believed it would fall before the period for opening Parliament had arrived.

The Duke of Newcastle, Sir James Graham, and the great Free Trade Leaders had arrived in Town. The former had visited Her Majesty.

The Marquis of Lansdowne had tendered his resignation, as Lord President of the Council, and holds office only till a successor is appointed.

Lieutenant Pim, by the advice of the Russian geographers, has abandoned his project of crossing Siberia, in search of Sir John Franklin.

The Cotton market was unchanged. Flour firm at last quotations, but without buoyancy.

No lumber market reported. London money market without change. Trade in Manchester more active. Prices a shade higher.

The new West Indian mail steamer Amazon, which left Southampton on the 2nd instant, was totally destroyed by fire on the 4th instant, 110 miles west of the Scilly Islands. The conflagration lasted only 20 minutes—41 passengers and 69 of the crew perished, among whom were the captain, (Symonds) the four officers and surgeon.

There is news from the Cape of Good Hope to the 2d December. The accounts are most distressing. In one affair with the Kaffirs, Colonel Fordyce, and Lieutenants Carey and Gordon, of the 74th Highlanders, and Captain Devenish of the Levies, fell most all together. The first was the greatest of our soldiers during the present war.

France was quiet. There was a rumor of a serious difficulty between Lord Normanby, the British Minister, and Louis Napoleon. A further delay of ten days would take place in the promulgation of the new Constitution.

The Prussian Gazette of the 6th instant states that Harchid Murat, the bravest son of Schamyl, the Circassian Chief, has surrendered unconditionally to the Russians.

The intelligence from Fredericton today only mentions the passing of a Bill to amend the Fire Law in Saint John, and one to erect the Parish of St. James in the same city, as a separate Parish. Over £70,000 are at the disposal of the House to be voted in Supply this Session. Railway matters are again quite lively.

Intelligence by this mail states that an Association of great power and wealth has been organized in London, whose very names are a sufficient guarantee for anything they undertake, and who offer to construct on their own account and risk both New Brunswick Lines; and, if necessary, the Nova Scotian and Canadian sections of the Halifax and Quebec Line.

These proposals will be immediately submitted to the Imperial Government.

Nothing of local interest.

## Notice to the Public.

The Post Office Act passed during the last Session of the Legislature of this Province, authorising the transmission by Post, to and from the United Kingdom, of Books, Pamphlets, &c., at reduced rates of Postage, not having received the Royal Assent, the Public are hereby cautioned that all Books, Pamphlets, &c., at present forwarded through the Post, to and from the United Kingdom, are liable to full Letter Rates of Postage.

Due notice will be given when the provisions of the Book Post, above referred to, come into operation.

J. HOWE, P. M. G.

General Post Office,  
St. John, 20th Dec., 1851.

## Agricultural Journal.

### REPORT

OF THE  
NORTHUMBERLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, FOR 1851-2.

In submitting a Report of their proceedings for the past year, the retiring Board of the Northumberland Agricultural Society feel it to be their first and chiefest duty to express their gratitude to a gracious God, for the bountiful harvest with which it has pleased Him to crown the year that is past, and reward the labor of our husbandmen. Nor has the goodness of the Almighty in this respect been confined to this County, or Province, or even to this Continent. It has extended to the whole of Europe, if not the most distant East; so that, instead of the cry for food, which, during late years, had been heard over many a land, the voice of comfort, and the prospect of plenty, now regale the ear, and gladden the heart of our fellow creatures.

With us, where almost every kind of crop has been good, it were needless to particularize. Your Committee think they do not exceed the truth, when they assert that in this County there was harvested last fall a larger amount of crop, by nearly one half, than on any former occasion.

This circumstance arose from three distinct causes:

1st—An improvement in the business of the country, which enabled farmers to increase their live stock, and enlarge, fence, and otherwise improve their farms.

2nd—A much heavier yield of every kind of Grain Crop and Hay during the last and preceding year; and

3rd—The fact that our farmers (so called) never before looked upon farming as their sole occupation, or that by which they were to sustain themselves and their families. There were few of us who could properly be denominated farmers, for although located on lands known as our properties, farming was esteemed by most of us as only a secondary consideration. Some were fishing farmers, some were lumbering farmers, and some were stevedore, logging, or hired-out farmers, but very few were really and truly farmers, and that only. Experience, however, has at length taught us that the real farmer is a man whose habits, tastes and duties, are so widely different from the habits, tastes, and duties of the fisherman, lumberer or stevedore, that to couple his business of farming with either of these occupations, is to profit by neither of them. A new era has thus arisen in our agricultural history, and the fact that farmers will henceforth devote themselves to their farms, and view these farms as the homes of their choice, and the inheritance of their children, will be found a consummation more favorable to the cause of Agriculture and the condition of the country, than anything of the kind has ever been.

While preparing their Annual Report, various topics affecting the interests of the farmer, naturally press themselves upon the attention of the Board. In the space, however, usually allotted to this purpose, it would be impossible to discuss more than one or two of these topics, and at the same time do justice to a detail of the Society's operations during the past year. This being the case, the Board will now, with your permission, proceed, 1st, to submit a concise but clear narrative of their proceedings during the by-gone year; and subsequently, as time and space may permit, advert to measures by which an Agricultural Education may be brought within the reach of all who really value it.

At the first meeting of the Board, which took place at Chatham on Thursday the 23rd day of January, 1851, the usual preliminary business of the year was gone into, and completed. Committees were chosen to attend to all matters connected with the Ploughing Match, Cattle Show, and General Exhibition.

Instead of Six prizes formerly granted at the annual Ploughing Match of the Society, that number was increased to Ten; and instead of the prizes graduating from £1 17 6 to £1 5, they were made to graduate from £1 10 to 7s. 6d., yet in both

cases the sum voted by the Society was £9 7 6.

Instead of the Judges of Cattle, &c., having the discretionary power of withholding prizes, where they deemed the animals exhibited unworthy of them, the Board resolved "that Judges shall not withhold any prize merely on the ground that the object exhibited is unworthy of it." It was also resolved that the articles intended for the exhibition of this day, be deposited in the hands of the receiving committee during the day preceding, instead of being received on the morning of competition. Two important alterations in the method formerly pursued by the Society of granting prizes, were moved at this meeting. The one by John M. Johnson, Esq., V. P., and the other by Peter Mitchell, Esq., Barrister. The first Resolution was as follows:

"Whereas the mode hitherto adopted by this Society of giving premiums on articles of Domestic Manufacture, the produce of the Dairy, Grains, Seed, &c., has not excited that interest, emulation and competition which it ought to have done, nor given that impetus and publicity to its proceedings, and the importance of encouraging the productions of this County, which it is its great object to promote; therefore

"Resolved, That instead of giving premiums hereafter, the Society offer prizes for the purchase of the articles exhibited, and pay for them in cash so soon as they are declared worthy, and then offer the same for sale by auction on account of the Society, in such lots as may be deemed best calculated to promote the objects it has in view."

This resolution having passed unanimously, a Committee was appointed to draw up a scale of prizes (including the prizes also) for the adoption of the Board at a subsequent meeting.

The resolution moved by Mr Mitchell was as follows:

"Whereas it is desirable that this Society, in order to direct the attention of farmers to an improved system of husbandry, and also to encourage in particular crops a superior degree of cultivation, should offer a premium, when such cases may arise; therefore

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report at next meeting of the Board, upon the best manner of giving a prize or prizes for superior cultivation, either to the proprietors, for the best cultivated farm, or to the superior cultivation of particular crops, or in such other way as the Committee may deem advisable."

This resolution having likewise passed the Board, a committee was chosen forthwith, for the purposes set forth by Mr Mitchell.

At this meeting the Board determined to embrace the opportunity then presented, of bringing the resources of our county before the British public at the great Exhibition in London.

With this view a meeting of the Society was convened for Thursday the 6th of February, to which all who felt interested in the welfare of the Province were pressingly invited to attend. A committee, comprised of members of this, and the neighboring Society of the South West, was chosen to obtain information, make preliminary arrangements for furthering the objects contemplated by the Society, and receive samples of such articles as the committee might deem worthy of being transmitted to England.

A meeting of the Society accordingly took place on Thursday the 6th February, at which—after a warm and lengthy discussion on subjects connected with the interests of the Society, and the resources of the County, it was

Resolved, That a committee of six persons be chosen, to collect samples of Grains, Minerals, &c., and that said committee be directed to hand over these articles, when collected, to the Board of this Society, that they may be put up, labelled and forwarded to the great Exhibition with as little delay as possible.

At the third meeting of the Board, which took place on Thursday the 6th March, the committee appointed at the former meeting to collect samples of Grains, Minerals, &c., for the great exhibition, submitted their report, which being accepted, it was resolved that the committee be authorized to draw

upon the Treasurer for the sum that may be necessary to defray the expenses of transporting these articles to Halifax.

The President and Secretary of the Society were directed to correspond with the Hon. Joseph Cunard, and request him to receive at Liverpool the samples intended for the Exhibition, transmit these to London, and attend to whatever else he might find necessary to carry out the object contemplated by your Society.

A committee of three persons was appointed to ascertain what method would be best for placing within the reach of our farmers a continuous supply of the most valuable fertilizing substances, either by importing them from other places, or producing them in the County, at such low prices, as would render them most remunerative. This committee have not been able to mature any scheme for the attainment of this object, which they could venture to recommend for adoption by the Society: they therefore avail themselves of this medium to solicit from the intelligent, practical men of the community, through the Secretary of this Society, their views on the subject, that they may be enabled the better to fulfil the task intrusted to them.

The committee chosen at a previous meeting of the Board, to report on the best method of granting prizes for the best farms, &c., having read their report, it was unanimously

Resolved, that with the view of improving the taste, and increasing the energy, skill and industry of our farmers, this Society do offer Three Prizes, each of £5, £4, and £3, to be awarded by three Judges, to the best farms of the most deserving farmers, agreeably to the terms specified in the report of the committee just read.

The Judges chosen by the Board were John M. Johnson, Esq., the Hon. Alexander Rankin, and John Wright, Esq., President of your Society. These gentlemen accordingly gave notice, that intending competitors would please hand in their names to them, or either of them, before the 24th day of July. They expressed their desire to obtain, prior to the date of inspection, such information relating to the respective farms of the competitors, or their past or present circumstances, as they might see fit to impart, or which might have the effect of enabling them (the Judges) to arrive at more fair and equitable decisions.

The committee appointed to fix the prizes and prices to be awarded to certain articles exhibited this day, submitted their report, which was adopted unanimously, and has now been acted upon for the first time. How far it may prove superior to the former method, can hardly be ascertained as yet.

By letters from the Hon. Joseph Cunard, with which the President of your Society has been favored, it appears that the articles for the great Exhibition, which were forwarded by your committee early in March, and of which a list is hereto annexed, did not reach Liverpool, owing to some irregularity at Halifax, till after the date at which the Crystal Palace was to be open for the reception of articles intended for exhibition.

After much trouble, expense and correspondence, however, Mr Cunard succeeded in obtaining admission for these articles, and also a desirable apartment for them in the palace; and it is gratifying to know, that gentlemen from this Province, who visited the Great Exhibition, and examined our productions, last summer, have stated that the quality and weights of our Grains, were attracting a considerable share of attention, and challenging a favorable comparison with the weight and quality of Grains, the productions of soils of much greater celebrity, though perhaps much inferior in point of fertility. To Mr Cunard this Society, and indeed the whole community, are deeply indebted for the interest he has taken in this comparatively small, but to us somewhat interesting speculation. Mr Cunard succeeded in bringing the samples of our county productions before the world at no inconsiderable sacrifice of time, trouble and money; for all which he declines to make any claim upon your Society. The Board view this disinterested act of kindness on the part of Mr Cunard as a proof, that although far away, he still has at heart the prosperity of this county, and