

# THE GLEANER:

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*Nec arancorum sane letius ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.*

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## Agricultural Journal.

### REPORT

Of the Carleton (Kent) Agricultural Society for 1851.

The Directors of the Carleton (Kent) Agricultural Society, in presenting a Report of its proceedings, and of agricultural matters connected with their District, are happy to state that they can do so under favorable circumstances.

The Society was formed in 1850, and is therefore, comparatively speaking, in its infancy. At a meeting held on the 10th day of May, at the house of the Rev. Mr. McGuirk, Kouchibouguac, and which was numerously attended, it was unanimously resolved, that as "Agriculture is the great source of national wealth and independence," and that as "Agricultural Societies have proved highly instrumental in diffusing the knowledge of Agriculture as a science, that, as the Parish of Carleton possesses all the qualifications, in point of soil and situation, to enable it, under proper culture, to rank high as an agricultural district," that an Agricultural Society be formed for the Parish of Carleton, and that the "leading objects of the Society, be to improve the breed of domestic animals, the importation of improved Stock, the diffusion of agricultural knowledge, and the promotion of home manufactures."

A code of Rules was adopted for the government of the Society, and the following office bearers were chosen:

President—Rev. H. McGuirk.  
Vice President—Mr Robert Powell.  
Treasurer—Mr Germain White.  
Secretary—Mr William S. Caie.  
Directors—Messrs. Peter Votour, Simon Johnson, James Fraser, John Tweedie, Sen., B. Johnson, Wm. Bell, Lewis Daigle, James Patterson, and Daniel O'Leary.  
During the year several meetings of the board were held, to transact business connected with the Society.  
On the second Tuesday in March, 1851, the annual meeting of the society was held at the house of Mr Germain White, near Kouchibouguac, when the following office bearers were chosen for the ensuing year:  
President—Rev. H. McGuirk.  
Vice President—Mr John Potter.  
Treasurer—Mr Germain White.  
Secretary—Mr James Fraser.  
Directors—Messrs. Lewis Daigle, Luke Richard, John Tweedie, Elair Babinot, William Bell, John Graham, Robert Powell, James Patterson, and Peter Votour.  
Corresponding Secretary—Mr William S. Caie.

At this meeting, it was resolved that the funds then in the Treasurer's hands, be expended in purchasing Timothy, Clover, and Turnip Seeds, White Oats, Lunge, &c., and prizes for compost heaps, and that the seeds be sold to members at reduced prices.

During this year also several meetings of the board were held, at which different regulations were made for promoting the objects of the society. The annual Ploughing Match took place at Kouchibouguac, on the 21st day of October last, on the north side of the river, in a field belonging to Mr John Graham. There were two classes of ploughmen. Five competitors came forward in the first class, and six in the second. The day was favorable and the ploughing good. Premiums were awarded to the following persons:

FIRST CLASS.  
1st prize, Edward Tweedie, £1 10 0  
2nd do, John Tweedie, 1 5 0  
3rd do, James Patterson, 1 0 0  
4th do, William Bell, 0 15 0  
5th do, John Potter, 0 10 0

SECOND CLASS.  
1st prize, Maxim Votour, £1 0 0  
2nd do, Nicholas White, 0 15 0  
3rd do, Cyprian Gelant, 0 12 6  
4th do, Nicholas Daigle, 0 7 6  
5th do, Belony Johnson, Sen., 0 5 0

The Cattle Show took place on the premises of Mr Germain White, on the 22nd day of October, when the prizes were awarded as follows:

1st Cow & Calf, W. Raymond, £1 0 0  
2nd best, William S. Caie, 0 10 0  
3rd best year old Bull, J. Atkinson, 0 15 0

second do, John Potter, 0 10 0  
best year old Heifer, John Potter, 0 10 0  
second do, John Atkinson, 0 7 6  
best Boar, Cyprian Gelant, 0 7 6  
second do, Joseph White, 5 0 0  
best Sow, John Graham, 0 7 6  
second do, Isidore Barrio, 0 5 0  
best 2 year old Entire Horse, 1 0 0  
second do, Michael Brenan, 0 12 6  
best 2 yr old Colt, W. Saunders, 0 12 6  
second do, Cyprian Gelong, 0 7 6  
best Ewe and Lamb, Joseph Bell, 0 10 0  
second do, Edward Tweedie, 0 7 6  
best yr old Ewe, Oyprian Gualo, 0 7 6  
second do, John Potter, 0 5 0

On the 22nd day of January the Exhibition of Grain and Domestic Manufactures took place at the Grist Mill, Kouchibouguac, when a number of samples of Grain, and articles of superior quality were exhibited.

There were sixteen samples of Wheat, from 65 to 68 lbs.; ten of Black Oats, from 40 to 43 lbs.; four of Barley, from 51 to 52½ lbs.; two of Pease, from 65½ to 67½ lbs.; two of Timothy Seed, five of Butter, one of Clover Seed, and thirty of Cloths.

After a careful examination by the judges, the following Premiums were awarded to the undermentioned persons, for the articles specified:

best sample of Red Wheat, Robert Callendar, £0 10 0  
second do, James Patterson, 0 7 6  
third do, William S. Caie, 0 5 0  
best sample of White Wheat, John Tweedie, 0 10 0  
second do, John Potter, 0 7 6  
third do, Mrs Gregan, 0 5 0  
best sample of Black Oats, Wm. Bell, 0 7 6  
second do, Bastian Babinot, 0 5 0  
third do, John Tweedie, 0 3 6  
best sample of Barley, J. Tweedie, 0 7 6  
second do, Peter Votour, 0 5 0  
best sample Pease, M. Flannagan, 0 7 6  
second do, William Bell, 0 5 0  
best sample Timothy Seed, M. Flannagan, 0 7 6  
best sample Butter, Wm. Bell, 0 10 0  
second do, William S. Caie, 0 7 6  
best twilled Homespun, all wool, Simon Johnston, 0 10 0  
best do, cotton and wool, Martin Flannagan, 0 10 0  
best plain Homespun, all wool, Marrel Barrio, 0 10 0  
best do, cotton and wool, P. Barrio, 0 10 0  
best plain white Flannel, Luke Richard, 0 10 0  
best twilled do, Peter Barrio, 0 10 0

The Directors, before concluding their Report, would observe that much good has evidently resulted from the labours of the Society. This is manifest in the interest which now exists throughout the Parish, in reference to agricultural matters. Many of the inhabitants seem desirous of farming in a more methodical manner than heretofore, and a general impression seems to exist that Agriculture is indeed "the great source of national wealth." The members come forward with a good deal of spirit, to compete for the different prizes: and at the last ploughing Match it was gratifying to observe that a considerable improvement had taken place in the art of ploughing, particularly amongst the French population. As another proof of the interest felt in the Society, the Directors would mention that its funds are in a prosperous condition.

The Directors wish to bring before the Society the importance of taking steps to diffuse amongst the people correct information respecting agriculture, such as the circulation of proper publications, &c. If the Society labors to excite a desire for information and improvement, should it not endeavor to supply wholesome instruction?

In conclusion, they would humbly express their gratitude to a bountiful Providence, for the blessings of the past year; and in dependence on Divine aid, taking encouraging from the past, they look with confidence to the future operations of the Society.

JAMES FRASER, Secretary.  
Kouchibouguac, February 10, 1852.

A schoolmaster once asked a young hopeful what would make a fortification. "Two tusnyfications," was the ready reply.

## Communications.

### MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

#### MEETING IN NEWCASTLE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

A meeting of the inhabitants of Newcastle was held at the Mechanics' Institute in this town, on Wednesday evening last, pursuant to notice, for the purpose of discussing the propriety of introducing Municipal Corporations into this County. The state of the travelling, and the weather, prevented persons at a distance from attending; but notwithstanding these difficulties, a numerous and respectable body of the inhabitants assembled.

The meeting was organized, and the objects of the same stated—the question of the applicability of Municipal Institutions to the state of our County, and our fitness for self-government were fully discussed, and both of these propositions were unanimously sustained in the affirmative. The present Municipal Law was then explained, and placed before the meeting by several gentlemen then present, who viewed it in its various bearings, and probable results upon our prosperity, considered its advantages, and explained its defects and imperfections. The principle of the Bill was fully sustained, and indeed there was but one opinion about it, for all approved of it; but there was almost as general an opinion that many of the provisions and clauses it contained were objectionable, as likely to create obstructions, and impede the free operation of self-government. Some of these difficulties were experienced in Canada a few years since, on the introduction of Municipal Institutions into that Province, and as our Bill is copied from the Canadian one, as it originally stood, we may of course expect to meet with similar difficulties. The Canadians, however, appreciating the boon, acted upon the Bill, and as soon as they became organized, adopted the necessary measures to amend the law, and they now have under their amended charter (within about four or five years), established a system of municipal institutions in efficient operation in every county of that extensive and opulent Province of the British Empire. The experience of a people whose position and habits are so similar to our own, and who, like ourselves, possess the proud privileges, and boast of our connexion with the meteor flag, will be of some importance in determining us in the adoption or rejection of such a measure; and when we find that both in Upper and Lower Canada, the system is generally approved, and almost universally adopted, we must come to the conclusion that it is a useful and desirable institution, and one, the benefits of which we should lose no time in securing. The expenses are found to be much less than under the old system; more economy is used in the expenditure of the public money, and as the people, at their annual elections, have the power of appointing their Councillors, a wholesome and desirable Responsibility is created in the right quarter; the people are consequently of some importance; their wishes are respected, and the knowledge of their own power leads them to acquire information, and prepare their minds for its proper exercise, and has most beneficial results.

The possession of local self government would produce the same effect in our Province, and though the Bill as it now stands, is not such as the friends of self-government would desire, still the difficulty might be got over as it was in Canada, by first taking it, and then, when in operation, getting it amended.

One of the greatest objections to the present Bill is in the method of introducing, or obtaining the benefit of it, by requiring at the end of a three months' notice, that a two-thirds vote should be essential to its adoption. If the Bill is necessary, it should have been introduced by mere operation of the law, without any vote being required, and then the system would have been uniform throughout the Province. But if a vote was necessary, surely a majority should have been sufficient, as is usual in all British precedents, and quite in accordance with British practice. This objection, however, applies only to the introduction of the measure, and was intended (in my opinion) to throw impediments in the way of its general adoption; still the difficulty being once overcome, it ceases to exist, and the removal of that objection rests with the people themselves.

The power vested by the Bill in the Executive, of vetoing the Bye Laws, and in effect controlling the local Councils, is one most pernicious in its tendency to the liberty of the subject—vests a power in the Government which they should not possess—creates in that body a meddling disposition with local affairs, and gives to their partizans in the se-

veral Counties, a means of controlling the local municipalities, which is alike repugnant to the spirit of British freedom and constitutional government. The existence of such a power exercised by individuals through the Colonial Office, in the control of Provincial affairs, has been loudly complained of, and has ever been considered a plague spot in our Colonial system. We should therefore put forth our strength, and "nip in the bud" the establishment of this centralizing agency in our municipal affairs, and teach the men who created it, that while we want self-government, we can dispense with the appanage of back stair influence in its working.

From the present House we cannot expect a more favorable Bill, and I would therefore recommend the people of this County to adopt it as it stands, and as the power of the people is supreme in municipal institutions, and their wishes certain to prevail, any defects which may exist can easily be removed by the joint influence of the Councils and the rate payers.

The inhabitants of the County of Carleton stand out in bold relief as a progressive people, capable of appreciating, and determined to enjoy the proud privilege and undoubted right of self-government. A majority of nearly three to one has adopted municipal corporations in that County, and they offer an example in this particular, which we should lose no time in following. The County of Charlotte has also taken measures to adopt the Bill, and I trust that the result will be the same as in Carleton.

Is Northumberland then to remain inactive? We boast of being the second County in the Province for natural advantages and extent of trade, and the first in agricultural wealth. Let us show by our action that we are amongst the first also in intelligence. Let us adopt the principle of self-government in local affairs; a system which prevails extensively in the mother country, and universally in the States of her offspring, the American Republic, and which has tended to make both what they are, unrivalled amongst the nations of the earth for stability, prosperity, and constitutional freedom; and created in their people an amount of intelligence, enterprise, and love of free constitutional government, which is unknown on the European Continent.

To me it appears that the question only requires to be properly presented to, and understood by the people, to be generally adopted. The meeting at Newcastle declared for it without a dissenting voice, and a Committee for that Parish was appointed to prepare a petition to the Sheriff, obtain signatures to the same, and co operate with other Committees that might be adopted by the other Parishes of the County. The Parish of Nelson, at the annual election of Parish Officers, declared themselves in favor of the measure, and appointed a Committee. It therefore now remains to be seen whether the other Parishes of the County will remain inactive, or come forward and lend their aid in forwarding the good work, and assist in securing for the people a privilege they so much require.

I am aware that there are persons in the County opposed to this measure, and it would be matter of astonishment were it otherwise. All great reforms and improvements have met with opposition, and we cannot expect the Municipal Law to be an exception to a rule so universal.

Some of these oppose it conscientiously, in the belief that additional expense will be incurred—that the country will not in reality be benefited—or perhaps they may not fully understand the working of the system. The opinions of this class of persons I respect, even while differing from them, and would urge upon them a thorough and impartial investigation of the principles contended for, assured of the result.

Others oppose it because it will remove the power of controlling local affairs, which they have so long possessed, and will place it in the hands of men to be elected by, and responsible to the people. The opposition of such persons may not create surprise, for it is natural that those men should desire to perpetuate a power they have so long possessed, and oppose popular interference with what they may consider vested rights and peculiar privileges; and to expect any thing else would be sure disappointment. I am not, however, to be understood that all persons possessing official power will be opposed to this measure. On the contrary, I believe there are many exceptions.

There is another class, and the last to which I shall on the present occasion refer, who are already showing their opposition to, and calumniating the system. I allude to some of those persons who are at present enjoying official emoluments. These parties contend that the expenses of the County will be increased, and therefore the system should be rejected. While these patriots profess to op-