

separated himself from them; that he believed Mr. Mooney had on many former occasions, at some personal hazard, shewn himself the friend of good order and peace, not only in the country of his birth, but also in this of his adoption during a residence of 16 years. That he was sorry to hear him state that he would not for the future put himself forward as a peace maker, smarting under what he considered a sense of wrong in being included in this prosecution; but that he had no doubt that on reflection Mr. Mooney would not suffer any feelings of this kind to sway him on future occasions, when his efforts could allay any public disturbance. That one of the learned Counsel for some of the Traversers had commenced with finding fault with the Grand Jury for not throwing out this Indictment in the first instance; as to that, after an experience of many years he could assure the Jury that he scarcely recollected a case in which the Counsel for Traversers did not appear to be greatly astonished at the Grand Jury for finding a Bill against his clients. That he did not stand there as the advocate of the Grand Jury, but that from the evidence brought forward on the part of the Crown on this trial, and which was before the Grand Jury, he could not see how that body with any regard to their duty, could have acted otherwise than as they had done, for they must recollect that the Grand Jury's duty was to hear evidence only on the part of the prosecution, and that they must be aware that in every charge delivered by His Lordship to a Grand Jury at the commencement of each Term, he invariably laid it down as a rule for their guidance—that if a *prima facie* case was made out on the part of the prosecution, they must find a Bill. That after so long a trial and with so intelligent and respectable a Jury, he considered it unnecessary to go through the evidence, and the more so as in all probability His Lordship in charging them might deem it his duty to read his notes to them. That both he and his learned friend, the Solicitor General, regretted extremely that it had fallen to them to prosecute this case, especially as some of the Traversers were personal friends of theirs, and that he could safely say, in addition to what had fallen from the Solicitor General as to Captain Swabey, that he himself knew him to be a most intelligent, active and useful Magistrate in this community; but that they were obliged to lay aside these and all other considerations, and to bring this case before the Jury. And that with these remarks he would now sit down, leaving it to them under the direction of His Lordship, perfectly satisfied that they would be guided in coming to a verdict by a due consideration of the evidence.

[Our Reporter did not note any part of His Lordship's Charge—an omission we deeply regret—and we are consequently prevented from giving it. The Jury, having left their Box, as soon as his Lordship had ceased to address them, returned in about half an hour with a verdict of NOT GUILTY in favour of all the Traversers. And thus ended one of the most silly, groundless, and malicious prosecutions, ever instituted by a set of madmen, to gratify a most unmanly resentment, and serve a mean political design.]

REPORT OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Your Committee in considering the duty which devolves upon them of submitting their Annual Report, are obliged to confess, that in such documents there is seldom much room for variety; and, this year, it is feared there is still less of a pleasing nature to announce than on former occasions. They conceive it, however, right to take a review of Agricultural transactions during the last year, and to diffuse as much information as has been laid before them, or they have been able themselves to collect. It is too generally known to Farmers that the Rust, the great enemy of the Wheat crop, has been very prevalent and injurious, reducing the produce of that first article of trade, as well as necessary food—it is thought by well informed cultivators, to less than two thirds of the usual average crop of Grain, whilst the straw is considerably injured. Mr. Jeremiah Simpson, of Cavendish, reports that a white bearded wheat, procured some few years back from a vessel stranded near Darnley, seems to defy the rust better than any other; but as regards the experience afforded to this season, no very definite decision on the greater or less liability to this evil of different sorts respectively seems to be supplied.

Your Committee, however, are decidedly of opinion that the culture of wheat, either from our not possessing the sorts best suited to our local circumstances, some error or system, or other latent cause, is not carried by us to the perfection of which we hope it may yet be susceptible, for they cannot see, in the circumstances of the climate, any reason why the average produce of this Island should be so far below that of the Canadas. In regard to Rust, it has been suggested that it might be worthy of experiment to ascertain whether, if wheat were grown without clover and grass seeds, the liability to that disorder might not be less in consequence of there being less probability of moisture remaining about the stalks of the plant. It is a matter which it would be well to test by experiment, more particularly as in Great Britain grasses are seldom sown with a wheat crop.

Capt. Swabey has sown some black oats, sent to him from England, on good ground, after turnips, and the result is 48 bushels (threshed and measured) per acre, with a much larger quantity of straw than usual. The sample, however, is not so fine as those of our best quality, but a fair average.

Mr. Simpson states, that he sowed half a bushel of the Tartarian Oats imported by the Society on one-eighth of an acre of pastured land, but owing to the seed being damaged, they came up thin, and grew strong, some of the stalks being an inch in circumference; the yield was nearly six bushels, and would have been much greater, had they been threshed directly from the field, but they had been greatly damaged by mice in the barn before threshing.

With respect to Potatoes, it does not appear that scientific persons either in Europe or elsewhere, have yet discovered the cause of the disease with which they are still possessed. There is a variation, however, very perceptible in its consequences as relates to their growth amongst ourselves; whilst fewer have been actually rotted, and those taken up have resisted decay better than in 1846, yet the produce and size seem to diminish so much, that considerable doubts may be entertained whether the existing disorder does not affect the propagation of the plant.

The trade in Potatoes for export has been extremely confined, and it may be advisable for Agriculturists to weigh well whether, as an economical matter, they might not adopt a better system of rotation by planting fewer of them. Turnips have been grown to an extent heretofore little practised, and the farmers will no doubt find their great utility in supporting Horses, Cattle and Pigs, and the consequent increase of the manure heap, without which corn crops cannot be grown to the extent at which the farmer ought to aspire. It is to be observed that the wet at the end of the summer was unfavourable to the growth of turnips, and consequently though there was a much larger breadth sown, which flourished up to a certain time, yet it may be doubted whether the number of bushels produced was greater than usual.

Barley has been a deficient crop, and it is probable that the Chevalier variety, which is a tender sort, and the one most in use, must be replaced by some other of a character more productive, of which there are many that might be procured from Europe.

It is advisable that the thoughts of the Agricultural public should be turned to the probable necessity, before any great lapse of time, of growing Quick and American Thorn, for fencing, since in many situations Longers will, ere long, not be to be procured at a reasonable charge.

There is an evident improvement in Sheep Stock throughout the Island, which however, it is feared, will not be maintained, unless the importance of the subject is more extensively felt than your Committee conceive it is at present; and the best bred Rams are, it appears, generally bought up by Farmers from the neighbouring Provinces.

Pigs have likewise undergone improvement. A Boar and Sow are in possession of the Society, which were procured from the Stock imported by Mr. Marshall, of Sable, at the cost of 6*l.* at eight weeks old. They were purchased for the purpose of enabling the Farmers in this part of the County to improve their present Stock.

The Khol Rabi is grown with great facility, and being transplanted from a seed bed, is not subject to the fly; taking this circumstance into consideration, it is probable that the average weight grown on a given space would, in many seasons be equal to Turnips—they stand the winter equally well or better; and some which were left under the snow the whole winter, by way of experiment, did not rot or decay. For winter Dairy Cows they might be very useful, as they do not affect the taste of the milk; and the leaves in the Autumn, before taking up the roots, afford a large quantity of food. It is a very good table vegetable, and a certain garden crop.

A Reaping Machine was imported from the United States, the experiments with which have not yet been very satisfactory, but the lateness of the period of its arrival prevented any conclusive decision on its utility.

A Subsoil Plough has likewise been procured, the merits of which have not yet been tested.

The Fair and Cattle Show held on the 22nd September was extremely satisfactory, although the weather was very unpropitious, and the attendance of Farmers not so great as might have been expected under more favourable circumstances.

The Ploughing Match was likewise interfered with by the wetness of the season, which occasioned a thin attendance; but the work on the whole was better performed than on former occasions. The Plough used by the winner of the second prize was manufactured by John Sutherland, of New London, and was considered by many good judges equal to the imported ones.

It is to be regretted that the Society has been unable to avail itself of the liberality of the Legislature in placing the balance of the grant of 1845, at their disposal, for the use of the several counties. It has been paid into the Treasury, in consequence of the Committee not finding it practicable to comply with the conditions of the Legislature.

Your Committee are pleased to observe that several Mill-owners have introduced improved Machinery. Improvements of this nature continue to be a desideratum

throughout the Island, as the manufacture of Flour is still susceptible of being better performed.

The thoroughbred Horse Saladin, which was imported from England, has proved highly successful: his produce is every where to be seen, and does credit to the selection.

Your Committee believe that those matters which are most interesting to their brother farmers have been touched upon: they would caution them against an unwillingness to try experiments: no experiment need be on a scale to occasion loss in case of failure, the employment of a small spot of ground is sufficient to produce sound conclusions from any trial, and as this is an age in which enquiries on Agricultural Subjects are every where arising, it becomes every farmer to give his aid in prosecuting them. Flax and Hemp, which are obviously crops suited to our local circumstances, continue to be very much neglected.

It is to be regretted that the Limestone, the existence of which, Dr. Gesner's Geological Survey established, is not put in requisition. There are two places in particular where it is in sufficient quantity, and of good quality, to justify the belief that it would form a profitable article of trade.

Manures of a portable nature are indeed neglected altogether, and considering their cheapness, and the immense expense of farm yard manure, their use, it is thought, would prove highly economical.

The observations which have been made appear to your Committee those which it is most obvious to bring under your notice. In the more general and extended sense, your Committee recommend that the farmer should never lose sight of the advantages derivable from consuming all the green crops at home, in preference to selling them, unless where he can command manure or Lime, to purchase: if one or other plan is not constantly kept in view every farm must degenerate, and we shall fail to realize the profit which a good system would insure through the medium of an export trade, which, it is to be observed, is rarely limited by the want of a market.

At the last General Meeting of the Society, a Resolution was passed, establishing a scale of subscription for Life members at 3*l.* each. A Circular was addressed by the Secretary to the principal land proprietors explaining the views of the Secretary, and requesting their aid in furtherance of the desired object: but your Committee regret to observe that only six of the parties written to have responded to the call, viz:

The Right Hon. the Earl of Selkirk,
Lord Melville,

Sir George Seymour,
Edward Cunard, Jr., Esq.,
D. S. Rennie, Esq.,
J. H. Winsloe, Esq.

While the scarcity of all Bread Stuffs in Europe has given an impetus to the trade in grain, in the advantages of which we have participated, it still is wise to calculate on the effects of an ordinary demand, and not on that which had been produced by temporary causes. The usual profits on exportation are small, but it is to be hoped there may be a steady and uniform demand. The duty of one shilling sterling per Quarter of eight Bushels, is—though thought small in Great Britain—an incubus on our industry, and its imposition contradictory to the principles on which the Home Government professes to act; and, small as it may appear, is a reduction in the returns of 6*l.* 5*s.* per 1000 bushels.

Your Committee cannot conclude this Report without expressing their regret that a deficient harvest has brought on the usual calamity of scarceness and high prices. As Agriculturists, they would rather owe their prosperity to a large and extended production, than to prices which are inconvenient to the general interests of the consumers of the necessaries of Life, with which it is the province of farmers to supply the home market.

Statement of Property of Royal Agricultural Society, 1st January, 1848.

Stock on hand,	-	403 <i>l.</i> 12 2
Debts due to the Society,	-	101 0 3
Cash in hands of Treasurer,	-	65 0 8
		569 <i>l.</i> 13 1
<i>Due by the Society.</i>		
On Seeds imported (England)	56 <i>l.</i> 2 7	
Fall importation Clover seed	54 5 10	
Eastern Society,	23 10 1	
Souris Club	1 11 0	
	135 9 6	
		433 <i>l.</i> 3 7
<i>Old Debts (doubtful.)</i>		
Crapaud Society,	22 <i>l.</i> 8 1	
Western Society,	3 7 10	
Small Debts,	49 6 7	
	75 2 6	
		508 <i>l.</i> 6 1

AN ADDRESS FROM CAVENDISH TO THE LIEUT. GOVERNOR.

A Public Meeting was held in Cavendish on Tuesday the 11th of January inst., for the purpose of preparing an Address of congratulation to His Excellency Sir Donald Campbell, Baronet, on his appointment, and arrival in the Island; when William McNeill, Esq., being called to the Chair, read the following Address, which was unanimously agreed to, and the Chairman together