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Proceedings - A

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

PENNSYLVANIA STATE

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

HELD AT

HARRISBURG, JAN. 18, 1853.



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M'KINLEY & LESCURE, PRINTERS.

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FROM MEMBERS

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LIFE MEMBERS

OF THE

PENN'A STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

-
- JAMES GOWEN, Mount Airy.
 - P. B. SAVERY, Philadelphia.
 - C. B. ROGERS, Philadelphia.
 - S. C. STAMBAUGH, Lancaster.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
PENN'A STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

HARRISBURG, *Tuesday*, January 18th, 1853.

In accordance with the fourth section of the constitution of the Pennsylvania State agricultural society, the said society met on the third Tuesday of January, 1853, in the Hall of the House of Representatives.

A quorum of members being present, the meeting was organized by the motion of Jacob S. Haldeman electing CHARLES B. TREGO, as President *pro tem*.

On motion, a committee of three, consisting of David Mumma, jr., Algeron S. Roberts, and Joseph Konigmacher, was appointed to invite his Excellency the Governor, and Heads of Department, to be present during the meeting.

A. O. Heister, chairman of the committee of judges on field crops, appointed for the last annual exhibition, made report, which, together with its recommendations, on motion of David Mumma, jr., was adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FIELD CROPS.

The Committee on Field Crops, in this the first report, beg leave to congratulate the society, that whilst the last census presents our noble State as first among her sisters in some of the most important staple crops, in the aggregate. The interest exerted by our agricultural exhibitions, and the competition elicited by the offer of honorable premiums, has brought to our knowledge another fact, that without extraordinary attention and without any idea of competing for premiums at the time of planting and cultivating, we are also first and foremost among our sister States in the production of particular field crops.

The dissemination of agricultural information generally, and the reports of special results from particular modes of ploughing, planting, and manuring, as sent forth by the society, must exert a most healthful influence in awakening the energies of the farmer, and exciting a spirit of laudable rivalry and emulation throughout the State. And if such are to be the result of our efforts, we may with great propriety claim continued liberal patronage and public favor.

The committee would most respectfully, at this stage of their report, recommend a revision of the premiums for field crops, so as to excite greater public attention and competition, and that premiums hereafter be dispensed in a more liberal and extended manner. We owe it to the cause in which we are engaged,

and our present resources and future prospects will justify the additional inducement. The father of his country has written, and it has now become a household saying, that the man who can make two blades of grass grow where but one grew before, should be considered a public benefactor. Let us reward liberally him who makes by his industry, skill, and science, two bushels of wheat grow where but one grew before, and generously communicates to the society his manner of doing it, so that we may lay it before the public, thus aiding in an important particular the great object we have in view, the advancement of the agricultural prosperity of the State.

The committee report that there are four applicants for premiums on corn, who conform to the requirements of the society, namely:

1st. George Walker, of Woodbourne, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, who produced, as per accompanying statements, one hundred and sixty bushels of shelled corn per acre, on five acres, and twenty tons of superior pumpkins.

2d. John A. M'Crea, of Whitemarsh, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, ninety three bushels of shelled corn per acre, on eleven acres and twenty-four perches.

3d. John B. Bitzer, West Earl, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, eighty-five and three-fifths bushels of shelled corn per acre, on five acres.

4th. John B. Bitzer, West Earl, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, ninety-six and three-fourths bushels of shelled corn, on one acre.

For wheat, there are two applicants for premiums, who produced, as per accompanying statements:

1st. Reuben Weidler, Bareville, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, forty bushels and twelve and three-fourth pounds of wheat per acre, on one acre.

2d. Joseph Lyndale, of Lycoming county, thirty-two bushels white blue stem wheat to the acre, on sixteen acres.

Benjamin Buckwalter, Lancaster county, produced seventy-three and one-third bushels oats per acre, on eight acres and one hundred and twenty-three perches.

John Wilkinson, of Mount Airy agricultural institute, produced one thousand and seventeen bushels carrots per acre, on one acre.

Henry A. Carpenter, Lancaster county, one-fourth acre sugar beet and one-fourth acre ruta бага.

John H. Smith, Lancaster county, one-fourth acre field turnips.

No certificate as to yield or mode of culture.

The committee regret that in so large a Commonwealth and such an extensive field for competition, there were not more applicants, although it was to have been expected that one or two seasons would elapse before farmers would feel sufficient emulation to accurately survey and measure an entire crop for so small a premium as is awarded.

The written statements of competitors are very satisfactory for first reports, many of them being full and specific upon every point, except it be the net cost

per bushel or per acre. We have no doubt this defect will be corrected hereafter. The committee deem the rules of the society, by most of the competitors, to have been complied with, and we find no difficulty in making our awards. After a careful examination and comparison of the difficult statements and samples which are herewith submitted to the society for examination and distribution, the committee award as follows:

George Walker, first premium for best five acres of corn,	-	-	\$15 00
And a complimentary premium for the same, of	-	-	50 00
John A. M'Crea, for second best five acres of corn,	-	-	5 00
John B. Bitzer, first premium for corn on one acre,	-	-	8 00
Reuben Weidler, first premium for one acre wheat,	-	-	8 00
John Wilkinson, first premium on carrots on one acre,	-	-	8 00
And a complimentary premium for the same,	-	-	20 00

A. O. HEISTER,
MICHAEL DOUDLE,
JACOB FRANTZ.

WOODBOURNE, SUSQUEHANNA CO., PA., Oct. 14, 1852.

The subscribers have this day examined the corn raised by Mr. George Walker, on his farm at this place.

We measured carefully with a surveyor's chain, one square acre of the field, embracing an average of the field.

We then counted the hills of corn in each outside row, and found one hundred and twenty-eight hills long by thirty-three wide. We then selected an average row, and beginning on one side, husked twenty-six hills, which we shelled and measured, and there was a little over a full bushel.

The corn was not dry, and probably will shrink from one-fourth to one-third. The present amount would be one-hundred and sixty bushels of shelled corn—one hundred and twenty bushels of dry merchantable corn.

WM. JESSUP,
WM. D. COPE,
A. CHAMBERLIN.

George Walker's Mode of Cultivation.

I ploughed five acres of green sward for corn in the beginning of May, 1852, and hauled one hundred loads of manure on the same. After the manure was spread, the ground was well harrowed and planted the last of May, in rows three and one-half feet apart, in rows running east and west, from three to five grains in the hill. Two bushels of lime, mixed with three bushels of plaster, was applied to said five acres of corn very soon after it came up. A plough did not enter the field after the corn was planted. The ground was kept loose

and mellow, and the grass and weeds subdued by the use of the cultivator, making but little use of the hand hoe. A specimen of the corn was exhibited at the State fair at Lancaster, it being of the white flint species, eight rowed, small cob, and long ears, more than one foot in length.

In addition to the enormous yield of one hundred and sixty bushels of shelled corn to the acre, the same field of five acres produced twenty tons of superior pumpkins, some of which weighed more than forty-one pounds. Said field is situated on one of the highest hills in Susquehanna county, being an oak, pine, beech, and sugar maple ridge; soil a sandy loam.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE WALKER.

John B. Bitzer's Mode of Cultivation.

I, E. Burkholder, of West Earl township, Lancaster county, certify that I measured with compass and chain, five acres of land* put into corn, on the farm of John B. Bitzer, in West Earl township, Lancaster county, and the same land off of which Mr. Bitzer took off a crop of corn for exhibition for premium at the Pennsylvania Agricultural State fair, and that the same was correctly measured.

Witness my hand, this 15th of October, 1852.

E. BURKHOLDER.

We, the subscribers, do hereby certify that the above five acres of land were lightly manured before it was ploughed, and twice harrowed before the corn was planted, and was checkered and planted on the 18th and 19th days of May, with hoes. Three grains were put to the hill, and the hills three and one-half feet apart. The land was rolled immediately after it was planted, and after it was grown out of the ground about three or four inches high, it was twice cultivated with a small shovel harrow, crossways, &c.; and also, twice ploughed with the cultivator. And further certify, that the present is the third crop of corn raised in due successive years or seasons on the said five acres of land. The field from which the above five acres are surveyed and laid off, containing about fourteen or fifteen acres.

Witness our hands, this 16th day of October, 1852.

JOHN H. OBERHOLTZER,	H. H. OBERHOLTZER,
LEVI BARD,	JOHN R. BITZER,
SAMUEL BURKHOLDER,	SAMUEL BURGHOLDER,
HENRY STONER,	ADAM SANDOE.
CHRISTIAN OBERHOLTZER,	

We, the subscribers, do hereby certify that John B. Bitzer, of West Earl township, Lancaster county, practical farmer, has raised on the above five acres

*Diagram omitted.

of land, this season, four hundred and twenty-eight bushels of corn. And further, do certify that the same corn was measured in our presence, truly and correctly.

Witness our hands, this 16th day of October, 1852.

ADAM SANDOE,
JOHN R. BITZER,
SAMUEL BURGHOLDER.

I, John Hellinger, of West Earl township, certify that I husked four acres of the above five acres, by the acre, for John B. Bitzer; and that I am now forty-two years of age, and during which time, I husked a great deal of corn, but never met any in my life equal to the above; produced more corn to the acre than any I have ever seen.

Witness my hand, this 16th of October, 1852.

JOHN HARLINGAR.

We, the subscribers, do hereby certify that John B. Bitzer has raised this season a better and far heavier crop of corn on his farm in West Earl township, Lancaster county, than we have ever seen raised in the county of Lancaster.

Witness our hands, this 16th day of October, 1852.

JOHN SHEAFFER,	LEVI BARD,
CHRISTIAN OBERHOLTZER,	SAMUEL BURKHOLDER,
H. H. OBERHOLTZER,	HENRY STONER,
JOHN R. BITZER,	E. BURKHOLDER,
SAMUEL BURGHOLDER,	M. S. GROFF,
ADAM SANDOE,	JOHN SHEAFFER.
JOHN HOBENHOLTZER,	

John R. Bitzer's Mode of Cultivation.

I, E. Burkholder, of West Earl township, Lancaster county, certify that I measured with compass and chain, one acre of land* put into corn, on the farm of John B. Bitzer, of West Earl township, Lancaster county, and the same land off of which Mr. Bitzer took off a crop of corn for exhibition for premium at the Pennsylvania Agricultural State fair, and that the same was correctly measured.

Witness my hand, this 15th day of October, 1852.

E. BURKHOLDER.

We, the subscribers, do hereby certify that the above one acre of land was lightly manured before it was ploughed, twice harrowed before the corn was planted, and was checkered and planted with hoes on the 18th and 19th of

*Diagram omitted.

May, 1852. Three grains were put to the hill; each hill three and one-half feet apart. The land was rolled immediately after it was planted; and after it was grown out of the ground about three or four inches high, it was twice cultivated with a small shovel harrow, crossways, &c.; and also, twice ploughed with the cultivator. And further certify, that the present is the third crop of corn raised in due successive years or seasons on the said one acre of land. The field from which the above one acre is surveyed and laid off contains about fourteen or fifteen acres of land.

Witness our hands, this 16th day of October, 1852.

JOHN H. OBERHOLTZER,	H. H. OBERHOLTZER,
LEVI BARD,	JOHN R. BITZER,
SAMUEL BURKHOLDER,	SAMUEL BURGHOLDER,
HENRY STONER,	ADAM SANDOE.
CHRISTIAN OBERHOLTZER,	

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that John B. Bitzer, of West Earl township, Lancaster county, practical farmer, has raised off of one acre of land this season, ninety-six and three-fourths bushels of shelled corn. And further, do certify that the same corn was measured in our presence truly and correctly.

Witness our hands, this 16th day of October, 1852.

JOHN R. BITZER,
SAMUEL BURGHOLDER,
ADAM SANDOE.

James A. M'Crea's Mode of Cultivation.

The undersigned respectfully presents the accompanying certificates of the measurement of the land and its product in corn, in competition for the premium offered by the agricultural society of the State of Pennsylvania.

In this section of our State such a crop is exceedingly beyond the average, and elicited warm encomiums from all who had an opportunity of seeing its luxuriant growth. The mode of cultivation was that usually employed in this county, viz.:

A sod of more than twenty years growth was broken up in March, harrowed thoroughly, then hoe harrowed and furrowed out for planting, four and three and one-half feet. The corn was planted the first week in May, about two-thirds with Dutton and the remainder with mixed variety. My neighbor farmers were of opinion that if the mixed variety alone had been planted, the yield would have been materially increased; of this, however, I am not satisfied. The irregular outline of the field rendered it impracticable to institute a comparison with that accuracy which should always accompany agricultural experiments to entitle them to confidence.

A given bulk of the mixed variety was found to shell off about four per cent. more by measure, and eight per cent. less by weight, than the Dutton.

The Dutton corn was selected with reference to its character for maturing early, as the desire was to bring the field back into grass in the shortest possible time. The unusual character of the autumn, however, defeated this object, and also showed no difference in favor of the Dutton over the mixed variety on the score of earlier maturity. I may also note that the fodder was very rank over the entire field, much of it from fifteen to sixteen feet high, and none under twelve feet. The Dutton corn with us is not often more than nine or ten feet high.

There was no manure employed, and the rapid growth of the crop did not permit it to be stirred more than twice with the cultivator.

JAMES A. M'CREA.

ARDENHEIM FARM, Whitmarsh township, }
Montgomery county, Pa., Jan'y 6, 1853. }

MONTGOMERY Co., January 6, 1853.

I hereby certify that I superintended harvesting and measuring the corn crop grown upon eleven acres and twenty-four perches, on the farm of Dr. James A. M'Crea, in Whitmarsh township, Montgomery county, and that said crop was one thousand and twenty-eight bushels of shelled corn.

JOSEPH NEIMAN.

I hereby certify that I measured accurately the field of corn upon the farm of Dr. James A. M'Crea, in August last, and that the same contains eleven acres and twenty four perches of land.

JOSEPH HUSTON, Surveyor.

Reuben Weidman's Mode of Cultivation.

The ground was timothy sod; it was accurately surveyed by William Weidman, on the 1st of October, 1852, and found to contain one hundred and fifty-five and a half perches—less four and a half perches than one acre.

The mode of cultivation was as follows: ploughed in the spring, then put in with potatoes, and after they were raised, about sixteen one horse loads of manure spread over it; then again ploughed about eight inches deep, and harrowed until in good seeding order, and then sowed in with one bushel and three pecks of what is called the Ohio wheat, with the drill. The wheat was reaped, shocked, and then stacked, and remained there until the 4th day of October, 1852, when it was thrashed and yielded thirty-eight and one-half bushels by measure, and weighed sixty-two and two-thirds pounds, which makes forty bushels and twelve and two-thirds pounds of wheat by weight.

Certified by us, October 18th, 1852.

WILLIAM WEIDMAN,
JOHN W. LEBER.

Oats raised by Benjamin Buckwalter

EAST LAMPETER, September 6th, 1852.

This is to certify that the oats field contained eight acres and one hundred and twenty-five perches neat measure.

Witness our hands.

ABRAHAM BUCKWALTER,
BENJAMIN BUCKWALTER.

This is to certify that the above quantity of land produced six hundred and forty bushels.

Witness our hands.

HENRY GROFF,
BENJAMIN BUCKWALTER.

Description of the Manner in which J. Wilkinson produced his crop of Carrots in 1852, measuring one thousand and seventeen bushels per acre.

The ground was a good sandy loam, principally mica slate, the fertile surface soil about eight inches in depth.

It had been in lucern for two years previous to breaking up for carrots.

The sward was turned under nine inches deep in April, following the surface with the sub-soil plow to the depth of six inches more. Land was manured with four hundred pounds Peruvian guano per acre, and twenty-five two horse loads of compost, consisting of the scrapings of the manure yards, screenings of guano, decomposed flesh of horses, cows, &c., and gleanings from banks of ditches, thoroughly incorporated with the soil. The seed was planted the 5th of May, in drills two and one-half feet apart, using two pounds seed per acre. The variety, *long orange*.

They were kept clean throughout the season; were hand weeded but twice, and were cultivated principally with horses, using a cultivator made by C. B. Rogers, of Philadelphia, expressly for the purpose; and also, sub-soiling the surface of the land three times during the season between the drills with a light one horse plow. The crop was harvested the last of November. They were taken out by means of the large sub-soil plow, running it seventeen inches in depth.

By the use of the sub soil plow for digging carrots and similar roots, a strong team will do the work of twenty-five or thirty men, and do the work equally as well as it can be done by manual labor.

I preserve them in pits; cover them with earth, without any other covering. I sell them in the city of Philadelphia, for feeding horses; the price varies from thirty-seven to fifty cents per bushel. I have sold them this year for forty-five cents per bushel, thus realizing upwards of four hundred and fifty dollars per acre.

All of which is respectfully submitted to the Committee on Root Crops, of the Pennsylvania State agricultural society.

J. WILKINSON.

GERMANTOWN, Pa., December 22, 1852.

I do certify that I assisted to produce the crop of carrots grown by Mr. Wilkinson, of the Mount Airy agricultural institute, in 1852, and that one acre, surveyed by Mr. L. H. Gause, (mathematical teacher of the institute,) produced one thousand and seventeen bushels, *good measure*, per acre, of the best shaped carrots, and least proportion of tops to the roots that I ever saw, and I have been familiar with their production for the past ten years.

I do further certify, that this was the largest crop that I ever assisted to harvest, and the extraordinary yield was owing to the liberal, thorough, and scientific manner in which the crop was manured and cultivated.

S. F. UNRAH.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 16th day of December, 1852.

ROBERT THOMAS,

Justice of the Peace in and for the county of Philadelphia, Pa.

I certify that I surveyed with a compass and chain for Mr. John Wilkinson, of the Mount Airy agricultural institute, one acre of the ground occupied by his carrot crop, in 1852, which he subsequently had carefully measured, for the purpose of competing for the prizes offered by numerous agricultural societies, and I am satisfied that the survey was accurately made.

L. H. GAUSE, *Surveyor.*

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 16th day of December, 1852.

ROBERT THOMAS,

Justice of the Peace in and for the county of Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Bucher, treasurer of the society, submitted the following report:
GEORGE H. BUCHER, *Treasurer Pennsylvania State agricultural society.*

DR.

1852.				
January 7—	To balance in treasury as per settlement on 20th,	-	\$578	54
"	Admission fees of members,	-	24	00
February,	" " "	-	10	00
March,	" " member,	-	1	00
" 22,	To cash of Robert J. Ross, on account of subscriptions of the citizens of Harrisburg, towards expenses of State fair, -	-	516	25
" 30,	To State appropriations for 1851, -	-	2,000	00
April,	To membership fees, -	-	4	00
" 28,	To cash of John P. Rutherford, Swatara subscription towards expenses of State fair at Harrisburg, -	-	70	00
August,	To membership fees, -	-	7	00
" 20,	To subscription of A. O. Heister to State fair at Harrisburg, per H. Gilbert, -	-	5	00

Sept'r.	To Membership fees,	-	-	38 00
" 28,	To cash of Wells Coverly, on account of Harrisburg subscriptions,	-	-	57 50
" "	To cash of William T. Sanders, on account of Harrisburg subscriptions,	-	-	20 00
October,	To membership fees and diplomas,	-	-	92 50
"	To amount fees received from members and admission tickets during the fair at Lancaster, 20th, 21st, and 22d.	-	-	8,385 51
" 22,	To life membership certificates, James Gowen,	-	-	10 00
" "	" " " " Peleg B. Savery,	-	-	10 00
" "	" " " " C. B. Rogers,	-	-	10 00
" "	" " " " Samuel C. Stambaugh,	-	-	10 00
Nov'r. 3,	To amount of A. O. Heister, as per statement furnished,	-	-	16 11
" 10,	To subscription of J. C. Bucher to Harrisburg fair, paid by R. F. Kelker,	-	-	10 00
Dec.,	To membership fees,	-	-	1 00
" 10,	To premium returned by Abner Thompson,	-	-	10 00
1853.				
Jan'y. 3,	To State appropriations for 1852,	-	-	2,000 00
" 5,	To membership fees paid Robert C. Walker during the year,	-	-	22 00
" 6,	To premium returned by Bolden & Price,	-	-	5 00
" "	To Lancaster subscription connected with the fair,	-	-	1,500 00
				<u>\$15,413 41</u>

CR.

By payments as per vouchers furnished and approved of by Executive Committee, viz. :				
By rent of office and incidental,	-	-	-	85 00
Furniture for office,	-	-	-	64 81
Stationery,	-	-	-	33 17½
Seal and press for office,	-	-	-	17 50
Postages and telegraphic despatches,	-	-	-	60 51½
Tents used at Lancaster fair,	-	-	-	260 00
Grain, hay, and straw bought for fair,	-	\$298 49	-	
Deduct grain sold,	-	135 02	-	
				<u>163 47</u>
Lumber purchased for fair ground,	-	\$1,790 81½	-	
Deduct amount sold,	-	1,410 81½	-	
				<u>380 00</u>
Rent of ploughing and fair ground,	-	-	-	143 25
Hauling, &c ,	-	-	-	370 97
Labor and sundry expenses preparatory to and during the fair at Lancaster,	-	-	-	590 33
Police during the fair,	-	-	-	450 23
Superintendents on fair ground,	-	-	-	87 00
Printing,	-	-	-	696 19½
Freight and sidlings,	-	-	-	198 89½
Expenses of business offices during the fair,	-	-	-	396 15

Expenses incurred by Secretary,	-	-	-	600 00
Hardware, &c.,	-	-	-	154 18
				<u>\$4,751 67</u>
Amount of premiums awarded at Lancaster,	-	-	-	1,650 00
" invested by order of Executive Committee,	-	-	-	5,000 00
" deposited in Dauphin Deposit Bank, by order of Executive Committee,	-	-	-	2,000 00
				<u>13,401 67</u>
Balance in treasury,	-	-	-	2,011 74
				<u>\$15,413 41</u>

We, the undersigned, having been appointed a committee to audit the above account of the treasurer of the Pennsylvania State agricultural society, having examined the accompanying vouchers and compared them with the report, find it correct.

DAVID MUMMA, Jr.,
J. P. RUTHERFORD.

REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

The closing of the second year of the Pennsylvania State agricultural society furnishes the evidence that its organization has been for good, and that it has received that attention from its friends commensurate with the importance to be attached to an institution intended to "foster and improve agriculture, horticulture, and the domestic and household arts." It has also afforded sufficient proof that there does exist in Pennsylvania *all* the elements required to carry forward and foster successfully a State agricultural society.

The proceedings of the year, which are those of the Executive Committee, have been nearly altogether of a business nature, and are made up from the minutes of said committee, which has been in session eight times since the last annual meeting of the society. A very considerable amount of labor and time is required from, and has been cheerfully given, by the members of the Executive Committee, upon whom has devolved all the business of the association.

The following resolution was passed by the Executive Committee, at their meeting on 10th December last :

Resolved, That experience has shown that our annual exhibitions have heretofore been held too late in the season, and that our next annual exhibition and cattle show shall be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th days of September next.

In accordance with the constitution of the United States agricultural society, which makes provision for the establishment of a Board of Agriculture, to be appointed by the respective State agricultural societies, the Executive Committee has appointed Frederick Watts, John H. Ewing, and H. N. M'Allister, members of said Board of Agriculture.

It was also resolved that the thanks of the society be tendered to the agricultural society of Lancaster county, for the industrious attention which they have given to the interests of the State society during its exhibition; and especially to their Executive officer, Daniel Rhodes, for his untiring energy in executing the orders of the committee of arrangement.

The committee appointed to receive proposals from places competing for the next annual exhibition, reported progress, and had leave to report at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

The committee appointed to audit the account of the treasurer, reported and certified to the correctness of the same.

It is to be regretted that none of the different county agricultural societies in the State, have complied with the act of incorporation of the State society, which requires that they shall annually transmit, in the month of December, to the Executive Committee, "all such reports or returns as they are required to demand and receive from applicants for premiums, with an abstract of their proceedings during the year."

An adherence to that part of the law requiring them to make report of their yearly proceedings, would enable the State society to acquire a great store of agricultural information from the various districts, and a sufficiency of agricultural statistics to warrant the Legislature in following the worthy example of the States of Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Michigan, and Maryland, who have had published those very interesting and valuable works called the transactions of their respective State agricultural societies.

There are nineteen county agricultural societies in the State, very few of which have had any conference with the State society on any subject of mutuality, and have neglected altogether the importance of concerted action in the many ways that would facilitate both in contributing to the husbandry of the country. The Perry County agricultural society was represented at the late State fair, by a large display of fine fruit and articles of domestic manufacture, to some of which premiums were awarded, and others were spoken commendably of by the committee. The Executive Committee passed a resolution tendering their thanks to the Perry County society for the handsome contribution they had made to our annual exhibition, and requesting other county agricultural societies to follow its example.

The second annual exhibition held at Lancaster, was by far more extensive than the one of the preceding year, and for a *second* exhibition, was probably unprecedented in the history of State agricultural societies. The display of animals and articles from the various parts of the State, was very creditable, and the number entered for competition on the books of the society, was a large increase over the former occasion, clearly showing that the zeal that was manifested for a first exhibition, had not in the least abated by the lapse of another year. One striking feature of the fair was the valuable specimens of pure bred fowls which were exhibited in great numbers, and very deservedly

attracted much attention, while they showed the importance of every farmer looking to his poultry yard.

The plowing match was one of considerable interest, and the strife among the plowmen who had entered the contest, was characterized by good feeling and a generous emulation as to the reward of their labors.

The several departments of the exhibition were all well supplied with contributions, and presented their usual attraction.

The new and interesting feature of the exhibition, made up by the collection of valuable wools owned and presented by Peter A. Browne, Esq., of Philadelphia, afforded quite a treat to the wool growers who had the pleasure of witnessing these rare specimens, and suggests to the society the importance of aiding this distinguished gentleman in his new and novel undertaking, of improving the wool culture by pointing out the distinct difference between hair and wool, or between wool that will and will not shrink or felt together.

The exhibition was deficient in the customary annual address, owing to engagements at the time, of gentlemen who had been invited for that purpose. The fair ground, situated on an eminence scarcely a mile from Lancaster, and commanding a fine view of the Conestoga valley, the railroad and level farms, was a beautiful location, and for the purposes of an exhibition, every way desirable.

The Committee of Arrangement, composed almost exclusively of the members of the Lancaster County agricultural society, upon whom devolved the many duties to be performed both before and after a fair, well deserve the thanks of the society for the untiring and disinterested attention given to the interests of the State society during the late exhibition.

The registry of the names of the members of the society shows that they have been more than doubled since the last annual report, there being now over four thousand two hundred members, all of whom are regularly entered in the books of the society, in alphabetical order, with their post office address.

Certificates of life membership have been issued to James Gowen, of Mount Airy, P. B. Savery, of Philadelphia, C. B. Rogers, of Philadelphia, and S. C. Stambaugh, of Lancaster.

This mode of strengthening the treasury of the society, has been less successful than might have been expected, for when it is considered that the fee for life membership is only ten dollars, one would readily believe that the dictates of economy would induce life members by the score.

Two years have expired since the organization of this society, and would it be improbable to suppose that eight years hence, hundreds who are members now will be members then; who then can account for there being but four life members now, when eight years more shall have expired, all who have belonged in the meantime will have paid the whole amount of the fee for life membership, and at the end of that time, will be still contributing their yearly dollar. It might not be improper here to suggest, that the vice presidents be

desired to invite life members from their respective districts. Each vice president, furnishing ten life members, would give the society \$2,500, or near double the amount of premiums paid out the last year.

It will be seen by the treasurer's report that there are funds in the treasury to warrant a very considerable enlargement of the premium list and an increase of premiums for the next fair, which is designed to be done by the Executive Committee.

The reports of the judges who served on the several committees for the last exhibition, (of which three thousand copies have been published and distributed among the members of the society,) show a decided improvement on the part of exhibitors in preparing statements in regard to culture, modes of manufacturing, &c., &c.

It will be seen that the Executive Committee has increased the number of days for holding the next exhibition to four, so as to enable exhibitors to have entered and arranged in due time, all things intended for competition, to give the judges more time in their adjudications, and to enable them to give that attention to the making up of their reports, which their importance to competitors and to the society so justly demand.

In submitting such abstracts from the records of the society as have been designated, and which are hoped will contribute to the interest of our annual meeting, I cannot refrain from congratulating the members of the society upon the successful effort that has been made by them to firmly establish in Pennsylvania an institution whose two years existence fully demonstrates that it is rapidly approximating an equality with kindred associations, whose beneficent influences have aided agriculture throughout the world.

We have reason to rejoice that as yet no obstacle has been met with to retard the society in its gradual advancement to the position which it this day occupies, and it is a gratification to know that the Treasury of the State has been twice opened in its behalf, and that the Governor of the Commonwealth, in his late annual message, has recommended the appointment of an agricultural chemist, to act in conjunction with this and the county societies.

The interest that is felt in every part of the State, to have succeed the first effort calculated to benefit the farmer—the legislative aid so confidently to be relied on—the members of the society now numbering thousands—the money in its treasury, and the willingness of almost every one to assist in its promotion, all indicate a permanency of the Pennsylvania State agricultural society, which it is hoped will not cease while agriculture contributes to the comfort and happiness of man.

ROBERT C. WALKER, *Secretary*

On motion of ALGERNON S. ROBERTS, the following resolutions were adopted:
Resolved, That the Pennsylvania State agricultural society highly approves of and concurs in the recommendation of the Governor in his annual message, that an institution to impart instruction in the science of agriculture should be

established, and that legislative provision be made for the appointment of a State agricultural chemist.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to report at an adjourned meeting this evening, on the expediency of adopting measures for the establishment of a State agricultural school, to be called "The Farmers' High School of the State of Pennsylvania."

Whereupon, the Chair appointed Algernon S. Roberts, A. O. Heister, Joseph Konigmacher, James Carothers, and David Mellinger.

On motion of THOS. J. JOURDAN, the society went into the nomination of officers, to be voted for by ballot, for the ensuing year.

On motion of JACOB S. HALDEMAN, it was resolved that the society proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and that the president of the meeting appoint tellers to hold the election.

The president appointed as tellers, Jacob S. Haldeman and William S. Picking.

On motion, it was resolved that the polls be kept open from this time (five o'clock, P. M.) until six o'clock, P. M.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to meet this evening at seven o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

A quorum of members being present, the society was called to order at seven o'clock, by the president.

The tellers having received and counted the tickets, reported that they agreed in their tallies, and read over the number of votes polled and to whom given. The president then pronounced that the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year, and until another election:

President—FREDERICK WATTS.

Vice Presidents.—Congressional districts:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Peleg B. Savery, | 13. Augustus Lukenbaugh, |
| 2. Joseph R. Ingersoll, | 14. William Jessup, |
| 3. James Gowen, | 15. H. N. M'Allister, |
| 4. Algernon S. Roberts, | 16. Jacob S. Haldeman, |
| 5. John Kennedy, | 17. William Heiser, |
| 6. Abrabam R. M'Ilvaine, | 18. John S. Isett, |
| 7. Wm. Stavely, | 19. John M'Farland, |
| 8. Henry Shubert, | 20. John H. Ewing, |
| 9. John Strohm, | 21. John Murdock, |
| 10. John P. Rutherford, | 22. William Martin, Sr., |
| 11. Amos Kapp, | 23. William Waugh, |
| 12. Geo. W. Woodward, | 24. William Bigler, |
| | 25. James Miles. |

Additional Members of the Executive Committee.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| John S. Evans, | Isaac G. M'Kinley, |
| A. O. Heister, | Rob't M'Allister, |
| | Simon Cameron. |

Corresponding Secretary—A. L. Ellwyn.

Recording Secretary—Robert C. Walker.

Treasurer—George H. Bucher.

Chemist and Geologist—S. S. Haldeman.

Librarian—David Mumma.

ALGERNON S. ROBERTS, chairman of the committee appointed on the subject of an agricultural school, respectfully reports :—

That they believe the present to be an auspicious period for the introduction into the State of Pennsylvania of a scientific and practical system of education, particularly adapted to the improvement and extension of agricultural knowledge.

The advantages of a course of education specially directed to the acquisition and dissemination of scientific branches of instruction, immediately connected with the occupation of farming, are so obvious, that the committee do not deem it necessary to enlarge on them at this time.

The committee believe that the most effectual method of exciting and arousing the attention of the people to a subject so vastly important to our agricultural community, is by the call of a general convention of delegates from all parts of the State, to meet at the capitol, when a full expression of public sentiment could be had; and if favorably entertained, such means be adopted as would ensure success.

To commence an establishment of the proper kind, a large sum of money would not be necessary, and your committee are confident in the opinion that the convention could readily devise means for raising an amount, which, with what the society might contribute, and a moderate appropriation from the State, would be ample for the establishment and maintenance of an agricultural school and farm.

The committee, therefore, offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That an agricultural convention be held at Harrisburg, on Tuesday the 8th of March next, to adopt measures for the establishment of an agricultural institution, to be styled "The Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania," with a model farm attached thereto; and that the convention consist of as many delegates from each district as there are Senators and Representatives in the Legislature from the same; said delegates to be chosen by the agricultural societies, where such are located, and in other districts, by the friends of agricultural education.

ALGERNON S. ROBERTS,
J. CAROTHERS,
JOSEPH KONIGMACHER,
A. O. HEISTER,
DAVID MELLINGER.

On motion, the resolution attached to the report was unanimously adopted.

DAVID MUMMA, Jr., offered the following resolution, which was unanimously agreed to :

Resolved, That the constitution of the Pennsylvania State agricultural society

be amended in the seventh paragraph of the third section, by inserting after the word "generally," the following: "and shall appoint annually at their first quarterly meeting, a recording secretary and treasurer, fix their salaries, and require security from the treasurer, if they deem it necessary; and in the third line of the fourth section, by inserting after the word "society," the following: "not otherwise appointed."

On motion of A. O. HEISTER, it was

Resolved, That the treasurer of this society be authorized to pay the subordinate officers of the House of Representatives two dollars each for their attendance during the meeting, including the tellers.

On motion of A. O. HEISTER, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this society be tendered to CHARLES B. TREGO, Esq., for the able and efficient manner in which he discharged the duties as president of this meeting.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to meet at the time and place of the next annual exhibition.

ROBERT C. WALKER,
Recording Secretary.

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
PENN'A STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
AS AMENDED THE 18th JANUARY, 1853.

The name of the society shall be the Pennsylvania State agricultural society. The objects of this society are to foster and improve agriculture, horticulture, and the domestic and household arts.

SECTION 1. The society shall consist of all such persons as shall signify to the Executive Committee their wish to become members, and shall pay to the treasurer, on signing the constitution of the society, not less than one dollar; and annually thereafter not less than one dollar; and also of honorary and corresponding members.

The officers of county agricultural societies in this State, or delegations therefrom, shall be members *ex-officio* of this society.

The payment of ten dollars shall constitute life membership, and exempt the members so contributing from all annual payments.

SECTION 2. The officers of the society shall be a president, a vice president from each Congressional district, three-fourths of whom shall be practical agriculturalists or horticulturists, a treasurer, a corresponding secretary, a recording secretary, a librarian, an agricultural chemist and geologist, and such assistants as the society may find essential to the transaction of its business; an Executive Committee, consisting of the above named officers, and five additional members.

Duties of the Officers.

SECTION 3. The president shall have a general superintendence of all the affairs of the society. In case of the death, illness, or inability of the president to perform the duties of his office, the Executive Committee shall select a vice president to act in his stead, who shall have the same power, and perform the same duties as the president, until the next annual meeting.

Vice Presidents.

It shall be their duty to take charge of the affairs of the association in their several districts; to advance all its objects, to call upon farmers to report as to the condition of agriculture in their neighborhood; to ask for information as to the modes of cultivation adopted by different farmers, and as far as in their power to make known the resources of their districts, the nature of its soil, its geological character, and all such matter as may interest farmers in every part of the State.

Treasurer.

The treasurer shall keep an account of all moneys paid into his hands, and shall pay bills when audited and approved by the Executive Committee; each order for payment must be signed by the president or chairman of the Executive Committee.

Corresponding Secretary.

The duty of this officer shall be to invite a correspondence with all persons interested in agriculture, whether in the State of Pennsylvania or elsewhere, but especially with our consuls in foreign countries, that new seeds, vegetables or live stock may be introduced; and their fitness for cultivation and propagation in our climate be tested. At each stated meeting of the society he shall read his correspondence, which shall, either the whole or such parts as may be selected by the society, form a portion of the transactions.

He shall also correspond with the president or other officers of each State society in the United States, at least twice in the year, for purposes of combined and mutual action, and to be informed of the result and progress of each others efforts; also, to invite mechanics to forward models or implements for examination and trial.

The recording secretary shall keep the minutes of the society and of the Executive Committee; at the close of each year he shall prepare for publication such parts of the minutes and transactions of the society as may be designated.

The librarian shall take charge of all books, pamphlets, &c., belonging to the society, and shall act as curator to preserve seeds, implements, or whatever property the society may possess.

The Executive Committee shall transact the business of the society, generally; and shall appoint annually at their first quarterly meeting, a recording secretary and treasurer, fix their salaries, and require security from the treasurer, if they deem it necessary; shall superintend and direct the publication of such of the reports and transactions as they may deem proper, and shall designate the time and places for annual exhibitions, regulate the expenditures, examine all accounts, and keep such general charge of the affairs of the society as may best promote its interests.

They shall select their own chairman, and meet quarterly, and at any other time when convened by the president; five members shall form a quorum.

They shall call special meetings of the society when necessary.

SECTION 4. The society shall meet annually, on the third Tuesday of January, at Harrisburg, when all the officers of the society, not otherwise appointed, shall be elected by ballot for the ensuing year, and until another election. They shall also hold a general meeting at the time of the annual exhibition, and special meetings whenever convoked by the Executive Committee.

Fifteen members shall form a quorum for the transaction of business, but no member in arrears shall be entitled to the privileges of the society.

SECTION 5. This constitution may be altered or amended, at the annual meetings in January, by a vote of two-thirds of the members in attendance.

**End of
Title**