DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE,

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A.D. 1835.

AUGUSTA:
WILLIAM J. CONDON, PRINTER.
1835.
FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

NO. 11. HOUSE.

STATE OF MAINE.

To the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives,

Gentlemen—In obedience to the requirement of an Act passed March 5th, 1832, I have the honor herewith to lay before the Legislature the official statements, received from “Kennebec County Agricultural Society,” and the “Cumberland Agricultural and Horticultural Society” in the month of January last.

Your obedient servant,

ROSCOE G. GREENE, Sec. of State.
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE KENNEBEC
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

To ROSCOE G. GREENE, Esq.
Secretary of State for the State of Maine.

The close of another year brings with it the duty
devolving upon the Corresponding Secretary of this
Society, of reporting to the constituted authorities,
the annual expenditures and general operations of
the Society, with such other matters of general in­
terest as may offer themselves for consideration.

It will be seen by the Treasurer’s Report, which
accompanies this, that the monies which have been
received from the State have been expended in
premiums, and awarded to the several competitors
on crops, cattle, manufactured articles, &c. agreea­
bly to the several offers made by the Society, and
the reports of the several committees which have
been published. The statements of the successful
claimants have been deposited in the archives of
the State, according as the law provides.

In addition to the expenditures of monies in the
payment of premiums, I have the pleasure to State
that the funds, which have been kept in reserve to
meet the expense of publishing a treatise on the dis-
eases and management of sheep, will soon be paid out, as the treatise above named is now out of the press, and will be ready for those who wish to purchase in a few days. Thus will all the funds that have been placed by the State, to the disposal of the Society, be paid out for the promotion of agricultural improvements.

In taking a review of the progress of agriculture in our section of the country, during the past year, one cannot but be both cheered and encouraged—cheered, to find that the bounty of the State, judiciously distributed in premiums among our farmers, mechanics and house-wives, has given such a spring to productive industry.—Encouraged, to find that a taste for such pursuits is fast gaining ground, and taking deep and strong root among us.

To particularize, allow me to say that in regard to the wheat crop, that essential article of life and comfort, much attention is, and continues to be excited. The system of turning under a clover sod, and the judicious application of lime and alkalies, has fulfilled the most sanguine expectations of those who have ventured to step from the old and beaten track. And it is confidently hoped, that although we are yet foolishly dependent upon other States for our flour, the time is not far distant when we shall no longer be reproached with the humiliating fact, that "we go to New York to mill." It is indeed melancholy to see so many of our most thrifty
farmers—men, whose soil can vie with any in the world, and whose intellect, strength and vigor of frame, is not a whit behind those of the most favored land on earth, nevertheless, bowing with unbecoming servility to the old whim, that we cannot raise our own bread, and accordingly, neglecting the proper culture of his land and buying of the merchant the crops of Gennesee. As it was before remarked, owing to the bounty of the State, by which Societies have been formed—premiums distributed and knowledge disseminated, this belief is fast disappearing, and by a continuance of the same generosity, will, no doubt, be utterly and totally eradicated.

In May last, this Society procured from Scotland some Scotch oats, with a view of improving our crops of this grain. These oats weighed forty-four pounds to the bushel, and were divided and sold to those who desired to try them. The lateness of the season, however, when they were sown, prevented their maturing so fully and perfectly as was desirable, but it is believed that they will prove beneficial, inasmuch as a change of seed has hitherto been serviceable in crops of any kind.

In addition to this, we are indebted to the enterprise of certain individuals of New Sharon, for the introduction of the Chinese skinless oats, which, it is thought, will prove a valuable acquisition to the farmer.

The culture of silk—a subject which has for

1*
some time been agitated and discussed, is still exciting the attention of many of our citizens. Experiments upon it are still being tried, and many in different towns are preparing to enter upon the business at some not very distant day, on a scale sufficiently large to make it an exclusive business for themselves and their families. There cannot be the least doubt that their most sanguine hopes will be realized. And, although it may lead some to stigmatize such efforts as chimerical and visionary, there is nothing under heavens wanting but faith, to render Maine a great silk growing, silk manufacturing State.

The mulberry finds here a congenial soil, and it braves the severity of our winters and the heat of our summers, with as much health, if not as much luxuriance, as in the sunny plains of Asia. The worms, too, hatch as well here as anywhere—eat as well, and spin as well. During the past summer one person, in Winthrop, reared two crops of cocoons; both of which were large and perfect. What then can hinder its progress among us to perfection? The mystery which interested foreigners have heretofore thrown over its manufacture, is fast disappearing before yankee ingenuity and perseverance. It has been more than once suggested in former reports, that the examples which Connecticut as a State has set, of fostering this branch of art, by aid from her treasury, is worthy of being followed by others; and the belief is gaining ground, that our
own State would be amply remunerated, by bestowing even a trifling encouragement to the business in like manner.

As it regards the growing of wool, and the rearing of different breeds of sheep, it may be well to observe, that this business is increasing in the county; and that more careful attention is bestowed upon flocks, than was done a few years ago. One gentleman (Mr. Charles Vaughan, of Hallowell) has recently imported, direct from England, some of the choicest blood of the South Downs—a breed which combines in a remarkable degree, excellence of form and hardiness of constitution, and it cannot be doubted that they will be of signal service in restoring vigor and activity to those whose flocks are reduced by inattention to form and health, if crossed with them.

In connection with this subject, it may be proper again to notice the treatise, just published by the Society, upon the most judicious mode of management of this kind of stock. It is a collection of such information as the experience of our oldest and most successful flock owners has sanctioned, and it is confidently hoped that it will prove a valuable and acceptable manual to the shepherds, not only of Maine, but of all the northern States.

In regard to neat stock, nothing new has transpired in our county during the past year. The continued demand for large and heavy cattle has pretty
generally convinced our farmers that a mixture of the Durham blood, with the best of our native cattle, are superior in every respect for the peculiar purposes of the country to any breed now extant.

In the breeding of horses, nothing worthy of particular notice has been done of late. Indeed, although there are some good horses here, it may be said, (the opinion of some to the contrary notwithstanding,) that there is not that sort of attention paid to our breed of horses that the importance of the business demands. It is true, that as at present carried on, the breeding of horses is not so profitable as some other branches of husbandry; and for this reason, there ought to be the more strict and careful attention paid to what are raised. It is to be regretted that no regular system—no definite mode of procedure is pursued in regard to this business—a business which demands so much time and capital. The mode at present adopted, (it cannot be called a system,) is, that every mare that cannot be sold, shall be made to breed, and the cheapest horse receives the most custom. No wonder that our lawgivers are called upon to devise ways and means to destroy the crows, when our farmers pursue a course which provides so bountifully for the increase and sustenance of these ominous birds.

Leaving the subjects which more immediately relate to the farm, allow me to touch upon another, which has already excited pleasing hopes and cheer-
ing prospects among the yeomanry, not only of our county, but of the whole State. I allude to the organization of the Board of Internal Improvements. To no class of the community will the adoption of the modern facilities of Inland Navigation be more beneficial than to the farmer; for it in effect shortens the distances to market, and enables him to triumph, in a degree, over time and space. It is with feelings, therefore, of lively delight, that they hail the appearance of any thing calculated to bring about, within our own borders, the same state of improvements that we see established in other parts of the Union; and although the present appearance is, as it were, a mere speck upon the distant horizon, like the cloud which presented itself to the gaze of the prophet of Israel, "a little cloud" no bigger than a man's hand, yet it is hoped that it will expand until it overshadows the extremes of our land, and pours forth its refreshing streams upon every section and every farm in our territory.

What may not Maine become? What may she not do, when her physical resources and the full powers of her soil shall be fully developed? When her innumerable water-falls shall be occupied, and afford employment and wealth to the villages which will rise up and cluster around them. When Rail Roads and Canals, intersecting her navigable rivers, and connecting her extended seacoast with her distant frontier, shall call into action the now dor-
mant strength and intelligence of her yeomanry, and start into life and restless activity, the energies which are now weighed down by ignorance and apathy. May she not successfully compete with her sister republics, and by improving her natural advantages, bear away the palm even from the "Empire State" herself? What is there to hinder? Is there any thing but seniority of years and a long start in internal improvements, that puts New York above us? Setting these aside, and what better off is she by nature than we are? Has she miles of seacoast and excellent harbors? We have ten to her one. Has she navigable rivers making their way into the interior? We can outnumber her in these. Has she "highlands" and "bottom lands" which vary her climate and productions? We have hills as lofty and plains as fertile as any that she can boast of. Has she marble, and lime, and granite, and slate, and lumber; clay for potteries, and iron for her foundries? We challenge her to produce or show more than nature has bestowed upon us. Has she on her frontier another nation to take her surplus produce, and inland seas to float it to them? We, too, have upon our borders a numerous people, ready and willing, and anxious, to avail themselves of our industry and skill. A rail road through the forest would bring them at once into our immediate neighborhood. It wants, therefore, nothing but the same enterprize—the same enlarged views of State econ-
omy—the same energy and decision which have characterized other communities, to place us on the same enviable height, and to procure for us the same great and happy advantages which are now refunding to others the cost of their structure in a tenfold proportion, and silently raising them still higher and higher in the scale of power and national aggrandizement.

With cordial respect,

your obedient servant,

E. HOLMES,


WINTHROP, JAN. 28, 1835.
**Kennebec County Agricultural Society in account with Samuel Chandler, Treasurer, 1834.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash paid by order of Trustees.</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Rufus Berry, for best breeding mare,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hains, for best bull,</td>
<td>8 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowen Smith, for 2d best do.</td>
<td>6 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pliny Harris, for best milch cow,</td>
<td>7 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Atkinson, for best yoke working oxen,</td>
<td>5 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Ford, for 2d best do.</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanford Howard, for best two years old heifer,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Sturtevant and W. Hains, for best three yrs. old steers,</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asa Hutchinson, for best fat ox,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ezekiel Holmes, for best fat cow,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truxton Wood, for best flock ewes,</td>
<td>6 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah Wood, for best buck, Saxon,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John E. Snell, 2d best do. merino,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Snell, for best boar,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bartlett W. Varnum, 2d best do.</td>
<td>5 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Webb, for best breeding sow,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truxton Wood, 2d best do.</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac Bowles, for best ploughing,</td>
<td>10 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Wing, 2d best do.</td>
<td>8 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson Packard, 3d do.</td>
<td>6 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Wing, for 3d best working oxen,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hains, for best crop Indian corn,</td>
<td>6 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac Bowles, 2d best do.</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leavitt Lothrop, 3d do. do.</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford Sawtell, for first premium on summer wheat,</td>
<td>6 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truxton Wood, 2d do. do.</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner Curtis, for first premium on rye,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford Sawtell, for premium on barley,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac Nelson, for best crop peas and oats,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner Curtis, 2d best do. do.</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradford Sawtell, for best crop of oats,</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josiah Orcutt, for premium on flax,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Kezer, jr. for premium on buck wheat,</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Benjamin, for premium on mulberry trees,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred Chandler for premium on W. mustard seed,</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner Curtis, for best crop of ruta baga,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Gilmore, 2d best do. do.</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Foster, 3d do. do.</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; for premium on mangel wurtzel,</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner Curtis, for best crop potatoes,</td>
<td>4 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sommers Pettingell, 2d best do. do.</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To Stewart Foster, for premiums on onions,  2  00
John Gilmore, for greatest quantity of honey,  2  00
  "  " for greatest number of hives of bees,  2  00
Mrs. Samuel R. Nason, for best butter, 1 vol. Me. Far. &c.  2  00
Nathan Foster, for 2d best do.  2  00
John Gilmore, for best cheese,  3  00
Ebenezer Shaw, 2d best do.  2  00  80  00
Wardsworth Foster, for best ox cart,  5  00
Pliny Harris, for improved ox yoke,  1  50
John Kezer, jr. for improved horse rake,  3  00
Walter Hains, for premium for roller,  1  50
John Stone, jr. for best cultivator,
  "  " for best breaking up plough,  2  00
  "  " for best seed do.  2  00
Alfred Chandler, for premium for raw silk, &
  and 1 vol. Maine Farmer,  3  00
Ephraim K. Smart, for best piece fulled cloth,  2  00
Mrs. Isaac Holmes, for best piece woolen flannel,  1  50
Nathan Foster, for best 2 threaded woolen knitting yarn,  75
  "  " for best 3 threaded worsted yarn,  1  00
Miss Sally Pearly, for best hearth rug,  1  00
  "  " for best linen table cloth,  1  00
Mrs. Hiram Cole, for best cotton counterpane,  1  50
Miss Lydia Cushing, for best straw bonnet,  2  00
Mrs. J. N. Metcalf, for best straw braid,  1  00  32  75
William Noyes & Co. for printing By-Laws,
  "  " for 10 copies of Maine Farmer,  20  00
  "  " for paper for the publication of the
    Northern Shepherd,  64  00
  "  " for print. 1000 copies of N. Shep. 108  00
Thomas Newman, for services,  4  00
Samuel P. Benson, cash paid for Scotch oats,  10  56
Tho. Snell, for services, preparing grounds for cattle show,  5  75
Samuel Merrill, jr. for repairing pens, &c.  4  50
Nathan Foster, for writing letters,  5  60
G. W. Stanley, for cash paid as Com. of arrangements,  7  75  236  16

$449 91

SAMUEL CHANDLER, Treasurer.
To Roscoe C. Greene, Esq.
Secretary of State for the State of Maine.

Sir—In pursuance of the requisitions of a law of this State, passed March 5, 1832, for the encouragement of Agriculture, Horticulture and Manufactures, I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Cumberland Agricultural and Horticultural Society to make the following statement of expenditures of said Society, and the objects for which premiums have been awarded and paid, for the year commencing Jan. 26, 1834, and ending Jan. 26, 1835.

Premiums, and to whom and for what awarded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount Awarded</th>
<th>Amount Paid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**On Domestic Animals.**

- To Danl. Conant, of Westbrook, for working cattle, 1st pr. 2d do. 10 00 10 00
- To Edward Allen, of Cumberland, 6 00 6 00
- To same, on three years old steers, 5 00 5 00
- To Benj. Roberts, of Westbrook, on two years old do. 3 00 0 0
- To William Cobb, of Gorham, on best bull, 10 00 10 00
- To Edward Allen, of Cumberland, on 2d do. 6 00 6 00
- To Archelaus Lewis, of Westbrook, on 3d do. 4 00 4 00
- To Benj. Mosher, of Gorham, on best milch cow, 6 00 6 00
- To Moses Quimby, of Westbrook, on 2d do. 4 00 4 00
- To Robert Johnson, of Gorham, on 3d do. 2 00 0 0
- To Daniel Conant, of Westbrook, on best fatted ox, 4 00 4 00
- To Josiah B. Morse, of Cumberland, on best stud horse, 10 00 10 00
- To John Gallison, of Windham, on 2d do. 5 00 5 00
- To Archelaus Lewis, of Westbrook, on best breeding mare, 5 00 5 00
- To Seth Storer, of Scarborough, on ewe-merino sheep, 3 00 3 00
- To Moses Winslow, of Westbrook, for best sow, 3 00 3 00
- To best pigs, 2 00 2 00

**Agricultural Products, and Horticultural do., Manufactures, &c.**

- To Mrs. Waity Downing of Minot, for the best butter, 6 00 6 00
- To Robert P. Marr, of Scarborough, for 2d best do. 4 00 4 00
- To Joseph Porter, jr. of Freeport, for the best cheese, 8 00 8 00
- To John Armstrong, for 2d do. 5 00 5 00
- To Seth G. Storer, of Scarborough, for hearth rugs, 2 00 2 00
- To Seth Storer, of do. for best domestic manufactured flannel, 4 00 4 00
To John Parington, of Gorham, best manuf. wool carpeting, 5 00
To Cornelius Waters, of do. for best piece of fulled cloth, 4 00
To James Phinney, jr. of do. best cotton and wool flannel, 2 00
To Martha Roberts, of Westbrook, for best counterpane, 2 00
To Miss Miriam Frost, of Gorham, for best palm leaf hats, 1 00
To " for best straw bonnet, 2 00
To Ann Riggs, of Westbrook, for best woven hose, 1 00
To Sarah C. Mountfort, of Portland, for bead bag, purse, &c. 1 00
To James E. Robinson, of Portland, for best plough, 5 00
To Robert P. Marr, of Scarborough, for best crop of corn, 8 00
To Edw. Little of Danville, for best crop of summer wheat, 6 00
To John Warren of Westbrook, for best crop English hay, 10 00

Whole amount of premiums awarded for the year 1834, 164 00
Whole amount paid, up to the date of this report, for that year, 151 00
Of the premiums awarded for the year 1833, and which were not claimed previous to the report of Jan. 25, 1834, there have been since paid
To Edw. Little, of Danville, for 2d best cow and calf, 3 00
To Palfrey Lane, of do. for 2d best firkin butter, 3 00

Amounting to $6 00

Amount of expenses for printing and other contingencies, paid by the Treasurer of the Society during the past year, 31 03

$37 03

Add premiums as above paid, 151 00

$188 03

Making the total of all expenditures of the Society for the year ending Jan. 26, 1835, one hundred eighty-eight dollars and three cents.


P. S. Dear Sir—In making up the foregoing report, I have endeavored to conform to the provisions and requisitions of the statute; but as I have never seen any report from any other Society of the kind in our State, I do not know that I have been successful. If you can spare time from your official avocations to give me a line on the subject, and inform me whether reports have been received from the Kennebec Society, and to what extent, &c. I shall esteem it a favor.

W. B. SEWALL.

R. G. GREENE, Esq.
STATE OF MAINE.

House of Representatives,  
February 2, 1885.

Ordered, That 300 copies be printed for the use of the members.

[Extract from the Journal of the House.]

Attest: JAMES L. CHILD, Clerk.

WM. J. CONDON....PRINTER TO THE STATE.