

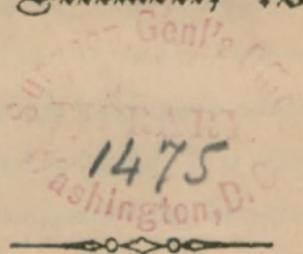
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Vol 339

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS AND AGRICULTURE,

31st December, 1867.



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# REPORT.

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It has been remarked by Pliny, that man knows nothing without instruction ; he has to learn to *speak*, to *work*, to *eat* ; *Nature has given him no power but the power to weep.*" A portion at least of this sentiment is strictly true—that is, the universal necessity of instruction. The progressive advancement of the human mind, by means of Books, Museums, and Mechanic Institutes, is put beyond all contradiction. Without constant application, the finest natural talents would be useless. The most learned can look back to the period when they were deficient in the very first elements of knowledge, and they know that they are indebted to the kindness and care of others for the facility with which they now perform the ordinary actions of eating, walking and speaking. It is with the mind as with the body ; if exercise be necessary for bringing the powers of the body to discharge their various functions with the utmost readiness and almost without consciousness, so the most unremitting attention is necessary to all those sources of knowledge which lie within our reach.

Whatever tends to develope the resources of the world around us, is specially a means of knowledge. Books are open to all who can read them, but the teachings of stones, of shells, of minerals, of preserved birds and beasts, and reptiles, is not read

so easily, and is not so accessible except to those who have not had opportunities to study them. The power of the earth to bear its fruits from the seeds that are cast into it, is patent to every one. But the nature of soils and manures, and the best mode of managing them, is only to be attained by a prolonged course of study and experience. The understanding and the intellect are improved by culture and exercise ; and hence the importance of not only perceiving the excellence of knowledge in general, but its inestimable value in the routine of daily life.

It was at one time thought by some to be wrong to open the gates of knowledge to the admission of the labouring classes ; such views are nearly exploded, and the general opinion now is, that for "*man to be without knowledge is not good.*" It is in the darkness of ignorance that crimes, vice, and insubordination are fostered. And we cordially subscribe to the sentiment, that the cheapest and the best way to make good citizens and good subjects, is to inspire them with the love of knowledge, and to put within their reach the means of its attainment.

While the great mass of mankind must necessarily be engaged in manual employments, and while it is essential to their happiness as well as to their bodily subsistence, that a portion of their time should be so employed, it is also highly desirable to awaken their attention to intellectual things, and those hours not devoted to worldly business, might be occasionally employed in collecting knowledge from Books, from Art, Science, Commerce, and Agriculture. If man's principal activi-

ties are to be engaged only and always in seeking the supply of the wants of his animal nature ; if no attention is paid to the wants of his intellectual nature, then he becomes little better than the lower orders of sensitive existence, and must in a great measure frustrate the ends of his being, in possessing the faculties and powers of a rational nature.

The Society of Arts and Agriculture have kept this object steadily in view in their by-gone labours. They seek not only to furnish suitable materials for the exercise of reflection, but they endeavour to open the imagination to lofty views of Science and Art, as connected with human genius and industry, and they offer by their Collection of Articles, to the minds of ingenious youths, a most encouraging promise of success to steadiness, perseverance, and habits of industry.

In reporting the progress of our Society for the past year, we have to state that our efforts have almost been wholly devoted to the carrying out of the new arrangements consequent on the changes that have taken place, and the inauguration of new plans of procedure in regard to the general well-being and public usefulness of the incorporated Society.

It was felt by the Council of the "*Royal Agricultural Society*," as well as by the Council of the "*Royal Society of Arts and Commerce*," that some action should be promptly taken, if the being and usefulness of these Societies were to be continued, and their place upheld in public estimation. They had both existed for a considerable time. The Royal Agricultural Society

had especially enjoyed public patronage, owing to its numerous and active auxiliaries in almost every parish of the Island, and the great efforts put forth by these auxiliaries in carrying out the plans and purposes of the Parent Society.

It began its career in the year 1840, under the Presidency of the Earl of Elgin, whose personal efforts on its behalf were most zealous as well as generous. Its Council was composed of the most active and energetic spirits of the time: Mr. Bland, Col. Bruce, Captain Darling, Mr. Geddes, Mr. Henney, Mr. Finlay, Mr. Tuckett, Dr. Stewart, Mr. McCook, Mr. Grant, Mr. Jarmine, Dr. Barnet, Mr. B. Edwards, Mr. Heighington, Mr. McGregor, Mr. George Price, and Mr. Richard Hill. The indefatigable and persevering efforts of these public spirited gentlemen, rendered the Society not only exceedingly popular, but extensively useful.

The meetings of Council were for a while well attended, Important Papers were read on the best modes of Agriculture, on Soils, Climate, and the Implemental arts of Husbandry; on Machines, Manures, and Sub-soil Ploughing. Public Lectures by men of first-rate talent were delivered at the "Mico Rooms," on Agricultural Chemistry by S. E. Churchill; on Botany, by Dr. McNab; on the cultivation of the Cane, by Samuel Kell King, of Port Antonio, whose prize papers on that destructive insect, "*The Cane Borer*," are well known; on the Manufacture and Improvement of Sugar, by gentlemen from all parts of the Island. These Lectures and Papers were published in the Transactions of the Royal Agricul-

tural Society, and weekly also, as a Supplement to a Newspaper of that day, called the "Jamaica Times."

There was about the men of that day, an earnestness in search of Agricultural knowledge, and a liberality in the use of their means for this purpose, which has seldom been surpassed. The Transactions of 1842 and 1843 fill two small volumes, but are exceedingly scarce, and very seldom to be met with. These volumes gave the doings of all the Agricultural Societies in Jamaica. They were established in almost every Parish, had their annual Show of Cattle, and Ploughing Matches; and distributed Prizes of first-rate value to the successful competitors.

Much interest was excited, and a new impulse was given to the Agricultural Society by what took place at a meeting in the Society's Rooms, Public Buildings, Spanish Town, on the 16th of May, 1845. On that occasion, the President, Lord Elgin, was in the chair. There were present, W. C. McDougall, Richard Hill, Dr. C. Morales, T. Bland, A. Finlay, J. Tuckett, and W. T. March. At this meeting, his Lordship proposed to offer a prize of £100 "for the best Text Book on Agriculture for the use of schools in Jamaica." The offer of his Excellency was accepted, and the grateful thanks of the Society were tendered to his Excellency for the same. The Essay required was to be simply a manual of a strictly elementary character, brief, simple, and compendious, applying the first principles of Agricultural Science, including Chemistry and Mechanics, to the cultivation of tropical productions, the rearing and care of stock, and

other matters connected with farming operations in this climate. This prize excited great interest and competition, and the Society, in order to shew its appreciation of the important object desired by his Excellency, offered sums of £30 and £20 to be awarded as second and third prizes to competitors, for the prize offered by his Excellency.

The Royal Society of Arts began its operations in August, 1854, under the Patronage of Sir Charles Grey, and at its commencement, enjoyed the active and energetic wisdom of such men as the Honorable Mr. Wilkinson, the Hon. Mr. Chitty, the Hon. Dr. Bowerbank, Hon. Richard Hill, Hon. D. O'Reilly, Mr. Valpy and others, and soon took its place as a hopeful and useful Institution. Papers were produced—Transactions were published—Correspondence was begun with similar Societies in London, Belgium, and America, and an amount of earnest zeal in the circulation of useful knowledge was exhibited such as shewed the life and vigor of the Institution.

The Exhibitions in London and Paris next called into play the energies and activities of the Society of Arts. A large and beautiful collection of over 800 specimens of Geology, Fossils, Minerals, Pottery, Bricks—Forest Products, Woods, Fibres, Sticks, Ropes, Lines, Hats, Brooms—cultivated and other roots—Vegetable products—Natural History—Preserves, Pickles, and Manufactures were exhibited. To this collection was added a large addition of varied and beautiful Articles from the Parish of Hanover, amounting to four hundred and upwards. Some idea of the value and variety of this

collection may be conceived from the fact that the descriptive Catalogue of the mere names of what was forwarded to the Exhibition extended over 30 pages of the Transactions.

Both Societies enjoyed the Patronage of the Queen and Prince Albert, who generously contributed handsome sums to their support.

In 1864, the two Societies were incorporated by an Act of the Assembly, under the Title of "The United Royal Agricultural Society, and The Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, for Jamaica."

The incorporated Society from its very first appearance in its amalgamated state, gave signs of progress. New men and new plans were in immediate operation. The Cattle Show at Cumberland Pen, its responsibilities, its requirements, put the Society upon its mettle, called forth new exertions, and the result proved that these efforts were not put forth in vain.

That Show cost the Society upwards of £400, an expenditure which proves the necessity for economy and good management in conducting such Exhibitions of stock in future.

The chief circumstance in the history of the Incorporated Society during the past year, has been the leasing, fitting up and removal of the Society's Museum to larger, more commodious, and every way more eligible premises.

The Rooms we now occupy are capacious, and well suited

to our purpose, and they are now to be publicly set apart, and in future recognized, as another outpost of civilization in this Colony.

The Council hope, in this way, to awaken public attention, and to enable the intelligence of this Island to keep pace with the Sister Colonies; and, at the same time, afford a clear and satisfactory answer to the question: To what practical ends and advantages will the efforts of the Council tend in the establishment of a Museum? These ends are very many and most important, as will appear from the bare enumeration of a few of the more prominent of them. The Council regard a well-selected and properly conducted Museum as a chief means of promoting the diffusion of useful knowledge; the cultivation and improvement of the public mind; assistance and direction in the study and pursuit of science; the gratification of a laudable curiosity; the direction of the minds of youth in the proper path of learning and improving attainment; the exercise of the faculties of taste and observation; the fuller and more practical development of the natural resources of the Colony; the means of innocent recreation and amusement to the citizens of Kingston, assisting mental development, stimulating inquiry, eliciting new facts, eradicating popular errors, diffusing truth, directing to the profitable study of the *useful*, the *valuable*, and the *beautiful*, and encouraging industry.

It is only right that those interested in the Society, should be acquainted with an important fact, as bearing on the scantiness

of our Museum collection. The desire of the Council of the Society of Arts was that nothing should be wanting, nothing omitted, that would give Jamaica a chief place in the exhibition, or that should in any degree hinder the completeness of their collection; and hence it was that from the Museum of our Society an immense number of articles of every description were selected, and sent forth to the Exhibition.

In the matter of choice specimens of the beautiful woods of the country, not less than 30 cart loads were withdrawn from our Museum. Meals, preserved reptiles, and hundreds of articles in every department of the Museum were selected, and added to the general collection. This will account, to those who are not conversant with the fact, for the comparative smallness of our present collection.

In order to carry out the views of some of the Council, as well as to render the Society more useful, it was resolved that the under flat of the Society's premises, should be devoted to the reception and sale of such industrial products, as might be committed to them for such a purpose. This fact has been published far and wide, and yet the Society have had very few evidences of a disposition on the part of the industrial humble classes, to avail themselves of it. It may be, that the time of trial has been too short, or the intimation of the Society's benevolent designs has not been understood by those for whose interests it was specially devised.

And before taking leave of the Museum in this Report, the

Council would explain that they have not as yet had it in their power to arrange and dispose the present collection according to scientific order and classification. In the removal of the Geological and Conchological Department, there was, as was only to be expected, the greatest difficulty to preserve the order and classification of the various specimens. In spite of our utmost efforts, they got jumbled and commingled, and are, in the language of the Printer, very much at present in the order of Pi. But we hope, in a short time, to remedy this defect, and to have our Museum fairly arranged in every Department, so as to be an object of interest to every intelligent stranger that visits our shores, and the means of useful instruction and benefit to all to whom it offers its advantages.

The Treasurer's Report shews that there have been heavy expenses attendant on the various changes consequent on the removal to our new premises, and the fittings up that were necessary. These necessary expenses have seriously trespassed on the resources of the Society. The amount spent in this way is £46 5s 10d, with an additional £25 for Cancelling the Lease of the old premises. The Salaries that remain due on the 31st December, 1867, and other immediate contingencies, will leave the sum of £27 5s 7d unpaid, as per statement in Treasurer's Accounts. The balance at the Bank on the 31st December was £1 4s 6d.

The Society commences the New Year with a debt of £27 5s 7d, but the Council are not discouraged. They hope

that the impetus now given to the Society, will lead members to redeem their unpaid Subscriptions, and all old members to renew their subscriptions for 1868, and that these subscriptions, together with a grant from the Legislature, will enable them not only to clear off all liabilities, but to afford grounds for the hope of another Agricultural Show, at an early period, either in Kingston or the Provinces. The Society will devote all their available funds to this end, and to whatever may tend to promote the agricultural interests of the Colony.

In a word, and to conclude this long Report, the Council have to say, that while they have met with much that was depressing and discouraging, they have been borne up by the hope of better times, and they feel assured that the efforts of good men in seeking the well-being of Jamaica, will be ultimately fraught with blessings that will fully make amends for all that her best friends have suffered in her cause.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS  
AND AGRICULTURE, FOR 1867.

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Anderson, William Weemyss | Franklin, Benjamin A.       |
| Anderson, Dr. Izett W.    | Fyfe, Hon. Alexander G.     |
| Alberga, David J.         | Ford, James D.              |
| Allen, Dr. Thomas         | Freshney, J.                |
| Ainslie, A.               | Farquharson, C. G.          |
| Arnaboldi, G.             | Fiuggies, Captain           |
| Airey, George S.          | Grant, Sir John Peter       |
| Allwood, James            | Gibb, J. M.                 |
| Bowerbank, Hon. Dr.       | Gordon, John                |
| Berry, William            | Gordon, Theodore            |
| Barrett, Septimus         | Gregg, Andrew, U. S. Consul |
| Barber, Thomas L.         | Georges, Hon. W. P.         |
| Bradshaw, Reverend Dr.    | Grimble, Lieutenant         |
| Beardslee, Rev. J. O.     | Grant, Charles              |
| Brennan, J. W.            | Hill, Hon. Richard          |
| Burke, Samuel Constantine | Hamilton, Hon. Doctor       |
| Bravo, Hon. C. C.         | Henderson, George           |
| Brymer, Alexander J.      | Harvey, James               |
| Brown, John S.            | Hosack, Hon. William        |
| Cooper, Captain, R. N.    | Heslop, Hon. Alexander      |
| Colthirst, Henry Forbes   | Harris, Ralph               |
| Campbell, Charles L.      | Herschfeld, Solomon         |
| Campbell, Dr. Charles     | Hyams, Rev. A.              |
| Campbell, Rev. Duncan H.  | Irving, Hon. H. T.          |
| Cripps, T. N.             | Jackson, Charles Hamilton   |
| Clachar, Dr. J. S.        | Jamieson, Thomas            |
| Chabaud, Amand            | Jones, Reverend Father      |
| Carvalho, Napoleon        | Isaacs, Reverend H. H.      |
| Cardoza, A. N.            | Jones, Reverend Evan        |
| DeCordova, Michael        | Kingston, Bishop of         |
| DeCordova, Altamont       | Kemble, Henry John          |
| DeCordova, Gabriel        | Lewis, E. C.                |
| Davidson, James           | Levy, Isaac                 |
| Dieckmann, J.             | Lewin, R. D'C.              |
| D'Espinose, Charles       | Lewis, Richard              |
| DaCosta, H. W.            | Lindo, S. D.                |
| Espeut, Peter Alexander   | Lanyon, Lieut.              |
| Edwards, Sir Bryan        | Lowe, Hon. F.               |
| Ebbeke, F.                | Linde, Hon. A. J.           |
| Ewart, David              |                             |
| Elkington, Colonel        |                             |

## LIST OF MEMBERS.—(CONTINUED.)

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lewis, A. H.            | Panton, Rev. D.          |
| Lyons, Emanuel          | Peynado, G. J.           |
| Livingstone, H. W.      | Philippo, Dr. C.         |
| Lascelles, Charles      | Radcliffe, Revd. J.      |
| Lee, William            | Russell, Robert          |
| Levy, George            | Reid, Joseph             |
| March, W. T.            | Rose, G.                 |
| McClintock, Commodore   | Royes, Hon. C.           |
| Morgan, M. C.           | Rennals, Hon. S. R.      |
| Moncrieffe, Hon. P.     | Rushworth, Hon. E.       |
| M'Dowell, Hon. J. H.    | Ross, Dr. David          |
| Milne, Revd. Dr.        | Robinson, Charles        |
| Malabre, A. L.          | Rampini, Chas. (Justice) |
| M·Neil, J. M·Pherson    | Roy, William             |
| Melville, J. C.         |                          |
| Mais, Hon. S. W.        | Smith, T. H.             |
| Muirhead, Hon. M.       | Sawers, John             |
| Mann, Col. R. E.        | Steventon, Dr. Wm.       |
| Mayhew, Revd.           | Shaw, H. B.              |
| Mowatt, David           | Salmon, Hon. J.          |
| Marescaux, Oscar        | Shortridge, S.           |
| Millward, Henry         | Stiebel, J. P.           |
| Major, Dr.              | Stines, Barnett          |
| Martin, David           | Scott, John              |
| Mackglashan, J. C.      | Solomons, Michael        |
| Mitchell, John          | Stern, Dr. Moritz        |
|                         | Sorapure, J. B.          |
| Nethersole, John        |                          |
| Nunes, Ralph            | Vickers, Hon. B.         |
| Nunes, Charles          | Vendryes, Henry          |
| O'Connor, Major-General | Verley, Louis            |
| Prenderville, Major     | Westmorland, Hon. Henry  |
| Phillips, Hon. G. L.    | Wortley, S. S.           |
| Paine, W. S.            | Watson, Revd. Jas.       |
| Plowden, A. C.          | Younger, John            |

JAMES WATSON *Treasurer, in account with Royal Society of Arts and Agriculture for the Year ending 31st December, 1867.*

<b>RECEIPTS.</b>			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Cash Balance at the Colonial Bank on February 19th, after settlement of Agricultural Show Accounts.....	}		69	7	5					
Received from 33 old Members' subscription.....			27	15	0					
Received from 34 new Members' subscription.....	}		39	11	0					
Donations collected by Doctor T. Allen....			5	5	0					
Cash Loaned by Treasurer.....			10	0	0					
<b>PAYMENTS.</b>										
Paid Sub-Secretary one year's Salary.....						20	0	0		
“ Clerk to Museum 4 months' and 5 days at £20 per annum... ..	}					6	18	6		
“ Owners of Premises, Church St., as good will for cancelling of Lease... ..						25	0	0		
“ Half Year's rent of new Premises Harbour Street, to 31st December... ..	}					30	0	0		
“ Servant's wages for attendance on Museum, 18 weeks at 4s per week... ..						3	12	0		
“ For removing, repairing, painting, decorating &c., &c., new Premises per Sundry accounts.....	}					46	5	10		
“ A. F. Ridgway & Sons, London Agents, for 1 copy Blue Book.... ..						1	13			
“ Water Rates on old Premises, 6 months... ..	}					1	17			
“ 1 Quarter's publication of Transactions (300 copies).....						6	8	0		
“ Printing, Stationery, Advertising, &c.....	}					6	16	0		
“ H. Metzgar for Table Covers.....						1	11	2		
“ For Desk for Clerk.....						0	12	0		
Balance to Credit.....						1	4	6		
			£	151	18	5	£	151	18	5

E. & O. E.

JAMES WATSON, *Treasurer,*

Kingston, 31st December, 1867.