

# The Daily Bradford Reporter.

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East Towanda, Pa., Oct. 1, 1879.

### Brief History of the Society.

The Bradford County Agricultural Society was organized in 1852, by some of the intelligent and enterprising farmers of the county. Its first officers were chosen in 1853, and were as follows:

*President*—Gen. DARIUS BULLOCK, Smithfield.

*Vice Presidents*—CHAUNCEY FRISBIE, Orwell, CHARLES WRIGHT, Canton.

*Corresponding Secretary*—EDWARD OVERTON, Towanda.

*Recording Secretary*—WILLIAM SCOTT, Wysox.

*Assistant Secretaries*—HENRY BOOTH, Towanda, GUY H. WATKINS, Towanda.

*Treasurer*—WILLIAM ELWELL, Towanda.

*Managers*—EMANUEL GUYER, Burlington, G. F. REDINGTON, Troy, J. F. MEANS, Towanda, JOSEPH TOWNER, Rome, JESSE BROWN, Sheshesquin, B. LAFORTE, Durell, ELI BAIRD, Troy, W. C. BOGART, Towanda, E. W. HALE, Monroe.

*Executive Committee*—EMANUEL GUYER, WM. C. BOGART, E. W. HALE.

The first Exhibition of the Society was held in the Borough of Towanda, on the 6th and 7th of October, 1853, the Public Square, with the Court House, being tendered by the County Commissioners for the use of the Society on this occasion. The Fair was a decided success. Addresses were made by Judge WILMOT, ULYSSES MERCUR and HENRY BOOTH, Esqs.—the Annual Address delivered by E. GUYER, Esq., and an Ode, written for the occasion, read by O. D. BARTLETT, Esq.

Fairs were held every year, at the one held in 1856, HORACE GREELEY delivered the Address to an immense audience, and the Society had been singularly fortunate and prosperous up to the year 1857, when extensive preparations were made, with an unusually large expenditure of money, and the promise of increased and liberal premiums. But a storm raged with unabated violence during the three days appointed for the exhibition. Such was its severity that the attendance was almost nothing, although the large number of entries had promised an unusually large attendance.

In view of the embarrassed condition in which the Society had been placed by the unfortunate circumstances of 1857, it was not deemed advisable to hold a Fair in 1858. Another consideration was the want of proper grounds, but in 1859, a contract was made

with Col. Mason for the use of a piece of land lying immediately below the depot of the Barclay railroad, and the exhibition for that year was in every way a creditable one.

The breaking out of the Rebellion, and the draft on the bone and sinew of the country, to serve the Union, caused the suspension of the Fairs of the Society for several years. The plough shares were beaten into swords, and from the farmers of the County came a large proportion of the brave men who so gallantly carried the flag of the Union through many a storm of shot and shell. No exhibitions were held from 1860 until 1874, when the Society was reorganized—the Fair for 1874 and '75 being held at Ruddy's Park, since which time the Fair grounds in Wysox have been occupied.

The Society has gone on increasing in interest since its reorganization, until now its exhibition will compare favorably in importance and interest to those of any other County. The management has been liberal and judicious, and it is reasonable to look forward to such an increase in public favor, as will make each annual exhibition a better illustration of the public spirit of our farmers, and promote the continued advancement in intelligent and successful farming.

We might add that during all this time the Reporter has endeavored to add to the prosperity and success of the Society, as well as to encourage and stimulate the progressive activity of our farmers by devoting a portion of its columns to the publication of such hints and suggestions as were practical and reliable. This will be continued—and as the agricultural interest of Bradford is the most important one, greater care will be taken, and more space occupied in its columns, to meet what seems to be a growing demand.

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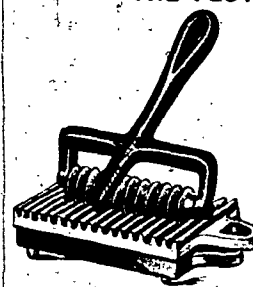
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