

his advice a New Brunswick Agricultural Society was founded in 1851. Its work was taken over by a provincial board of agriculture in 1855, which in turn was replaced by a central provincial farmers' association in 1876. The portfolio of Commissioner of Agriculture was created in 1898.

The first Agricultural Society in New Brunswick was organized in St. John, N.B., in 1790. Soon others were established throughout the Province. Better agricultural methods were introduced and conditions improved. In 1825 the Board of Agriculture made the first importation into Canada of pure-bred shorthorns, thus laying the foundation for the fine stock found in the County of Westmoreland and other sections.

Ontario.—Agriculture in Ontario may be said to have been begun in 1671, when Frontenac founded the first settlement near Kingston. He was granted a vast territory on the understanding that he would foster agriculture and stock raising, but little agricultural work was actually done, as all of the settlers' time was taken up in warring with the Indians. In 1701, a small settlement on the Detroit River was started by La Motte Cadillac, who is said to have brought some cows with him.

The first English-speaking agricultural settlement was not commenced until 1783, when the United Empire Loyalists arrived from the United States. They settled principally around Niagara, York, Western Ontario and the Bay of Quinte, the settlements along the Bay of Quinte and the St. Lawrence River being among the most populous. Townships were surveyed and grants of land given. As these exiled settlers were very poor owing to the confiscation of their property, they had to be provided with rations, clothes, implements, seed grain, etc. A cow was allotted to every two families and other articles divided among them. The implements supplied them were very crude, but by combining their efforts they were able to clear open spaces in the forests, build rude huts and sow the seed among the stumps. The crops of wheat, corn, etc., grown on this virgin soil gave excellent yields for the first three years, but the crop of 1788 was a failure. During these years, flour mills were built at Cataraqui River, Napanee, Matilda, Niagara Falls, Fort Erie and Grand River. The pioneers had many hardships to contend with, not the least being the depredations of the Indians and wild beasts. Later, during the Crimean war, the price of wheat rose from 30 cents to \$2 per bushel, which, followed by the high prices obtaining during the American Civil War, gave many of the farmers their first real start, enabling them to bring in cattle, horses and sheep from Lower Canada and the United States.

The building of roads, under an Act of 1793, opened up the country, and soon grain, especially corn, was being exported. Cheese and butter were made, and a market was opened at Kingston in 1801. Wheat was the leading cereal produced, the valley of the Thames being noted for the quantity and quality of its wheat. After the war of 1812, grants of 100 acres with provisions and implements