

Howea Des Moines County Iowa Dec 15 1865.

Chas. Ulrich Esqr.

It gives me pleasure to hear from you, that you wish to be Chief Clerk again of the House. Remembering past favors and kind attentions — shall be well pleased to give you my full support for that position, — Thank you for your kindness in selecting for me an eligible spot — very hastily,

Your friend and Ob. Serv.

J. Wilson Hillman

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the Honorable, the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 1703, Revision of 1860, the Board of Directors of the Iowa State Agricultural Society have the honor to present the following "review of the condition of agriculture throughout the State" of Iowa for the year 1865:

The year just closed was full of blessings. The same kind Providence which nourished the germ of our great nation—protected it in its infancy—defeated its enemies in the trying days of the Revolution—kept us from the assaults of foreign enemies, and the dangers of domestic strife, for so many years, has, after four years of war and desolation, rebuked treason, scattered the armies of the rebellion, and restored to our land the benignant reign of peace. The year just closed has been replete with the evidences of the signal care and goodness of God; and instead of the enginery of war, are beheld the development of the arts of peace; instead of the trading of hostile armies leaving a track of desolation in their path, are beheld the highways of travel and commerce, crowded with busy multitudes pursuing the eager chase of pleasure or wealth, and loaded with the rich products of every branch of industry. Our State, erect in the pride of her glorious record during the fierce rebellion, now so fortunately subdued, welcomes to her embrace the thousands who left her bosom to raise aloft the Starry Flag that had been stricken down by the hand of treason. Many sleep the sleep that knows no waking. We honor their memory; we revere their sacred dust; and amid the "rushings of the busy world" we stop to thank God that He gave us sons of such valor, endurance and patriotism.

It was predicted that the disbandment of so vast armies of men as were marshaled in the contest, would disarrange the whole system of American labor and industry. Coupled with the sudden re-

turn of the soldiers, was the emancipation of four millions of slaves, who constituted before the war almost the entire working force of the States in rebellion. Many viewed with great apprehension, the possible dangerous results of a surplus of laborers above the demand. Profligacy, excess, idleness, riots and various hobgoblins seized upon the fancy, and furnished a most unwelcome picture of our future. But the abstraction of these thousands of men, in the North at least, not only did not stagnate industry, extinguish the fires of a thousand manufactories, reduce the products of agriculture, and send starvation to the farms of the people, but it stimulated every branch of labor, and yielded a prosperity unparalleled in the annals of the country. One illustration may not be inaptly introduced. While England sent out her Alabama to prey upon our commerce, and turned her batteries against our merchant marine, America sent out her Griswold, bearing food for the starving operatives of her great manufacturing cities. America carried on the most gigantic war of modern times, and yet so boundless were her resources that she fed the poor of the nation that, through its rulers, would have dissolved our Union and made the experiment of free government a failure. And the return of the army presents a sublime moral spectacle never before witnessed in the history of the race. These vast multitudes of men, instead of disarranging the order of business, have been absorbed in our population, without causing even a ripple on the surface of society. The farm, the work-shop, the office, the varied occupations have been as quietly resumed as they were laid aside, and the return of a million of men from the camp to the fireside, the plow, the loom, the anvil is readily likened to the single smith who left his shop an hour to visit a friend and returned so soon that the fire had not yet died out of the forge. It forms the most remarkable element in the history which our nation has made the past four years.

The return of fifty thousand men has not disturbed the relation of employers and employed; wages are better than they have been for several years; and the supply of farm hands, mechanics, artisans, and men for every position of honorable labor, is inadequate to the demand.

GENERAL FARMING.

At no period in the history of the State are so many encouraging

evidences presented, that the agriculturist is appreciating the dignity and importance of his calling. Years ago farming was conducted with apparently no higher end in view than to make a living with as little labor as possible; and all the improvements made were with a view to assist in selling out, that the owner might "go farther West." Groves to beautify, adorn, and protect from the heat of summer and the storms of winter, were hardly thought of; and these now number 20,285 acres. It has been demonstrated that Walnut, Maple, Cottonwood, Locust, and perhaps other native forest trees, will in a short time, and with trifling cost, produce shade, shelter and timber, when cultivated on the prairie. Houses, barns and all improvements have a look of comfort and permanency, representing the idea of *home*. Fruits, flowers, shrubbery, vegetables—so long neglected—claim a general share of attention, and their healthfulness and beauty are duly appreciated. The old saying that "Iowa is no country for fruit," has been so frequently disproved by a comparison of our fruits with those of the finest regions of the United States, that it is now only mentioned to illustrate the tardiness of a former age and the activity of the present. 636,458 trees were bearing fruit in 1864, and at the same period 2,523,905 more were planted, and will soon cheer the heart and minister to the enjoyment of life by their healthful products.

Improved agricultural implements to save labor, and quicken the operations of the farm, are in general use; their value being \$7,707,027, or an increase of two and a half millions of dollars in two years.

The average of the more important crops are calculated from the census returns of 1863 and 1865:

	SPRING WHEAT	WINTER WHEAT	OATS.	CORN.	POTATOES.	RYE.	FLAX.
1863.....	8	15	24	37	66	12	6
1865.....	9	10	30	47	65	14	6

AGGREGATE.

	CORN, BUSHELS.	WHEAT, BUSHELS.	POTATOES, BUSHELS.
1863.....	63,883,916	8,795,321	2,362,918
1865.....	48,471,133	9,284,565	2,730,811
	Decrease 15,412,773	Increase.. 489,244	Increase.. 367,893

The processes of agriculture are too generally conducted in an impiric manner. There are but few who can assign a satisfactory reason for any particular method that is followed by good results. There is a lamentable lack of knowledge of agricultural chemistry in the daily operations of the farm. Work is done after a prescribed method, because the same succeeded once or twice before. But there seems to be a disposition on the part of many, to emerge from this routine practice and conduct a farm on the sure basis of science. Improved methods of tillage are not generally adopted. More light is required as to fertilizing, subsoiling, under-draining, surface draining, and on all the appliances and practices which force from the soil a more generous crop than can be obtained by methods deduced from experience only. It is truly gratifying to observe that a more liberal view of scientific farming is being taken by our people; and the day is dawning when the prejudice against "book farming" shall be removed, and the agriculturist shall conduct his pursuit with the accuracy and certainty of success, which attend all philosophical processes.

Emigration to the State has received a new impetus; there are no data upon which to estimate the numbers who have sought a home within our limits. Its extent may be conjectured from the fact that lack of houses has been a source of very general complaint, not only in the cities and towns, but in the country. The demand for improved farms could be but partially supplied. So great was this scarcity, that, in some places, building associations have been organized, with capital to erect houses for sale or rent. Many cities, if they could have furnished houses for strangers, would have added greatly to their population and the wealth of the State. This demand, following the well established principles of trade, enhanced the price of property and improved lands, and dwellings have exchanged hands at unusual prices. In 1863 the population was 707,162; number of houses, 126,918. In 1865 the population was 768,736; number of dwellings, 128,410: showing an increase of 66,574 souls, and an increase of only 1,492 houses. In 1863 and 1864 but comparatively little lumber was brought down the Mississippi, owing to the low stage of water. In 1865 this embargo was removed, and the trade in lumber assumed mammoth proportions, and it is believed that, could a census be taken now, it would reveal a large increase in the number of dwellings.

CATTLE.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture states the whole number of cattle and oxen in 1864, at 7,965,439, and, in 1865, at 7,072,591, being a decrease of 892,848; of cows, in 1864, 6,066,748, and, in 1865, 5,768,130, being a decrease of 298,618, or an aggregate decrease of 1,191,466 head. The State census of 1863, gives the number of cattle, oxen and milch cows at 1,245,868; the return of 1865 shows the number to be 1,249,685, or an increase in two years, of 3,817. Thus, while the nation at large has suffered an immense loss by the demands of the war, and for other purposes, we still have made an actual increase. This single fact is full of encouragement to the stock-grower, and is an additional evidence of the entire adaptation of this country to stock-raising. The occasional importation of choice Durham and Devon stock, and the high prices which improved breeds of cattle bring, are cheering indications of the interest taken in this branch of farming.

A virulent disease has attacked the herds in Russia, Great Britain, and other parts of Europe. It is called the "Rinderpest," and has hitherto baffled the skill of the most eminent veterinary surgeons and stock-growers, and has been extremely fatal. It is doubtless both a contagious and infectious disease, and the people of Iowa should second the recent action of Congress, and insist that the importation of stock from Europe shall be absolutely prohibited during the prevalence of the malady. Prompt decision, energetic action now, may save our people the loss of millions of dollars, and entirely protect us from the effects of the plague, while a temporizing policy may bring upon us all the disastrous consequences of a wide spread epidemic.

The following table shows the exports of cattle in 1864 and 1865, through the sources named:

	1864.	1865.
By the Burlington & Missouri River R. R.,.....	35,220	31,063
.. "...Mississippi....."	22,472	21,591
.. "...Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad,.....	8,250	7,680
.. "...Chicago and Northwestern Railway,.....		19,265
.. "...Cedar Falls and Minnesota Railroad,.....		2,400

HOGS.

In no kind of farm stock has so much improvement been made.

The Magee, Chester White, Suffolk, Poland, and perhaps other breeds have been introduced, to the manifest improvement of the general stock. There are but few localities which do not boast of some blooded swine. In this shape, the vast crops of corn are readily brought to market, and form a principal source of revenue to the people of the State. The whole number in the U. S. in 1864 was 16,148,712; and in 1865, 13,670,887, showing a decrease of 3,077,825. In Iowa, in 1863, by State Census, there were 1,743,865, and in 1865, there are returned 1,037,117, being a decrease of 706,748. The hog cholera, so called, has been very destructive in some localities. As yet there is no remedy for this disease, because it is believed there is no adequate knowledge of its essential nature. Multitudes of people have been victimized by purchasing secret or patent receipts for its cure; and opinions are extremely conflicting as to the proper treatment. The recommendation of stone coal bountifully, as a preventive, has many advocates. In order to arrive at a rational plan of treatment, investigations should be made, even at a considerable outlay of money, if it were necessary, to determine the precise conditions of system which belong to the distemper. In this way only can a preventive and cure be discovered.

EXPORTS OF HOGS FOR 1864-5.

	1864.	1865.
Burlington & Missouri River R. R.,.....	148,246	45,442
Mississippi & Missouri R. R.,.....	84,600	44,220
Dubuque & S. C. & S. W. R. R.,.....	26,715	18,480
Chicago & N. W. Railway,.....		41,341
Cedar Falls & Minnesota R. R.,.....		2,220

SHEEP.

Since the report of 1864, to the Governor, this interest has been steadily and rapidly growing in importance and value. In 1863 the number of sheep was 599,938, and the number of pounds of wool shorn in 1862, 1,429,209. In 1864, there were 1,000,541 sheep, and the clip reached 2,813,620 pounds, or nearly double the return of two years ago. Coupled with this gratifying increase, is the fact, also gratifying, that wool-growers find it remunerative to pay high prices for fine wool sheep. The interest is also magnified

in the active working of a Wool-Growers' Association, and the entire success of a sheep-shearing festival, in the summer of 1864. Spanish Merinoes are most highly esteemed, and when satisfactory evidences are produced of the genuineness of the pedigree, as having been grown by some well known and responsible breeder, fabulous prices have been paid, and growers contemplate with pride the fleece and the flock. Diseases have not been reported to any extent. In one county, some flocks of diseased sheep were introduced from a neighboring State, which infected the flocks already on hand, and many died. The severest penalties of our excellent law, should be visited upon the guilty sellers; and a lesson should be taught these dishonest men, which would forever deter any from the commission of so grave an offense as the sale of diseased stock.

With the rapid increase of sheep, there has sprung up a pressing necessity for mills and machinery to convert the wool into fabrics for family use. Hence in many places already have been erected commodious woolen factories, and many counties consume the bulk of the product of wool, in manufacturing cloths and woollens. At no period in our existence as a State has so much wearing apparel been made at home, as in the year just closed. The Census of 1863 returns under the somewhat indefinite headings "Value of domestic Manufactures" and "Value of general Manufactures," \$3,919,884 worth; in 1865, under the still more unmeaning heading, "Value of Manufactures," \$7,100,465. The large proportion of this sum, doubtless embraces fabrics of linen and woolen goods made in factories or in families; in any event it matters little how many items may be embraced in the title "Manufactures;" the increase of value is a record of which all may boast. Many counties express the need of factories which will give employment to many persons and enable them to clothe themselves, independent of the extortion of railroads and monopoly of manufactures of the Eastern States. Here water power is abundant, every facility seems naturally afforded for the manufacture of woolen fabrics; yet capital is wanting to turn all these elements to good account.

An instructive lesson may be learned from the fact, that there were returned in 1864, 86,060 dogs, and since no general epidemic has prevailed among them, it is safe to conclude that the number,

at present, greatly exceeds the returns. The value of sheep destroyed by wolves and dogs the same year, is \$126,148, and since sheep have increased and there is no evidence of failure of the canine appetite for mutton, it is not extravagant to imagine, that the value of sheep destroyed in 1865 has by no means been lessened. A tax of one dollar per head on dogs, would raise a revenue sufficient to pay all the annual appropriations to agricultural societies, and in a very few years, would build an Agricultural College, endow it with professorships, stock an experimental farm, purchase a chemical laboratory, found a museum of Natural History, and prepare the way for the education of hundreds of youths. The total amount of appropriations for all the agricultural societies in Iowa, including the publication of the annual volume of the State Society in 1865, is only \$8,245, and for the College Farm \$50,000 for two years just closed, making in all \$58,245. This entire sum, which all agree is a most wholesome and judicious expenditure, is not half the amount of value of sheep destroyed in a single year.

The following tables indicate the imports and exports of sheep, through the avenues named, for the years 1863, 1864 and 1865:

		Exports.	Imports.
Burlington & Missouri River R. R.,	1863,	5,611	17,948
Mississippi & Missouri R. R.,	"	678	36,620
C. I. & N. & C. R. & M. R. R.,	"	15,540
Burlington & Missouri River R. R.,	1864,	9,598	47,159
Mississippi & Missouri R. R.,	"	5,760	51,360
Chicago & North-Western Railway,	"	36,000
McGregor Ferry,	"	25,000
Burlington & Missouri River R. R.,	1865,	11,342	9,521
Mississippi & Missouri R. R.,	"	3,201	3,033
Chicago & North-Western R. R.,	"	6,212	20,562
Total		42,402	262,743
Aggregates.	Exports.	Imports.	
1863	6,289	70,108	
1864	16,585	159,519	
1865	20,755	33,116	

In 1863 the proportion of exports to imports was one in over eleven; in 1864 as one in about ten, and in 1865 as one in about one and a half.

CORN.

The corn crop of the United States, in 1863, was 451,967,959 bushels; in 1864, 530,581,403 bushels; in 1865, 704,427,853 bushels. In Iowa, in 1863, the number of acres was 1,733,503, yielding 63,883,911 bushels, or an average of a little less than 37 bushels per acre. In 1864, as returned by State Census of 1865, there were 1,727,777 acres, yielding 48,471,133 bushels, or an average of a little more than 29 bushels per acre. It is believed that the crop of 1865 will average not less than forty bushels per acre; the favorable seasons for planting, cultivating and gathering all conspiring to increase the quantity, and moreover greatly to improve the quality. Estimating the same surface as 1864, being a decrease of 5726 acres, compared to 1863, the crop will reach 69,100,080 bushels or an increase of over six millions of bushels over 1863. In other words Iowa produced about one tenth of the entire corn crop of the United States. A very inconsiderable quantity is exported in bulk, the large proportion finding its way to market, fed to cattle and hogs.

Nearly all the counties deplore the loose and careless manner of raising the corn crop. The plowing is condemned as being too shallow, and the sum total of the cultivation as being the embodiment of the idea of covering as much ground as possible, with as little labor and expenditure of care as are consistent with a yield of from 30 to 50 bushels per acre. Evidences are abundant that, with careful tillage, one hundred, and up to one hundred and sixty bushels have been produced from an acre, and there is no substantial reason why the general average should not be greatly increased. The present method is exhaustive to the soil, and can hardly fail, in a few years, of producing disastrous results. The experience of the older States, and in part of our own, should warn the agriculturist to feed the soil as he draws nourishment from it, by all the appliances of modern culture. Corn is, and must, for many years to come, remain the principal source of revenue of our people; and a wise determination should be taken and followed, to harvest the greatest number of bushels from the smallest breadth of land, that the soil, labor, care and every other expenditure, shall be sedulously economized.

SORGHUM.

In 1858 there were	5,606	acres,	yielding	416,776	gallons.
In 1859 " " "	26,866	"	"	1,993,474	"
In 1862 " " "	36,607	"	"	3,012,396	"
In 1864 " " "	21,452	"	"	1,443,605	"
The product of sugar in 1862, was 21,469 pounds.				
" " " 1864, was 8,386 "				

It is entirely safe to place the quantity of syrup made in 1865, at 4,000,000 of gallons, or the largest that has been produced in the State. The magnificent weather, during the greater part of October, gave the farmers an unusually favorable opportunity to "work up" the cane; and the quality of the syrup is unsurpassed. More than thirty counties have reported, and most agree that the quantity produced will supply the home demand, and in some instances, will afford a surplus for exportation. New and improved mills have been introduced that have expressed a greater amount of juice from the stock than could be done by the old-fashioned wooden mills, thus increasing the average yield per acre, and, the method of manufacture being better understood, a greatly superior quality of syrup has been obtained. The importance of having the pans, evaporator and furnaces, full, and all the requisite appliances in readiness for completing the working of the crop, is thoroughly appreciated. There is no case of failure, and no cause of dissatisfaction reported.

The principal difficulty in the cultivation of cane is its mixing with broom-corn and other crops; yet this is not without remedy. The average price of a superior quality of syrup is about fifty cents per gallon. This crop has become a necessity to the State, and could be, by no means, dispensed with. All the methods hitherto to make a merchantable sugar have failed. Small quantities have been returned, the result rather of accident than of design or well conceived operation. Very many patent processes have been offered to the people; the results are far from gratifying. It is believed that sugar can be made from Sorghum, and in remunerative quantities. As yet the process has not been discovered. The average per acre, of syrup, is but seventy-six gallons. With improved machinery, and other advantages, this quantity could be readily doubled. Even at the moderate average, it is a highly re-

munerative crop. The scarcity of labor at the season when it must be worked, is a great obstacle; and many acres annually go to waste because help cannot be found to gather the crop. The discouragements of a year ago also turned to brilliant hopes, and the Sorghum promises to become, not only a substitute for imported syrups and sugars, but a source of wealth, by the exportation of large quantities of both.

HAY AND TAME GRASSES.

Appended to this report will be found the report of the Standing Committee of the Board on Tame Grasses. There were, in 1864, 340,793 acres of grass, yielding 289,047 tons, or less than one ton per acre. To this let there be added 713,119 tons of prairie hay, and the product is 1,002,166 tons; estimated at an average of \$4.00 per ton, the product is worth \$4,008,664, or quite one-half the value of the entire crop of wheat, estimating the latter at \$1.00 per bushel. The introduction of large numbers of sheep, the greatly increasing interest in the matter of cattle raising, and the indisputable proofs of the adaptability of our prairies for grazing purposes, have created a demand that the broad acres should be converted into meadows and pastures; and a decided impetus has been given to this branch of husbandry. Since 1863, there has been an increase of 68,712 acres of tame grasses.

WHEAT.

The number of acres in 1862 was 1,149,836, yielding 8,795,321 bushels. In 1864 the number of acres was 944,453, or a decrease of the surface sown of 185,384 acres. The yield was 8,003,271, a decrease of 792,050 bushels, yet showing an average increase of over one bushel to the acre. The crop of 1865 is greatly deficient in quality, most of it having been impaired by the continuous wet weather that prevailed in harvest. An enemy called by many writers "the scab," has greatly damaged the crop in many localities, and not only reduced the number of bushels, but sadly deteriorated the quality of the grain. No new varieties have been introduced to any considerable extent, neither have the experiences of the past year developed anything peculiar to the cultivation of the crop.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Thirty County and District Agricultural Societies have made reports to the State Society for 1865. Early in September, a comprehensive circular (a copy of which is hereto appended,) was sent to every county of the State, with a view of obtaining a full report of the agricultural condition, in which no part of our domain should be unrepresented. But very few persons were sufficiently interested to make a report, in counties in which no Fair was held. Again, the law—Chapter 109, Laws 10th General Assembly—excludes from the benefit of the State appropriation those County Societies whose receipts, exclusive of donations and appropriations in aid of purchasing or fitting up Fair Grounds, and of the money received from the State, the sum of \$500, and thus, this Society is deprived of a report from the most populous and wealthy county of the State. There are reported, as members of the different agricultural associations of Iowa, but 7,143 persons. The receipts of the several agricultural exhibitions reach \$15,275.80. The amount paid out in premiums will perhaps exceed this latter sum. There can be but one opinion as to the benefit of these agricultural meetings. They afford opportunity for an interchange of sentiment; for the examination of newly introduced implements and of improved stock; and present at a glance the average industry, skill, and thrift of the people. The Legislature should remove the restriction limiting its aid only to County and District Agricultural Societies whose receipts do not exceed \$500. The appropriations for agriculture were sufficiently meagre, in comparison with other interests; and instead of curtailing them, let that body follow the teachings of retrenchment and reform in public expenditures, in other directions, that can be sacrificed with infinitely less damage to the State.

THE STATE FAIR OF 1865

Was, perhaps, the most successful, in all particulars, of any ever held in the State. The beautiful grounds of the Des Moines Co. Agricultural Society, comprising thirty acres, were fitted up with stalls, halls, track, water, &c., &c., the local Committee exhibiting a general willingness to make arrangements commensurate with the wants of the Society. The management of the Fair was entirely satisfactory to the thousands of visitors and exhibitors who

were present. It may also be recorded, as illustrative of the moral character of our people, that there was no instance of disorderly conduct, to warrant any special police interference during the entire exhibition.

The following tables indicate the entries in the different classes, for the years specified; also the receipts for each year:

ENTRIES.	1856	1857	1858	1859	1863	1864	1865
Cattle.....	145	169	146	125	84	74	67
Horses.....	182	196	179	156	129	150	217
Mules.....	14	13	30	24	28	25	23
Sheep.....	22	10	33	37	78	107	77
Swine.....	27	19	26	38	47	52	40
Agricultural Implements.....	113	86	25	26	126	181	221
Farm Products.....	106	192	130	190	128	100	151
Other Classes.....	247	444	475	673	487	303	480
Totals.....	956	1129	1044	1269	1107	992	1276

The large increase in the numbers of agricultural implements, and different kinds of farm machinery, is a very gratifying result. The decrease in the numbers of entries of sheep, is from no failure of the interest in that direction, but because large numbers were excluded from competition, the owners not being able to present evidences of pedigree, weight of fleece, &c., and other requirements of the Society.

The receipts at the Fairs for nine years past are found in the annexed table:

1856	1857	1858	1859	1860	1862	1863	1864	1865
\$3,062	3059	2843.50	2116	3726.50	3576	4454.25	7877.82

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL FAIR OF 1866.

The attention of the Board is respectfully called to the late action of the Kentucky State Agricultural Society. They affirm that "the individual interests of the country demand that a National Fair be held in the fall of 1866, that the central position of Kentucky, &c., renders it desirable that the Fair should be held in their State; they earnestly and cordially invite the Agricultural Socie-

ties of all the States and Territories of the Union to co-operate with them in this great and patriotic movement, so vital to the industrial interest of the nation, &c." It is recommended that immediate steps be taken to second the action of Kentucky, and to have the products of Iowa fairly represented at the National Exhibition; also, this Society should send a proper person as its delegate, to look after the interests of Iowa exhibitors, and to make a full report of every department of the Fair.

THE FRENCH UNIVERSAL EXPOSITION OF 1867.

The French Nation has determined to have an exhibition of the industry of all Nations, to be open at Paris, April 1st, 1867, and to close October 31st, 1867. J. C. Derby, No. 5 Spruce St., N. Y., has been appointed United States Agent. All applications for space in the building, of which thirty thousand feet have been assigned the United States, or for ground in the park surrounding it, must be made through him, on printed blanks which have been widely distributed for that purpose. The United States, as heretofore, will not be behind other countries in the display of products of art and industry; and our State should, of her vast resources, and abundance, exhibit in friendly competition with the Nations of the earth. It is thought that Congress will provide for the free transportation of all accepted articles, from New York to Paris and return. Iowa, in connection with a just representation of certain classes of her industry, should have an authorized agent at Paris, during the Exposition, to make a full report to the people, and especially to report on those matters which may appear of peculiar use and benefit to our agriculture. Such a report, showing particularly the inventions and appliances, the discoveries and the improvements best adapted to the wants of this people, would more than repay all the outlay incurred in such agency. It is submitted that the Legislature should appropriate a sufficient sum of money, to be placed under the control of the Executive Committee of the Iowa State Agricultural Society, who, with the consent of the Governor, should appoint a suitable person to represent Iowa at the National Exposition.

STATISTICS FROM RAILROAD COMPANIES.

The Board congratulate themselves upon the success which has

attended their efforts to collect reliable statistical information from the great avenues of commerce, which form an important element in the material prosperity of Iowa, and they take this opportunity to thank the officers of the different Railroad Companies for their kindness and courtesy. The publication of these statistical tables, commenced three years ago, has received the approbation of agriculturists, and many persons interested in the development of the great North-West, have expressed a desire that the same should be continued. The tables herewith presented afford a flattering picture of our trade and commerce, and illustrate, better than any other way, the vast resources of our people.

Respectfully submitted by

J. M. SHAFFER, *Secretary.*

FAIRFIELD, IOWA, JANUARY 8TH, 1865.