

DELAWARE STATE POULTRY SOCIETY.

The love of the feathered tribe is fast increasing. Another society under the above name has just been formed at Wilmington. The Secretary says: "Knowing your desire to become acquainted with any item of interest connected with poultry, I write to inform you that we have established a Poultry Society in this State, under the name of the "Delaware State Poultry Society," and are making arrangements to hold an Exhibition in this city (Wilmington) from 10th to 14th January, 1871. Our circulars, pamphlets, premium lists, &c. will be issued in due time. The following are the names of our officers:

President, W. H. Churchman; *Vice-President*, R. M. Griffith; *Treasurer*, N. R. Benson; *Recording Secretary*, W. D. Bush; *Corresponding Secretary*, A. R. Tatnall; *Executive Committee*, S. D. Jenkinson, Thos. Mayne, H. Morrison, J. Bowers, and the officers of the Society." He further adds that they have every hope of the success of their Society.

We are glad to hear this, and we see no reason why the State of Delaware should not have a highly successful society.

PRACTICAL HINTS.

TONIC FOR POULTRY.—The *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique* contains the following prescription, recommended by Mr. Mills, an apothecary of considerable note in Bourges, France, as an invaluable tonic for debilitated birds, especially in the mortality which is apt to prevail among young turkeys when "shooting the red." He says: "Take Cassia bark in fine powder, three parts; ginger, ten parts; gentian, one part; anise seed, one part; carbonate of iron, five parts. Mix thoroughly by sifting. A teaspoonful of the powder should be mingled with the dough, for twenty turkeys, each morning and evening. It is of the greatest importance to begin the treatment a fortnight before the appearance of the red, and to continue it two or three weeks after."

CHANGE IN COLOUR OF FOWLS.—In the *Sporting Magazine* for 1870 is an illustra-

tion from a painting by Ward, of a Game Cock, the property of Thomas Crook, Esq., of Lytherton, near Chippenham (England), which changed its colour from black-breasted red to white, commencing in his third or fourth year, and continuing to do so every year.

MEAT BISCUITS FOR POULTRY.—A writer says, meat biscuits broken small and mixed with sand or fine gravel, and for the laying stock some old mortar added, suit my poultry; a handful mixed with the pollard or other soft food, is a useful corrective condiment, doubly so on clay soil.

HEN ASSUMING THE COCK'S PLUMAGE.—I have now in my possession a game bantam which is to all appearance, as respects plumage, a cock, but which I know to be a hen. She is now over six years old, and until about a year ago (her last moult) she laid eggs, and had up to that time the ordinary plumage of a game bantam hen. Is this an unprecedented case? She does not crow.—W. P. L. [Numerous instances are on record of barren hens assuming the plumage of the cock.—Ed. *Field Newspaper*.

TREATMENT OF A WEN ON A PIGEON.—A Fancier asks in the *Field* if any pigeon fancier can give a remedy for the cure of a wen over the thigh of a pigeon, and states he has a very valuable bird in that state. The answer is, that there is no cure except the skilful removal of the wen by operation.

DISEASE AMONG GESE IN SURREY (England).—A fatal disease has broken out among the flocks of geese around Mitcham, Carshalton, and districts, and many of the geese-breeders and poultry-higglers are heavy losers from the epidemic. It was at first conjectured that the geese had eaten some poisonous insect which destroyed them; but as the young geese died off in various quarters, it was ascertained that disease broke out among them simultaneously, and several whole lags of early-hatched goslings have fallen a prey to this poultry disease. Many geese breeders, who had lags ready to go into the corn stubbles for fattening, have sustained serious losses by this species of rinderpest.