

meals with regularity. When the period of fattening is complete, the fowl is fasted for twelve hours before being killed. The mode of killing mostly adopted is to wring the neck, and, when dead, before they are cold, the birds are plucked carefully. The skin of a fatted chick is very tender, and breaks easily, and, sent up to market, packed in clean paper (not newspaper), and with plenty of clean straw between each layer of fowls, in the height of the season, the best Surrey fowls as they are called, realize fifteen shillings and upwards a couple. Anyone having a thorough knowledge of poultry breeding, who inspects his neighborhood carefully, will see room for improvement in various matters.

The tendency to allow the stock to become mongrels is very apparent, and male birds generally are not selected with proper care. Year by year a motley crew of young ones are allowed to survive, without any idea on the part of their owner that chickens bred from such parents are really mongrels, and, no matter how valuable a particular breed may be, when crossed with another pure breed, its worth is entirely spoiled when crossed and recrossed. The entire flock should be weeded out every autumn, and only those birds kept which will combine size and hardiness. The Dorking-Brahma cross is the one most approved of. Good results are obtained from using short-legged Dorking cock and Brahma pullets, this cross resulting in fine heavy chickens.

Really excellent table birds and good all-round winter and summer layers are the single and rose-combed black Orpingtons. The best all-round layers are the Plymouth Rocks, the golden and silver Wyandottes and buff Cochins, and last but not least, the invaluable black Minorcas, who lay the largest egg of any breed, and I have had these birds lay through winter in an exposed run. The Hamburgs and Leghorns are excellent layers, but eggs are small, and do not find a ready sale. Langshans, Game, Houdans, Dorkings, etc., are only ordinary layers, although very handsome.

THE OVER-FEEDING OF POULTRY, AND ITS RESULTS.

HOW many poultry keepers ever consider, or even give a thought to, the subject of this essay? I venture to answer, very few; and yet it is one of the most important in fowl culture. Its consideration is one of the principal elements of success or non-success.

What is over-feeding? It is the combined and too liberal supply of foods with a nature too fat-forming, whereby the internal organs and tissues of fowls become loaded with fat.

We see, then, that the primary cause is the food, and, in the next place, its administration.

It should be known that in every kind of grain there is a certain proportion of flesh-forming, bone-making, warmth-giving, and fattening material, together with husk and water. Each kind varies in its properties, and the first step to avoid the evil now under treatment is to give this point careful study. The space at disposal is too limited to give a composite table of different foods, but those wishing to refer to one will be able to obtain a copy in Messrs. Spratts' "Common Sense of Poultry Keeping," post free for one stamp.

Having satisfied oneself as to the most judicious food, the next point comes the feeding or supply, and I think we may fairly consider this the most crucial point.

Many people, in a spirit of kindness, give too much food, without any thought as to its compound parts or effects; others give continually nothing but heating and fat-forming foods, because they are obtained most easily, or perhaps because they have no knowledge of others or where to obtain them.

(To be Continued.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Of the Poultry Association of Ontario, made to the Department of Agriculture, for the Province of Ontario, for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1895.

Receipts.

Cash on hand from previous year, as per last report.	134 22
Members fees \$102, donations \$15..	117 00
Legislative Grant.....	900 00
Money received from entry fees.....	613 75
Interest from Bank.....	6 73
	<hr/> 1771 70

Expenditure.

Cash paid for prizes.....	1172 99
Expenses for conventions or regular meetings.....	160 00
Officers' salaries \$100, and expenses \$4.30.....	104 30
Postage and stationery \$15.99, Printing \$33.25.....	49 24
Judges' expenses.....	125 00
Cost of reporting.....	10 00
Paid for loans.....	26 25
	<hr/> 1647 78

Balance in Bank..... \$ 123 92

Examined and found correct this 15th day of April, 1895.

H. B. DONOVAN, } Auditors. GEO. G. MCCORMICK,
JOSEPH DILWORTH, } Treas. O.P.A

Kicksy—"Wife, can you tell me why I am like a hen?"
Mrs. Kicksy—"No, dear, why is it?" Kicksy—"Because I can seldom find anything where I laid it yesterday."
Philadelphia Record.