

very simple. It simply consists of a small frost-proof compartment attached to each pen, to which, on the approach of dusk, all birds are confined for the night. Ventilation is amply provided for. Another great convenience he has for an early mated pen is a large underground run into which the birds are let on fine days to scratch and dust themselves. Large lights are put in, facing the south, so that the sun has full power to shed his warm rays on them. Coming to the inhabitants, we found the old birds in remarkably good condition for the season, and all of great merit. The chicks, of which there were about seventy-five, are a grand even lot all through; good in colour, legs bright, beaks and combs good, large and full in body, and in fact at any point it would be difficult to find fault with them. The cockerels seemed more advanced than the pullets, but two or three weeks time would make an immense amount of difference in the latter.

*Mr. F. Sturdy's*

light Brahma chicks are large and good. We understand they are some of the "Lansdowne" strain.

Mr. Sturdy's strong point is in his Golden Spangled Hamburgs, of which he is justly proud, for spangling and colour it would be hard to beat them. We noticed several chicks, which with time will be A. 1.

We also saw some Rouen ducklings and some very fine early Dorkings.

*Mr. J. B. Luing*

has a pen of brown Leghorns at a brother fancier's which we forgot to mention. Amongst the old stock we noticed some good hens including one of Stahlshmidt's old veterans. The chicks were looking well and very fairly grown.

*Mr. W. Stewart,*

breeds Partridge Cochins, of which we noticed a fine old hen and several very promising pullets, cockerels large, but not in full feather. His house is a nice warm little building, plastered inside.

*Mr. John Crowe* was away from home, but Mrs. Crowe kindly permitted us to view the fowls. Mr. Crowe evidently makes pets of his chicks, as one or two fled right on our shoulders on entering the pen. The chicks were numerous and consisted of white Minorcas, bred from his imported prize winners, birds which seemed a very nice lot as White Minorcas go, though not very early. The old birds are good, particularly the cock and one hen. "Beautiful big buff Cochins" met our gaze all over, and they don't deny their appellation, the old birds are fine and extra large, and the chicks though young already show signs of "good uns". Mr. Crowe has also some fine light Brahma and black Spanish chicks.

*Mr. Wm. Sunly,*

is now almost out of the fancy, but we saw one or two old hens in his yard which would take some beating. Guelph's black Minorca breeder,

*Mr. G. R. Bruce,*

one of the first to re-introduce these birds to Ontario, we found at home and quite ready to talk Minorca all day. His birds need no word of praise from us, they are well known. An old cock of grand quality arrested our attention at once and a hen beautiful in color, though on the small side, with a good comb and grand lobe is a worthy mate for him.

His chicks are the largest Minorcas we have seen this season, and it will surprise us if they don't find a place in the prize lists of our fall fairs. Mr. Bruce seems to have got especially good combs and lobes on this year's birds.

*Mr. Geo. Chamberlain*

has some fine old Pyle Games and well forward in moult, some nice large pullets and a good cockerel or two.

*Mr. Geo. Lamprey,*

has just adopted the pigeon fancy and has received some birds from England. A white Pouter hen, 1887 hatch, is "the makings" of a good one, long in feather and limb and legs well covered.

*Mr. J. B. Bruce,*

another Pigeon fancier has a pair of the best short face Tumblers we have seen for some time, Almond cock, Kite hen, imported from England this year.

*Mr. N. Jeffrey, Jr.*

who has a large loft of Fantails of all colors, we were unable to visit but understand he has had his usual good luck in the breeding loft.

*Mr. H. Sallows*

has some early Black Red chicks, good in station, legs, head and wings, also some nice Pyle Bantam chicks. His old birds are good.

*Mr. Jno. Coulson,*

has some brown Leghorn chicks, good, and very early apparently, one cockerel a real nice one, but off a little on legs, two or three nice pullets are also noticeable.

He also breeds Plymouth Rocks and White Leghorns and in a grass run at the end of the garden we noticed a nice flock of Pekin ducklings, large, with good color, beak and legs.

This brought our journey to a close and we returned home well satisfied with the quality of the stock we had everywhere seen, and with the courtesy which had been by all, without exception, extended to us.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO CULL.**

BY STANLEY SPILLET.

Let me say a few words to beginners upon the subject of present duties. You have raised a goodly number of chicks, and it may be you notice quite a number of nice ones amongst them, but they are not all good, and your duty now is to cut down your number and weed out every bird which shows any grave defect. You have been frequently told this before, you will say, but have you been as frequently told why you should act upon this advice? Well, though I may discourage you a little, still I will strive to give you from my own experience, the reasons why you should follow this old advice.