

Granges.

It is our opinion that Granges will soon be established in all parts of this Dominion. They appear to us to be nothing but improved agricultural clubs, working together, embracing all that the clubs embrace and far more; they act in unity, and make a stronger band for uniting farmers than has yet been introduced, making the farmers a power that must be felt, having no objectionable points in its formation and many advantageous ones.

Persons wishing to know about them can apply to Mr. Eben Thompson, care of this office, as that gentleman is now in this vicinity preparing for organizing Granges in Canada.

The first Grange in Western Ontario was organized at Westminster, Feb. 27th, to be known as "Advance Grange," Wm. M. Beattie, Master, John H. Elliott, Secretary, Henry Anderson, Lecturer.

We are pleased to inform you that we have made arrangements with Mr. W. Rennie, of Toronto, so that we can supply some kinds of seeds or implements direct from Toronto as well as from this city. This, in many instances, may save expense in carriage to our eastern customers. We have also made arrangements with Mr. McBroom, of this city, to aid us in supplying seeds. They both issue good catalogues, and have as fine stocks of newly imported seeds as are to be found in Canada.

Kent's Improved Hand Corn Planter.



Mr. Kent was a resident of this city; his father still resides here. The son attempted to make his fortune in the land of corn, and invented this machine, which has succeeded beyond expectation. He now manufactures these implements by the tens of thousands. We procured a few last year. All those who have bought them are highly satisfied with them.

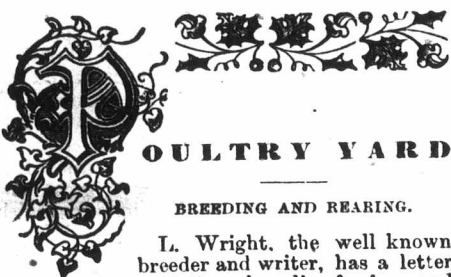
The corn is planted at a regular depth. The machine can be adjusted so as to plant small or large corn, and an even quantity in a hill. A person is but a very little while planting a large field with this machine. The corn is placed in the ground and covered at the same time. A person can plant as fast as he can walk. The price of the Planter is \$4. Dealers wishing to introduce them in their localities might be supplied with some of them if they apply early.

Bag Fasteners.

Mr. Wilson, of the firm of Wilson, Grover & Co., of Ingersoll, called at our office with a patent bag fastener. It is a very simple and useful little invention. It consists of a stout piece of wire, bent in a peculiar manner so as to hold the string that ties the bag. The string is attached to the wire, drawn twice round the bag, and fastened to the wire by a very simple and easy turn. The

bags cannot become loose or unfastened unless taken with the hand and pulled in a particular direction, while the other hand holds the wire.

We at once ordered a stock for our own use. We will send one of them as a present to any of our subscribers that send us a two cent stamp; so that you can judge for yourselves and order them if you approve of them, from us or from the factory at Ingersoll.



L. Wright, the well known breeder and writer, has a letter in the *Poultry Bulletin* on breeding for form and size, which gives some good advice to poultry breeders and fanciers, from which we take the following extracts:

"But lastly, getting fine, large birds depends in a very great degree upon the treatment of the chickens themselves. The time in hatching has much to do with it. If hatched too soon, they get somewhat stunted early, having the cold weather to bear before they are large and strong enough to bear it. If, on the other hand, they are too late, the winter comes on when they have not nearly done growing, and the vitality that ought to go in making frame is expended in finding animal warmth. They are, too, very likely in the latter case to be attacked by cramp, leg weakness, or rheumatism, and perhaps are all the more likely to be so attacked if unusually fine or promising birds, since rapid growth is always liable to be accompanied by a deficiency of osseous substance. In England, taking the advantage of seasons, I am disposed to think, that early in February is about the best time to hatch cockerels, the middle of March or early in April for pullets. If hatching in May, as has been the case with me for sheer want of time the last two seasons, the chickens begin to be stunted in October, before they are more than half grown. In America the seasons would be somewhat different, and the climate is much more certain in any given time of the year than in Europe, which is so far a great advantage, and perhaps may account for the great size of American Light Brahmas and some other fowls. In England we never know what to expect; this summer we had no rain, while last year it poured down nearly every day, and this uncertainty is very awkward for rearing good stock.

"But perhaps most of all depends upon the feeding, which is very seldom properly attended to. I know this by personal experience. For a year or two, when I reared very few chickens, and my wife fed them herself, I reared enormous birds, cockerels weighing ten pounds, and even more, at six months old; but lately, when they have been fed by a servant, the difference has been great. The largest birds I know of at present are obtained by a man who stays at home and does nothing but looks after his fowls, by which, in fact, he makes his living. Most of us, perhaps, have to put the quantity of food judged sufficient in a dish and leave it; but this is not the way to get fine birds. The way is, having the food well mixed so as to separate in small portions, to throw it about to the chickens just as long as they will eat with any appetite, and then leave off, leaving none, and yet leaving no bird unsatisfied. Strong birds will always drive the others away, and if in giving dishes either too much is given, by which food is left and real appetite and digestion prevented, or some do not get enough, all which is prevented by scattering widely and watching to see how they eat it. But this takes time, which few can afford, and hence few chickens comparatively are reared as large as they might be. I speak advisedly and from experience, when I say that this watchful kind of feeding is the only way to get very fine birds.

"Another important point is to watch the general appetite of the chickens as they grow, and to change the treatment properly and judiciously. At first meals should be very frequent, but soon the number should be reduced and a great deal depends on making the reduction at the right time. Very young ones need food every two hours at least, if fed as they ought to be fed, leaving no food about; but this will soon come down to every three hours, then to every four, and so on till at about four months old they do well with their daily three meals. Again, a good rearer will watch carefully for any symptoms of flagging, and meet it, if necessary, by a change of food for a week or two, which will often work wonders. A judicious change of run will also do a great deal, though too much changing about only

worries the birds. But fresh ground is of great importance. The difference between a dozen chickens moved now and then to a run with really fresh grass, and the same birds kept on one run all through, which is so small as to get all tainted by their droppings, is enormous one set appears to go on growing, while the other seems to stop. Even if the yard be small, and have no grass at all, much can be done to secure this freshness and vigorous growth by spading the ground up at frequent intervals, digging as deep as possible; yet fresh grass is beyond doubt the most favorable condition of all for rearing 'fine' birds. All these things, it is true, give trouble, and hence many who could will not give it, while still more really cannot do so. But it is on such things as these that the size of a man's chickens greatly depends.

"I have felt some doubt as to writing about such things. That American Light Brahmas exceed the English in size is well known, and it proves that United States fanciers can learn little as regards breeding for size from this side of the water. I have in fact several times written to American breeders for their modes of treatment, hoping to get a 'wrinkle' or two, but am sorry to say no one has yet responded to the request. We would like to know over here how you manage to get average of fourteen pounds for Light Brahma Cocks; and we hope some one will tell us. Is it the climate? I am sure if those who rear the largest birds in America would give their methods of management and feeding, they would be glad I listened to by English breeders. I saw a hen the other day which came from Philadelphia, and weighed fourteen pounds. We can't do it, and I, for one, would like to know how it is done. It may be in the strain, since I have not found that American dark birds are larger than those on this side; still I can't help feeling that there is something to be learnt yet from these Light Brahmas with regard to breeding and rearing 'fine' fowls."

SALT AND CHICKENS.

In the *Rural New Yorker* of July 5 some person says salt is fatal to fowls, and some months since a lady (I think) recommended its use where hens lost their feathers on their heads from some unknown cause; that cause, though, I think to be the secondary effects of croup. The fowl's head seems feverish, and soon all the feathers come off. Mine were so, and I said I would kill or cure. So I mixed up a half pail of soft feed and put in a large handful of salt. I went out next morning to see what the result was, and all my hens were—what! Dead? No, but awful thirsty. So I gave them some water and the next evening more salt. My hens are all feathered out on their heads, and they stopped eating each other's feathers, a habit hard to break. Salt is a simple remedy for many things. It will cure sick-headache, make cream freeze, make the butter come, take ink stains out of cloth of any kind, kill weeds, kill worms, make the ground cool so that it is more congenial to celery, cabbage, &c., ease the itching pain caused by irritable skin diseases like hives, itch, &c., produce vomiting or stop when you like, and many other things too numerous to mention. Still, I once fed some potatoes to young chicks and turkeys that had been boiled with salt corn beef, and killed every one of them.—*Cor. Rural New Yorker.*

BLACK HAMBURGS.

Although the Golden and the Silver Hamburgs are well known among breeders, amateurs and fanciers of fine fowls, but little attention is paid to the best of all varieties—viz., Black Hamburgs. The good qualities of Hamburgs (Golden and Silver) as "everlasting layers" are known the world over; but, although the number of eggs produced by them from spring till fall can hardly be excelled, and notwithstanding their great beauty, they have their objections. Both the fowls and the eggs produced by them are very small, and, as a table fowl, they are inferior to almost every other class except bantams. With many a fowl that will produce a great abundance of eggs it is sufficient, while others desire that the fowls and eggs be profitable for the table. In the Black Hamburgs we have a combination of these good points. The number of eggs will not only be equal to the others, but, like them, they are non-sitters. Their eggs are nearly as large as those of the Spanish, while the fowls themselves are much larger, and are of fine flavor for the table. More attention is being paid to them of late, and we hope they will soon find a place in our poultry yard, which they richly merit.

Parties desiring information concerning the Ontario Agricultural Emporium, or who wish to obtain stock in it, will address this office.

Review of the Cheese and Butter Market.

Those reviews, which we purpose giving each month, will be compiled from the most authenticated sources, and will, no doubt, be of great interest to our readers. When this department becomes fully established, we will give more information, more especially local. We give the Toronto market, as it may safely be taken as the standard of Canada, and large shipments are made there. Prospects for a high price both in cheese and butter, seem rather flattering at present. There seems to be very little butter in the country.

CHEESE.
(English Markets.)

At the commencement of this review it was steady at 118s-25c, and continued so until the 2nd inst., when it rose to 116 14-15c; on the 3rd to 116 4-5c; on the 6th to 17c; on the 10th to 17 1-2c.

TORONTO MARKET.

From the 16th ult., to the 6th inst. there was little doing. Small lots changed hands at from 13c to 13 1/2c. The advance in the English markets made little change in the prices here, but round lots were anxiously inquired for.

BUTTER.—(Toronto Markets.)

At the commencement of this review this article was very dull; very little offered, and very little needed. Good lots from 21c to 23c; box from 18c to 20c; pound rolls from farmer's waggon, 23c to 25c. At the latter part of the month business became a little more brisk, and large lots began to change hands at from 21c to 22c; very choice 24c to 24 1/2c; box 18c to 22c. Market firm.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, Feb. 21.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat opened firm, and closed dull at the inside prices; No 1 Spring \$1.22 1/2 for soft, \$1.23 1/2 to \$1.24 for hard; No 2 Spring \$1.20; No 3 Spring \$1.16 1/2; rejected \$1.08. Corn active and higher; No 2 mixed 58c. Oats quiet and unchanged; No 2 at 42c to 42 1/2c; rejected 38 1/2c. Rye firm and scarce; No 2 fresh 84 1/2 to 85c. Barley dull and drooping; No 2 Spring nominally \$1.70; No 3 Spring \$1.54. Dressed Hogs dull at \$6.10 for choice. Pork in fair demand and firm at \$14.10. Receipts 10,000 bush flour; 124,000 bush wheat; 26,000 bush corn; 26,000 bush oats; 2,000 bush rye; 18,000 bush barley. Shipments—9,000 bush flour; 44,000 bush wheat; 4,000 bush corn; 16,000 bush oats; 10,000 bush rye; 10,000 bush barley.

Late Dairy Markets.

Utica, Feb. 16.—Cheese—The trade in cheese has not been so awake during the last week as the week before, but there has been no falling off in price, nor, indeed, is there likely to be at present. It is reported that exporters have held back a little in the face of the prices demanded, but the movement seems rather precautionary than with the idea of forcing a decline. Toward the close of last week the shippers began taking more stock at go. d prices, and there is little fear of a stoppage. During the week we have heard of several sales in the interior, closing out the stock in several instances. Reports from England continue to speak of low stocks, the amount of American cheese held at the different English centres being unusually small, and the demand active. These announcements have led the shippers to begin taking the lower grades which are at hand in the New York market. All indications are toward a complete clearing out before spring.

Buffalo Live Stock Market.

Buffalo, Feb. 20.—The receipts of cattle to-day have been 68 head, making the total supply 5,467 head for the week. The yards are clear of stock. Sheep and Lambs—The receipts of sheep and lambs to-day have been 200 head, making the total supply 19,200 head for the week, against 13,100 head same time last week. The market closed dull and heavy. No sales to report. Hogs—The receipts of hogs for the market to-day, including reported arrivals, have been 4,400 head, making the total for the week 15,500 head, against 22,300 head for the same time last week. The market was dull—no prime hogs offering. The bulk of fresh arrivals were through consignments. Yorkers were held at \$5.25 to \$5.50; heavy hogs were held at \$5.70 to \$6.10.

LONDON MARKETS.

London, Feb. 21.—The market was well patronized this day—the grain receipts, independent of many other commodities, were much more liberal. In grain—Dutch wheat \$1.95 to \$2. Red Winter, \$1.85 to \$1.85. Treadwell, \$1.87 to \$1.92. Spring, finding ready buyers at \$1.90 to \$2 per cental. Barley firm at \$2.75 to \$2.97. Peas steady at \$1.05 to \$1.06. Oats firm and slightly advanced at \$1.05 to \$1.10. Corn at \$1.08 to \$1.13. Clover Seed from \$5.50 to \$5.62 1/2 per cental; or \$5.10 to \$5.20 per bushel. Hay at \$13 to \$14 per ton. Dressed Hogs very few; rather better figures; \$7 to \$7.50. Roll Butter scarce and high; 28c to 32c per pair. Eggs 25c to 25c. Chickens 60c to 70c per pair. Potatoes from \$1.15 to \$1.25 per bag. Meats unchanged. English reports to-day showed a fall of 6d on flour; but the 1d lost on White Wheat yesterday was reversed and the market is described as firmer. Montreal remained quiet and unchanged. Chicago showed an advance of about 1c, closing at \$1.19 1/2 for March, and Milwaukee at \$1.21 7-8. Oswego was quiet on Barley. New York showed a rise of 1c to 2c on wheat, closing at \$1.51 to \$1.53 for No 2 Chicago.

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