

on his part, because more is demanded than his own security requires, if he intends supplying what he bargains for.

I sincerely hope that our old and experienced fanciers will soon find a sufficient time of leisure to give us a few suggestions, at least, upon the subject of chickendom.

Yours fraternally,

GALLINÆ.

Notes from Waterloo.

No. 11.

The increased interest manifested in pure-bred poultry of late years is proven by the share of public attention they receive at our fall exhibitions. Only a few years ago no provision in the way of proper coops were to be had, and the few pairs of fowls that were taken there, mainly to assist in swelling the number of entries, were usually found in the boxes they came in, stowed away in some corner, or under the benches on which the other exhibits were placed. The judging, too, was peculiar. Judges, after finishing the more important classes, were reminded that the poultry were still to be adjudicated. Their fitness for that duty was not a consideration. All the varieties known to them were "Shanghais" and "others," and as they were generally prejudiced against Shanghais, the "others" got the prizes. Now, thanks to the fanciers and the poultry journals, most of the different varieties are recognized at nearly all the exhibitions, judges are provided who know a Leghorn from a Brahma, and no section is better patronized nor more generally admired by visitors than the exhibit of poultry and pigeons.

That they have not yet received sufficient recognition by the directors of agricultural societies, such as their value, and the importance to the wealth of our country which would result from the general introduction and cultivation of improved breeds of poultry warrants, is a fact very easily proved. For example, look at the prize list of the Provincial Exhibition, held at Ottawa last month, and compare the meagre prizes for poultry with those for other articles of infinitely less value and importance. It may be right that sheep (five varieties) should receive \$1,247, three gold, twelve silver, and eleven bronze medals. That four varieties of pigs should receive \$914, one gold, five silver, and eight bronze medals. These animals are difficult to raise, expensive to transport, and in view of their immense importance both for home and export trade, improvement in the breeds are highly desirable, yet forty-eight varieties of poultry, including turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea-fowls, pea-fowls and pigeons only receive \$337, one silver and one bronze medal, and surely the same argu-

ments hold good in regard to their importance. But a closer examination of the list reveals greater injustice and absurdities. For instance, the owner of a pair of Brahma or Cochin chickens, fit to win at such an exhibition, finds his skill and labor in breeding and rearing them, the expense and risk in their transportation, &c., rewarded by the magnificent sum of two dollars, while the exhibitor of *two pumpkins* receives three dollars! Certainly the framers of that list were "some (on) pumpkins." It is poor encouragement for the breeder of Dorkings or Leghorns to find that a pair of chickens which have cost him a great deal of care and expense to raise and place on exhibition, not to speak of their intrinsic value, may receive two dollars, while the exhibitor of three pairs of woolen mittens, worth only a few cents, receives three dollars. Is there any reason or common sense in giving a larger prize for a bunch of grapes, or peck of potatoes, or two squashes, than for a pair of pure-bred fowls? The Provincial prize list has been selected as a specimen, but every other exhibition in the province has similar inconsistencies in a greater or less degree.

Now then, it is clearly the duty of the poultry breeders of this province, individually and collectively, to use every honorable means to have this wrong righted, to educate the people on this matter, and prove to them that it will be a gain to the community when greater attention shall be paid to the raising of poultry, and the present race of mongrels replaced by pure breeds, equally hardy and more profitable. This should be a subject for discussion at the meetings of the Poultry Association next winter, and every member advised to use his influence in his own locality, and as the Press is the great lever that moves public opinion, to agitate this matter through the columns of the Review, the only organ of the poultrymen of Ontario, and use every effort to increase the circulation of that paper, so as to make it a power in the land. In order to accomplish this let everyone determine that he will get several new subscribers—a thing that can be done with only a little trouble.

Poultrymen of Canada, let us hear from you! What are you going to do about it? Sit still and let matters go on as they have been doing, or are you going to rouse up and shake off your lethargy, taking for your motto:

"For the cause that needs assistance,
"For the wrong that needs resistance,
"For the future in the distance,
"And the good that I can do."

Waterloo, Oct. 1st, 1879.

J. L.

Fanciers! At no season of the year is it more necessary to advertise than at the present. Sell off your surplus stock before cold weather comes. An "ad" in Review will help you wonderfully. Try it.