

telling of their birds. It would have been a grand place for our fellows to unload their surplus stock. Money was plenty, the fever ran high, I was credably informed that over \$2500 worth of birds changed hands in the show room. The committee very generously refused the 10 per cent due them on such sales, and allowed exhibitors to make all they could of their sales. Unfortunately for me my stock had run so low I had none to offer, else they would have gone off lively. The show was held in a convenient part of the city, on Michigan Avenue, and on ground floor, so that visitors could reach it without going too far or running up stairs, and was well patronized from the opening day until the close, and for this the committee can justly feel proud, as they are some \$250 ahead after paying all expenses. Of course the regular premiums were not cash, but silk badges, gold lettered, red for first, blue for second, white for third. They are beautifully gotten up, and I value the collection I was fortunate enough to secure, much higher than money prizes. They propose holding another show next winter and I hope to attend. I also desire to see many of our Canadian breeders going over in friendly rivalry to try their strength with our American cousins, I may be speaking a little strong when I say I think we have metal enough in our exhibitors, and excellence enough in our birds to hustle them all through the classes, and I believe next show in Detroit will find our fair province well ahead in the prize list of the Detroit show.

The American plan of exhibitors furnishing their own coops and all of regulation size is a good one. They look neat and it saves the Association lots of money in putting together coops of unsuitable size and appearance. Such coops often show the best birds to very poor advantage. With the regulation coops, all are on an equality of position. None being placed above each

other, all birds have comparatively fair play, while exhibitors can see them without either stooping down or climbing up, as is often the case at many of our best shows. Most of these coops are canvas, with round wooden fronts, not expensive, while some are more expensively gotten up. Through the kindness of the secretary I secured a sample of his, which to my mind were the handsomest ones on exhibition, and at some future shows I hope to send my exhibit in my own show coops. Regarding the judge MR. B.N. PIERCE, of Indianapolis, Ind., I have only to say he seemed very accurate and painstaking, and was always willing in a most cheerful manner to give his reasons for anything he did when asked for it. And although a hard cutter I believe his decisions were to the satisfaction of every exhibitor present. I was very favorably impressed with his frankness of manner all through his judging, and although I was constantly among the exhibitors, I failed to hear a single unkind word from any exhibitor regarding his decisions.

Friend DONOVAN, kindly excuse the length of this letter and if I have time I will probably give you another one next month on some other matters that I hope may be of interest to the fraternity.

Yours sincerely,

F. WIXSON.

Ingersoll, Feb. 22nd, 1888.

THE OTTAWA SHOW.

NOTES FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

The fourth annual exhibition of the Eastern Ontario Poultry and Pet Stock Association was held in the City of Ottawa, on 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of February; the show room was the hall of the Lower Town Market building, an excellent place as far as comfort of birds, and good light for judging is concerned, but rather isolated as to location; however, there was no other suitable place to be had; and although

the attendance of visitors was not so large as it should have been, still it was as good as most poultry shows get. The visitors, among whom may be mentioned such distinguished persons as LADY MACDONALD, the HON. JOHN CARLING, Minister of Agriculture, and PROF. SAUNDERS, of the Government Experimental Farm, expressed themselves as highly pleased with the general excellence of the exhibits, which in most classes, were undoubtedly quite an improvement on that of last year.

A conspicuous and very pleasing feature of the show, was the exhibit of dressed poultry and eggs made by MR. A. G. GILBERT, of Hintonburg, a suburb of Ottawa. The display consisted of Turkeys, Geese, Plymouth Rocks, Brahmas and Leghorns, all dressed after the most approved English style. There was no premium offered for such a display, and MR. GILBERT's object was to show the masses how poultry should be dressed, and if more displays of this sort were made, it would undoubtedly have the effect of greatly improving the appearance and quality of the poultry offered for sale on our markets and in the stores of poultry dealers.

MR. GILBERT showed how poultry was prepared by English farmers to sell to dealers, and how finally finished by the dealer to sell to the consumers. The birds were all dressed by MRS. GILBERT, who is undoubtedly an adept in this line.

The entries were very numerous, and competition in most classes very keen. Light Brahmas were a grand class throughout, the winning birds being good enough to win anywhere; the breeding pen winning first were particularly good, the pullets might have been broader in head, but taken all round were hard to find fault with. 1st prize cock, a grand well preserved bird, a little light in hackle, but grand in shape, very heavy leg and toe feather, and a splendid black tail. In the opinion of the writer, MR. R. G. MARTIN's cock, an unnoticed bird, should