

people will know of it, and the Society will learn the value of judicious advertising.

An observer might have noticed any time during the first two days of the show a gentleman with business-like air, and attire to match, removing the birds from their cages, carefully examining them in every part, and then assigning to each section of the bird its appropriate number of marks. The carefulness, thoroughness, accuracy and skill with which all this was done impressed us in a way we shall never forget. J. Y. Bicknell is an example of a man who thoroughly understands his business, and performs the task before him so as to command respect and admiration. Such being the case and with his twenty years' experience, we are at a loss to understand how any amateur can have the courage (we prefer a mild term) to question the decisions of such an expert. To ask for information in regard to any case is another matter. However, so long as an Association will be content with amateur judges, and especially local ones, such things will happen. The cure for this and one or two other evils to be pointed out below, lies in having outside and thoroughly competent judges, with plenty of competition from all points of the compass. We hope this question has been settled, however, for good by the Montreal Association. It has not been done a day too soon. A Society of this kind must be ever on the alert against cliquism, which will soon bring any organization to the "small end of nothing." We make these suggestions in the best spirit, especially as we believe the motives of this Association are good, and its members hard workers in the interests of breeding.

The arrangement of the birds in long rows of wire cages (the property of the Association) with good doors, etc., was admirable. The attendance on the fowls was satisfactory, and the light excellent for correctly judging of

them, even to gloss on plumage. All in all, this last has been by far the most successful exhibition of the kind held in Montreal.

We are not prepared to say how many entries there were, but they exceeded considerably those of former years. The best of good-feeling prevailed. After the judging was over and the awards announced, some of the exhibitors looked about ten years older and thought the cutting "severe;" but it is really in their interest, and they will, in future, strive harder for high results. A novel feature of the exhibition was the "object lessons in breeding," by Prof. Wesley Mills. We have never before heard of a similar method of teaching.

BRAHMAS, LIGHT—As many specimens of the Lansdowne strain were exhibited by the originator himself, it is needless to say that there were many good ones in this class. However, the scoring showed that even Mr. Hall has something to strive for still. **DARK**—These were not the equals of the former, and we believe none obtained a first. In fact, to get really first-rate D. Brahmas is no easy matter, and well it is for the breeder's real interest when he meets a judge who knows a good bird from one of a medium quality.

COCHINS, BUFF—We liked the males: symmetrical birds, of excellent rich color. The hens, though large, were very loose in feather, and with a sort of uneven mottling much to be avoided. Let us breed that out. We know it can be done for we have done it. The hens *must* be kept darker. **PARTRIDGE**—Though not numerous, were good. The winners were charming birds in nearly every respect. The breeder of these fowls has reason to be proud of his success.

LANGSHANS—Well, as Langshans are found these were pretty good in quality and very large. But the faces: Will Langshans ever look right with a face wholly red? We doubt it. We must come to a little variation in face color.

Pure and dull red face with glossy black plumage? No; we must come to the white or partly white ear-lobe; or, at all events, some modification of the pure red in face, etc.

DORKINGS—All the colors were represented, and a fairly good lot upon the whole, the winners deserving their honors.

HAMBURGS—All the varieties, except White, were represented. Some Blacks, very fair from without were disqualified; for the keen eye of the judge had discovered a few feathers not pure black, visible when the wings were unfolded. What now of judging without removing birds from their pens? Would a local man have had the courage to disqualify the fowls of an acquaintance for so small (?) a defect? Taking the class as a whole the combs were rather defective; one G. S. Cock, admirable in most respects, being so severely cut for comb that he could not recover sufficiently to get first. Another bird (Silver Spangled) was disqualified for natural absence of spike. To our mind the G. pencilled were the best, looking at them all over. They had fewer glaring defects.

LEGHORNS—The **WHITES** were very numerous, though several were not first-rate, even the winners leaving a good deal to be desired in quality. The winning cock was a nice bird but rather small. The winning hens and pullets were good. The **BROWNS** were so few we may almost pass them by. The **BLACKS** we liked, but could have wished to see more competition, a remark applicable also to the next class.

MINORCAS—A "plentiful lack" of birds was what struck us most. Where were the outside exhibitors who brought such good birds of this class as also of P. Rocks and Langshans last year?

W. F. BLACK SPANISH—were not numerous, but the quality we are glad to say, was high. We will hope to see a large collection next year.

ANDALUSIANS—A pen of very nice