

William Hearn, A. A. Armstrong and H. G. Wright. The Sheep Breeders' Association by Messrs. R. Gibson, Abingdon, and F. W. Hodson, London *Farmers' Advocate*. Swine Breeders' Association by Messrs. Coxworth, Clement; J. E. Brethour, Burford. The Sheep Breeders and Swine Breeders decided to give \$1,000 towards the show, and the Agriculture and Arts Association \$1,500, the Guelph Fat Stock Club to furnish the accommodation. The date of the show was fixed for the 6th and 7th December. Mr. George Murton was appointed to judge the poultry.

#### POULTRY IN ONTARIO.

From the Farm Statistics of 1892 compiled and sent out by the Bureau of Industries in connection with the Ontario Department of Agriculture we learn that the farmers of the Province owned in the past year 628,504 Turkeys, 445,154 Geese and 6,005,315 other fowls, a total in all of 7,078,973. The Department values this immense number at \$2,091,450 taking the Turkeys at an average valuation of 66c., Geese 57c. and other fowls 24c., an extremely low estimate. In addition to this the farmers during the year sold or used 1,966,409 head of poultry valued at \$778,308, or an average of 40c. each.

#### AN IMMENSE PRODUCT.

Take the above statistics from *farmers* fowls only and no doubt incomplete, add the value of those owned by fanciers, householders, breeders in a small way, and you will find yourself lost in a maze of figures almost too stupendous to imagine.

#### THE EGG PRODUCT.

Mark you! another point, the above gives no idea of the egg product of these fowls nor is any estimate of the value included.

#### INCREASE IN VALUE.

This branch of farm industry is also, we are glad to learn, steadily increasing in importance, for we find that the value of such stock increased since 1891 by no smaller sum than about \$73,000 (seventy-three thousand dollars) in itself no small item.

#### MR. C. MASSIE, PORT HOPE,

was in the city on the 21st June, looking well and feeling almost quite recovered from his recent severe illness. From what he said we gather that fancy matters are in a very flourishing state in the "hilly" town, and the breeders quite

enthusiastic over the prospects of their next local show. The arrangements last winter were so satisfactory that a greatly increased entry has been already promised them.

## POULTRY

### POPULARITY OF THE LIGHT BRAHMA.

BY H. S. BABCOCK.

THE perennial popularity of the light Brahma is a cause of astonishment to many poultrymen. They do not understand it. They see a large fowl, less graceful than many breeds, with an attractive though not remarkably beautiful plumage, slow to get its full growth, maturing late, not a phenomenal layer, as a rule quite a persistent sitter, and they ask why is it that this fowl is so very popular. I've asked this question of myself many times and have at last arrived at something in the nature of an answer. My answer may not be a complete one, but I think it is true so far as it goes, and it may prove helpful to others.

I think the size of the light Brahma is one and perhaps the strongest element in its popularity. It is the largest fowl we have. Others may approach it, but none seems to quite equal it. I have myself some chickens bred from a cock that was said to weigh seventeen pounds and hens that were said to weigh from eleven to thirteen pounds. I know that the weight of these fowls attracted me, and if me why not others. I have seen a cock of this variety that weighed fourteen pounds and fifteen ounces just one ounce short of fifteen pounds. And this cock, on exhibition at a certain poultry show, was "the observed of all observers." Men seem to admire extremes, the very large and the very small among fowls, the Brahma and the Bantam exercise a powerful fascination upon their minds. Give me a fowl, in all other respects exactly like the light Brahma, and let it weigh but eight or nine pounds and I think I could name a number of varieties that would "shut out" the fowl in the race for popularity. I think, therefore, that I am safe in attributing much of the popularity of the light Brahma to its great size.

Another, and it seems to me important, element in its popularity is the hardiness of the fowl. I know of nothing that is more trying to a poultryman than to hatch out a large number of chickens only to have the greater part of them