

and address to any person wishing any explanation.) At five months old I weighed several of the largest and they went 9 pounds 6 ounces, the smallest 4 and 5 pounds, but the majority would weigh 6 pounds, and would have averaged a good deal more if they had been all Light Brahmas. I think I am safe in putting the fifty at 5½ lbs. each, therefore have 275 lbs. at five cents per pound, the price paid here last fall, making - - \$13 75

The cost for feed was as follows:—

4 bushels of corn, @ 56c. - - -	2 24	
4 " third class barley, @ 40c. 1 60		
2 bags of bran, @ 25c. - - -	50	
1 " shorts, @ 60c. - - -	60	
1 bushel pease - - - - -	60	
		\$5 54

Leaving a balance of - - - - \$8 21

I had to buy everything—these fowls never left their yards—and we have chicken meat produced at 2c. per pound; this is 150 per cent. on the money invested. "But," says one, "in order to make this we must raise the Light Brahma or some other such monster, which will do nothing but sit the next summer." Well, had I raised only Light Brahmas the average weight would have been 7 pounds instead of 5½. But I will endeavor to answer some of these objections in my next. I do not wish to make it appear that because chicken meat can be raised for half the amount that pork can, that farmers should make a business of it, but that thus far fowls do pay, and that a farmer can not, nor does not, produce any kind of food as cheaply as this. Where there is plenty of sour milk and insect life these figures for food can be greatly reduced, and poultry can be raised for market at 1½ cents per pound. But in these calculations we have not taken into account the value of service performed in the destruction of noxious insects.

Now let us take Toronto prices, and the prices generally paid for chicks in the fall, 40 cents being about the highest; a pair of Light Brahma chicks well cared for, or well fed, would be worth 90 cents. I know that farmers are in the habit of taking all such statements as these at a large discount, therefore, if necessary, I am prepared to give name and address of the firm which paid 5 cents per pound for chicks last fall. Now, suppose in keeping up the flock, the farmer's lady has accommodation prepared for her, and can raise one hundred chicks easily per year, let all the best pullets be picked out to fill the place of those two years old, which being well fed for a couple of weeks are fit for market; these, with the young cockerels, will net her between \$20 and \$30.

But if every farmer were to raise that number would it not bring down the prices? Well, I am of the opinion that if a greater quantity of superior

fowls were raised the price would soon be double of what it is. My reason for this is, we only raise now about what supplies home demand, and in the majority of cases what is fit for nothing else; let the home market be glutted with a superior article and it will soon burst through the narrow bounds of home market and be exported. The facilities for export are so great that it will soon attract the attention of those engaged. I am informed that poultry at present is worth 9d sterling per pound, that is 18 cents per pound. If no obstruction in the shape of duty exists surely this offers something to those who will engage in it. One great reason is that sufficient can not be got to make it pay, and the quality would exclude it from the English market.

GALLINÆ.

Lefroy, July 25th, 1879.

(To be continued.)

### A Chapter from Early History.

#### CHAP. VI.—THE EPIDEMIC SPREADING.

While all this was transpiring, my "splendid" Cochin-China fowls had arrived from England, and I had had a nice house arranged, in which to keep and exhibit them to visitors.

The pullets began to lay in January, 1850, and immediately afterwards my trade commenced in earnest, which continued, without interruption, up to the close of the year 1854.

Among the "monstrosities" presented at the second meeting at the Boston Statehouse were several propositions that were suggested by gentlemen amateurs and farmers in regard to the price that should be fixed on, by members of the Society with the elongated title, for eggs sold for incubation.

One man thought that two dollars a dozen for most of the fancy kinds would pay well. This gentleman (I do not remember who he was) probably calculated to furnish fancy eggs as a certain agricultural concern had been doing for some months: that is, by first purchasing them at a shilling a dozen from the eastern packets, or in Quincy Market. The next man thought that three dollars per dozen would be fair. Another member believed that one dollar was enough for twelve eggs, "but he didn't know much about it," he acknowledged; which was pretty evident from his remarks. At any rate, he had never fed a "laying hen" long enough on good corn to ascertain how much she would devour while she was furnishing him with the said twelve eggs, I imagine! One gentleman, more liberally disposed, probably, ventured to express his willingness to pay five dollars a dozen for what he wanted. I understood he got home safely after the meeting, though it was feared he would be mobbed for his temerity in making this ridiculous offer!