

Mr. Daniels started his judging season early this year, at Richmond Hill Spring Show on May 24th.

On account of the date of the "Ontario" being changed to the second week in December, at Guelph, it will conflict with our dates, and we have decided to select the dates in January, on which the "Ontario" was to have been held, as the dates for our show. If not too late, please mention it in June issue.

J. H. CALLANDER, Sec.
Woodstock, May 24, 1900.

ANNUAL MEETING OF OWEN SOUND POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES of the last annual meeting were read. Officers elected were: President, Harry Wright, Sr.; vice-president, George Preston; secretary, John Ramsay; treasurer, R. Cameron. Directors—J. C. Benner, George Wiley, W. H. Irvine, A. E. Rankin, H. Wright, Jr., Henry Waite, Charles Pratt, Fred Petty, J. Hart, Jas. Grimoldby. Executive Committee—H. Wright, Sr., John Ramsay, Chas. Pratt. Auditors—Percy Greer and A. Rankin.

Moved and seconded, that the offer of the Ontario directors be accepted, in lieu of the show coming to Owen Sound, as the same is to be held in Guelph permanently in the future.

Meeting adjourned to the call of secretary. HENRY WAITE.
May 10, 1900.

SHOULD A MALE BIRD BE KEPT WITH THE LAY- ING STOCK?

BY GUS. A. LANGEIER, QUEBEC.

FIRST, let me say that I look at the question from the standpoint of a business poultryman making a speciality of market eggs.

Mostly all men of experience in the poultry business seem to be of the same opinion: no male bird with the laying stock. Mr. Rooster is generally considered a nuisance in the pen of layers. Some pretend that he eats more than his share of the food, which is too stimulating for him and soon ruins him as a breeder; others go as far as to say that he teaches the hens to break and eat eggs. Then it is to be remembered that unfertilized eggs, when they are known to be so, always command a higher price than fertile ones; our egg export trade will, in the near future, take very large proportions, and unfertilized eggs are required for it, as they keep much longer and better than the others. So many good reasons for the exclusion of the male bird from the laying pen.

One man, though, and a very practical breeder, Mr. E. Leroy, of France, pretends that the male bird should be with the hens, if the maximum of the egg yield is to be reached. According to this gentleman, the predisposition to laying, for the females of all birds in general, is subordinated to the society of the male, so that most of wild varieties will not lay, if, for

one cause or another, the male is taken away. Mr. Leroy, in breeding pheasants partridges, parrots, etc., has had occasion to often notice the above fact. It could then be concluded that if the absence of the cock bird stops wild varieties laying, it must have a certain effect on the quantity of eggs of domesticated fowls. Then, always taking into consideration that profit is the final object of practical egg production. Mr. Rooster will cost more, in proportion, if kept by himself, than he would with ten or twelve hens. More food, grit, etc., will be lost, and more time taken, if he is fed in a small pen alone, than if he is with the laying stock.

If Mr. Leroy is right—and his very plausible theory, backed by practical experience, would lead one to think so—the question is simply this: will the extra price to be had for unfertilized eggs equal the loss caused by the deficiency in quantity?

No doubt, some of the readers of your valuable paper will give their views on this matter, which is a most important one to all practical poultrymen.

We have no hesitation in saying that the presence of a male in a pen containing pullets will tend to excite early development of the ovaries and bring them on to lay much earlier than otherwise would be the case.—ED.

Try an ad. in the Review. It will pay you.

Nation Valley Poultry Yards.

Light Brahma, Barred Plymouth Rock, Black Minorca and Brown Leghorn

EGGS FOR HATCHING

\$1 FOR 13; \$6 for 100; \$10 for 200. You'd better try a hatching. The Spring is late; there is plenty time for chickens yet. My eggs are hatching well. Also for sale—13 Brown Leghorn hens and one cock for \$10; 5 Light Brahma hens and one cock for \$5; 25 Barred Plymouth Rock hens \$1 each; 2 Barred Plymouth Rock cocks and one cockerel for \$5 each. These fowls are all good ones and in good shape.

N. G. MOODIE, 603 - - - **Chesterville, Ont., Canada**