

am sure if I had been going to buy, I would have given as much money for the two as I would for all the others. I speak especially for the pullet.

Now I admit the first prize pullet had much more black in her back than Mr. Jackson says, but the black was on her chicken feathers, but the hen feathers coming and what had come, showed no black spots, and I think without any exception she had the best striped neck I have seen for a long time, and of the green lustre so much desirable in good light Brahmas she had enough and almost to spare. I could not help expressing my opinion of her, which seems to give Mr. Jackson so much annoyance. When a judge makes a statement like that and a dissatisfied exhibitor hears or reads it, then, if he was anxious to learn how much the judge knew, it would be the best policy to await and see how far the judge erred in his judgment when next you see the birds. I should like Mr. Jackson to show the birds at our Ontario show, and I will give way and let either of my brother judges score his birds, so that he can get justice, that which he does not think he got at Toronto.

Mr. Editor, I want Mr. Jackson to know that it does not make any difference to me who wins, I have no interest in any birds shown, and my endeavors will be, the best to win, regardless of ownership.

Yours,

J. BUTTERFIELD.

#### A PECULIAR CASE.

**R**ECENTLY a case came under my observation that was very instructive and shows the importance of dissecting all fowls that die, or more correctly of making a *post mortem* examination.

A Game hen that had been ailing for some weeks, died. The abdomen was

found distended which was explained in opening it by the presence within of a large tumour looking very much like a mass of fat. As the egg-tube (oviduct) could not be found, it was concluded that in all probability it was represented by this tumour. Upon cutting this in two, there was found a sort of cheesy mass, but on further examination, part of this mass was found invested with an egg-shell.

Then the real nature of the case became apparent. There had been inflammation of the oviduct followed by fatty degeneration, and the size of the tumour had caused so much disturbance as finally to kill the fowl.

Whether the egg had been retained and caused the inflammation or whether it had failed to be expelled because of inflammation it is impossible to say, but in any case the subject is instructive, *Mount Royal*.

#### BANTAMS.

*Editor Review,—*

**H**EREWITH I beg to forward 25c. for insertion of the enclosed ad. in January number of the REVIEW.

In answer to previous ads. in your paper I received letters from Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and Pennsylvania, and made a number of sales as well. The great extent of territory represented by this correspondence, reveals not only the value of the REVIEW as an advertising medium, but also the wide-spread interest that centres in the breeding of Bantams. I deem it a matter of regret that your Bantam Department did not receive the support it deserved, and which would have ensured its permanence. As a step in the direction of reviving it, I would suggest that the Bantam exhibit at the Ontario and other large shows be specially written up instead of receiving a curt mention as has previously been the custom.

Yours truly,

Ottawa.

E. F. MURPHY.

#### WHAT IS A THOROUGHbred FOWL?

BY H. S. BARCOCK, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

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**T**HERE are a good many vague ideas upon what constitutes a thoroughbred fowl, ideas which need clarifying by more precise definitions. Vague ideas generally lead to strange misconceptions, and these are sometimes harmless, though not infrequently harmful. It is worth while, then, for us to get a clear conception of what we mean by the term thoroughbred as applied to fowls.

To illustrate one of these vague ideas about what constitutes a thoroughbred fowl, and the bad effect that such an idea may produce, it is only necessary to refer to the treatment that some new varieties have received when first introduced to the attention of the public. Not a few have been denominated "mongrels," a term which is considered sufficient to condemn any breed or variety by those who do not realize its full import. But these same mongrels have persisted and have compelled a recognition of their thoroughbred character, triumphing over opposition and denunciation, if, indeed, such opposition has not really assisted them in their struggle for survival. But, had these parties who spent so much force in condemning the new varieties been better instructed in what was the meaning of the term, thoroughbred, they would have saved themselves much useless labor and eventual humiliation.

The term thoroughbred, has not anything, necessarily, to do with the question of origin. It matters not how a breed originated, whether from one or from many sources, whether it is what