PRESENTATION TO SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR

Faithful Services of Joe Fortes in English Bay Are Recognized.

Vancouver, July 22.—The swimming members of the Vancouver Athletic club last night presented Joe Fortes with a handsome gold medal as a small recognition of the splendid services Joe has rendered at English Bay and as the presentation was quite a surprise, Joe was more than delighted.

The faithful service and heroic rescues which Joe Fortes has achieved since he has been in charge of the beach, have so far gone unrecognized, but the boys who swim have great respect for Joe, and when some one quietly suggested that their appreciation should take some tangible form there was an instant and liberal response.

As a result, a handsome gold medal with a suitable inscription was obtained and meeting at the pavilion last night at 7 o'clock the swimmers went to Joe's cottage and caught the swimming instructor at supper. As the crowd filed into the room Joe gazed at them in amazement, and when the silver tongued orator who made the presentation got under way and told Joe how much he was appreciated by his fellow swimmers, the dusky instructor's face showed emotion.

By this time the news of the incident had spread along the crowded promenade, and a big crowd gathered and responded lustily to the call for cheers, and Joe declared that the ovation quite took him off his feet, so to speak, and left him without a word to say.

"I've always tried to do my best at the bay," he said with emotion, "and I shall try and keep that reputation."

WILL GRADE STREETS AT PRINCE RUPERT

Improvement Work Likely Before Lots Are Thrown on Market.

Prince Rupert, July 20.—The work of surveying the townsite of Prince Rupert goes merrily on, about a dozen engineers and men being employed. It is now stated that after the survey is completed at least three streets will be graded this fall and even before the lots are placed on the market.

As a further indication of the opening of the townsite this fall both of the large hotels owned by the Grand Trunk Pacific railway are now being furnished and thoroughly equipped for business. All the furniture for these hotels arrived here during the past few days and is now being installed, giving work to many idle men.

RAILWAY BRIDGES.

Winnipeg Contractor Tells of Work on C. P. R. and G. T. P. Structures.

Vancouver, July 22.—John Gunn, of John Gunn & Sons, railway contractors of Winnipeg, is here on business. His firm will shortly complete the contract for the masonry work of the C. P. R. high-level bridge at Lethbridge, Alta., on the Crow's Nest line. The structure will cost about $1,500,000. There are over 100 spans, the greatest height over the river being 318 feet, and the length one and one-quarter miles.

Mr. Gunn, who is a guest at the Hotel Vancouver, stated to-day that good progress has been made, considering that work was not started until last October. A few piers remain to be built. This, however, was greatly impeded owing to high water, the false work having been carried away, and seven engines lost in the bed of the river. The piers, however, will soon be ready for the steel superstructure, whose completion will occupy at least one year.

Mr. Gunn is also building the piers for the proposed Grand Trunk Pacific bridge across the Battle river at Hardisty, Alberta. This structure will span the river at an elevation of 180 feet. It will be half a mile long and will cost $500,000.

The same firm is installing a gravity water works system at Calgary, at a cost of $156,000.

TO PRESERVE FORESTS.

Efforts of Dominion Government to Save Timber in Kamloops District.

Vancouver, July 22.—An effort will be made by the Dominion government to preserve the forests on the mountains of the Kamloops country, so as to conserve the water for irrigation purposes. With this object in view, R. H. Campbell, superintendent of forestry, arrived in Vancouver yesterday and is a guest at the Hotel Vancouver. Mr. Campbell will in a few days meet Mr. Lemy, the Dominion government's forestry representative here, and the two will conduct a tour of inspection.

Mr. Campbell stated that though a great portion of the Kamloops district is used for grazing, the land there is excellent for agricultural purposes, provided the water could be properly conserved for irrigation. As, however, the indiscriminate cutting of timber is likely to ruin the mountain-top forests for the conserving of water, the government has deemed it advisable to appoint a competent official to manage the cutting of desired timber in a scientific manner. In some places it may be necessary to seed or plant, but whenever timber is cut in the future it will have to be taken in a manner as to leave sufficient trees for reseeding the soil and thus maintain the perpetuity of the forests.

Who will be appointed to take charge of these forest reserves is not yet known.

A frog's skin makes the thinnest and at the same time one of the toughest leathers that can be tanned.

HARVEST OUTLOOK IN VALLEY OF FRASER

Farmers Anticipate Most Prosperous Time—Crops Heavy in Most Parts.

New Westminster, July 22.—Reports from all parts of the Fraser Valley to-day are to the effect that a bumper crop will be gathered throughout the district this year, and that the season will probably prove one of the most prosperous the farmers have had for a long time.

The crops are heavy in most parts of the valley, and although the yield is not as large in some parts as was expected, yet if the harvesting weather continues fine the crop on the whole will be well above the average.

The Delta is not looking for a heavy crop, although the yield will be a good one. Haying is in full swing.

Surrey reports good crops, the recent rains having helped the grain and roots along wonderfully, while the hay is also good.

Langley will have a good yield. Fruitvale, a section of the district, has produced oats over six feet in height already.

Chilliwack will have one of the best years in its history and the farmers are making great preparations for the harvest and only unfavorable weather can prevent their expectations being fully realized.

Pitt Meadows are producing a heavy crop this year, too, while the neighboring district of Maple Ridge, which is famed for its fruit, is reaping a splendid harvest from strawberries to apples.

The only section that has suffered at all from high water is Sumas, but the damage has been slight owing to the fact that no grain or roots are grown on the undyked lowlands, which are the only portions flooded.

MINING REVIVAL IN SOUTHEASTERN B. C.

Strikes in Rambler-Cariboo, Hewitt and Vancouver Mean Activity.

Nelson, B. C., July 22.—Good strikes of ore have been reported recently upon the Rambler-Cariboo, the Hewitt and the Vancouver mines, while it is understood that the Whitewater mill is doing good work and is now making both lead and zinc concentrates. The latter especially is important, in view of the new zinc smelter now having its finishing touches put to it in this city.

Everything points to a considerable revival in mining in the district of southeastern British Columbia this fall and winter. There are more properties working than for the last year, and the shipments are being made at the rate of 2,000,000 tons a year, a larger output than any year since the institution of mining in this section of the province.

PROVISIONS WERE DUMPED INTO TIDE

Loaded Scow Is Wrecked on Skeena—Shipping in Prince Rupert Waters.

Prince Rupert, July 19.—McKenzie Bros'. steamship Henriette, which was delayed in reaching here through going ashore on a mud bank near Nanaimo, arrived on Friday morning with forty-three head out of fifty horses, belonging to Foley, Welch & Stewart, that were shipped by her from Vancouver, and which originally came from Kenora. She also brought up 100 tons of explosives, and a large cargo of sundry supplies and construction material, steel rails, trucks, etc., none of which was damaged.

While a scow loaded with supplies and material for Angus Stewart's camps near Telegraph Point, was being towed up the Skeena on Thursday night by the launch Elk, it struck a rock and grounded. As the tide fell the scow tipped, dumping between six and seven tons of provisions into the water, and badly damaging the launch, which was tied up alongside.

The D. G. S. Kestral came in Sunday from Banks Island, where she has been on the look-out for poachers, and anchored in the harbor. After securing a supply of fresh meat, she left again early Monday morning.

Captain Newcombe saw several American fishing boats, notably the Chicago, the flagship of them all, which is now equipped with the wireless apparatus, but none of them were found fishing within the three-mile limit.

The government hydraulic survey steamer Lillooet arrived on Saturday and anchored in the harbor. She leaves again on Monday to resume her survey work outside.

LET MOTHERS READ THIS.

You know it's impossible in the summer for the whole family to escape from cramps, diarrhoea and summer complaint. Better be prepared with a good remedy like Nerviline—it cures cramps in ten seconds, stops diarrhoea quickly, tones the stomach, aids digestion. For protection against all summer ills use Polson's Nerviline.

PRINCE RUPERT POST OFFICE.

Prince Rupert, July 20.—Portable buildings made in Vancouver for the post office here as well as other government buildings, have arrived at Prince Rupert and will be erected immediately on an ideal building location about half way between Vickarsville and Knoxville suburbs. These buildings were accompanied by a staff of carpenters to attend to their erection.

HONOR WON BY LAD AND DAD

VICTORIA RIFLEMEN WIN ALL IN SIGHT

Three Locals in Ottawa Team—Day's Shooting Proves Sensational.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

With scores of 92 and 95 in the St. Charles challenge shield, a total of 95 out of a possible 100 in the Lieutenant Governor's cup, with the top score in the winning team of the Fifth regiment, winners of the Laurie Bugle, in which his totals were 396, and with second score in the All comers aggregate, 396, Regimental Sergeant Major MacDougall earned all the honors that a glutton for shooting could desire at the Clover Point ranges yesterday, and also won his right to represent the province in the Ottawa shoot, at which he will have a chance to qualify for the Canadian Bisley representative team. In the latter honor there were yesterday two other Victorians who shared, namely, Staff Sergt. F. Richardson, and Co. Sergt. Major Caven who with Sergt. W. J. Sloan, New Westminster, Lieut. J. Cunningham, New Westminster, and Capt. Hart McHarg, Vancouver, will comprise the Ottawa team this year.

Reg. Sergt. Major E. MacDougall certainly earned top place in the shooting and it was certainly Victoria day at the Clover Point ranges yesterday. In the morning the slaughter of the winnings commenced with Sergt. Carr of Victoria getting the extra series, and was followed by the sixteen year old boy Trumpeter MacDougall making ten bullseyes and securing the Vancouver corporation cup. The afternoon slaughter commenced with the boy's father Reg. Sergt. Major E. MacDougall winning the lieutenant governor's match, getting second place in the Ottawa aggregate, and leading the Fifth Regiment team in its win of the Laurie Bugle, and making first place again in the St. Charles challenge shield for the winning fifth regiment team. The day was one of sensations and every one was generous with their congratulations to "Lad and Dad" for their great shooting.

Of the other marksmen the Victorians earned a well merited share of the money, Sergt. Carr got second in the lieutenant governor's match after winning the possible in the extra in the morning, Co. Sergt. Major Caven was fourth, Sergt. Major Caven gained fifth place in the all comers aggregate; and the Victoria team in the Laurie Bugle match beat out two teams from the Sixth Regiment, Vancouver, winning from the first of them by the narrow majority of seven points.

Of the visiting marksmen who shot well yesterday Lt. Cunningham of New Westminster gained third in both the all comers and the Lt. governor's cup and is of course in the Ottawa aggregate. He was also in the first of the two Sixth regiment teams from Vancouver that shot in the Laurie Bugle. Of the Ottawa aggregate three are Victoria men, two are New Westminster and the sixth is Capt. Harg McHarg of Vancouver.

The thirty fifth annual meeting of the B. C. Rifle association was thus brought to a conclusion auspiciously by the shooting of the Victorians yesterday and by general success of all the events which were during the three days carried off promptly and without one protest being entered for the match committee to adjudicate upon. The weather was good throughout and only for one day was the wind troublesome. The arrangements at camp were spoken of by the visitors as good and comfortable and the success of the whole meeting is admitted by every man who was present. The details of yesterday afternoon's shooting are as follows.

Lieut.-Governor's Match.

$20.00, medal and cup—Reg. Sgt. Maj. McDougall	95
15.00—Sergt. Carr	92
12.00—Lieut. Cunningham	92
10.00—Co. Sergt. Maj. Caven	92
8.00—Sergt. N. Sloan	90
6.00—Hosp. Sergt. Richardson	88
5.00—Lieut. Milne	87
5.00—Q. M. S. Lettice	87
5.00—Capt. McHarg	87
4.00—E. H. Gough	87
4.00—A. R. Langley	86
4.00—E. A. C. Studd	86
4.00—Sergt. S. J. Perry	83
4.00—J. M. Clark	83
3.00—Capt. G. A. Boult	83
3.00—Gr. A. C. Boyce	82
3.00—Col. Sergt. Maj. Nesbitt	82
3.00—F. J. Christie	82
3.00—Col. Sergt. J. Chapman	82
3.00—Sergt. A. J. Barwick	82
3.00—Sergt. W. Knott	82
2.00—W. Cuckow	82
2.00—Gr. W. Duncan	82
2.00—Tpr. A. McDougall	81
2.00—Sergt. C. R. Porter	81
2.00—A. M. S. Brayshaw	81
2.00—E. E. Johndro	81
2.00—Dr. L. J. O'Brien	80
2.00—Capt. R. Angus	80
2.00—Sergt. G. Turnbull	80
2.00—Sergt. R. Wilson	79
2.00—A. C. Taylor	79
2.00—G. M. Gartrew	79
2.00—Capt. J. C. Harris	77
2.00—B. Laughton	76
2.00—Sergt. M. Doyle	76
2.00—Corp. C. J. Heaney	76
2.00—W. R. Christie	76
2.00—H. Dunsdon	75
2.00—Mr. Hepburn	72
1.00—W. D. Goodfellow	72
1.00—Corp. A. Richardson	72
1.00—A. Lewis	71
1.00—R. W. Warden	67
1.00—Gr. G. Anderson	67
1.00—H. Miller	66
1.00—Mr. Wilband	65
1.00—Sergt. H. Crane	63
1.00—Sergt. H. Abbott	63
1.00—Sergt. N. Suffield	63

Ottawa Aggregate.

The following is the order of merit. Pries, badges and medals:

Sergt. W. J. Sloan, New Westminster.
Sergt. Major E. McDougall, Victoria.
Lieut. J. Cunningham, New Westminster.
Staff Sergt. F. Richardson, Victoria.
Co. Sergt. Major J. Caven, Victoria.
Capt. W. Hart McHarg, Vancouver.

All-Comers' Aggregate.

$15.00—Sergt. J. S. Sloan, New West.	402
12.00—S.-M. McDougall, Victoria	396
10.00—Lt. J. Cunningham, N. West.	396
8.00—Sergt. F. Richardson, Victoria.	396
8.00—C.S.M. J. Caven, Victoria	393
6.00—Capt. H. McHarg, Vancouver.	393
6.00—E. A. C. Studd, Vancouver	391
6.00—H. C. Chamberlain, Vancouver.	389
5.00—C.S. J. Chapman, Vancouver	385
5.00—Lt. C. Milne, Victoria	384
5.00—Q. M. S. Brayshaw, Victoria	382
4.00—A. R. Langley, Victoria	380
4.00—Sgt. S. J. Perry, G.M., Van.	379
4.00—Sgt. R. Wilson, New West.	378
4.00—W. Miller, Vancouver	378
4.00—Sgt. G. S. Carr, Victoria	373
4.00—Sgt. A. J. Barwick, Vancouver.	373
4.00—J. F. Christie, Vancouver	373
4.00—Sgt. G. Turnbull, New West.	372

SERGT.-MAJOR M'DOUGALL
(Fifth Regiment)
Who yesterday won the Lieutenant-Governor's medal, and will have a place on Ottawa team. His son, Trumpter McDougall, a boy of 16, won the Vancouver cup yesterday also.

3.00—Tpr. A. McDougall, Victoria	371
3.00—Capt. W. H. Forrest, Van.	371
3.00—Capt. G. A. Boult, Vancouver.	370
3.00—S. W. Bodley, New West.	370
3.00—Capt. W. Winsby, Victoria	369
3.00—Capt. R. Angus, Victoria	368
3.00—Pte. E. E. Johndro, N. West.	368
3.00—Gr. A. C. Boyce, Victoria	367
3.00—Q.M.S. Wright, Esquimalt	367
3.00—H. Burres, Vancouver	366
3.00—Q.M.S. Lettice, Victoria	366
2.00—J. W. Clark, Kamloops	365
2.00—Gr. W. Duncan, Victoria	365
2.00—W. Ralph, Vancouver	364
2.00—C.-S. C. R. Porter, Victoria	362
2.00—Sgt. M. Doyle, Victoria	360
2.00—Sgt. A. W. Taylor, Vancouver.	360
2.00—W. D. Goodfellow, Vancouver.	359
2.00—W. Luckrow, Vancouver	358
2.00—Corp. W. Humber, Vancouver.	357
2.00—Pte. B. Penny, Vancouver	356
2.00—C.-S. H. A. Brown, Vancouver.	354

Laurie Bugle (Team Match).

1. Fifth Regiment, Victoria—	
Sergt. Maj. E. McDougall	396
Hosp. Sgt. E. Richardson	396
Sergt. Caven	393
Sergt. Carr	373
Sergt. Lettice	365
Total	1,923
2. Sixth Regiment, New Westminster—	
Sergt. W. J. Sloan	402
Lieut. T. Cunningham	396
Sergt. R. Wilson	378
Sergt. Turnbull	372
Pte. E. E. Johndro	368
Total	1,916
3. Sixth Regiment, Vancouver—	
Capt. Hart McHarg	393
Sergt. S. J. Perry	379
Capt. W. H. Farrud	371
Capt. G. A. Boult	370
Pte. Penny	356
Total	1,869

St. Charles Challenge Shield.

Fifth Regiment, Victoria—	
Sergt. Maj. McDougall	92-95
Sergt. J. Caven	91-92
Sergt. S. G. Carr	86-92
Hosp. Sergt. F. Richardson	91-87
Q.-M.-S. S. Lettice	81-87
Sixth Regiment, New Westminster—	
Lieut. J. Cunningham	95-92
Sergt. W. J. Sloan	96-90
Sergt. Turnbull	97-80
Sergt. R. Wilson	94-79
Pte. E. Johndro	86-81

A meeting of the old and new councils of the Fifth Regiment Association was held last evening at the Driard hotel, Major Currie, the president, occupying the chair. Among the matters discussed was that of some changes in the constitution. A committee was appointed to draft a report on this question, to be submitted for general consideration as soon as convenient. Officers were elected as follows:

CO. SERGT.-MAJOR CAVEN
(Fifth Regiment)
Whose Shooting at Recent Meet Gave Him Place on Ottawa Team.

Patron—His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the province.

Vice-Patrons—The Premier of the province, the Mayor of Victoria, the Mayor of Vancouver, the Mayor of New Westminster, the Mayor of Nanaimo, Samuel M. Robins, Esq., H. Dallas Helmcken, Esq., the President St. Charles Condensing Company.

Representatives on Council of D. R. A.—The Hon. W. Templeman, R. G. Macpherson, Esq., M. P., Capt. H. H. Gray, R. O., Major J. Duff-Stuart.

Honorary President—The District Officer Commanding.

President—Major Currie.

First Vice-President—Major Duff-Stuart, Vancouver.

Second Vice-President—F. C. Wolfenden, Summerland.

Secretary—Capt. G. A. Boult, Vancouver.

Treasurer—Capt. R. Augus.

Programme Committee—Major J. Duff-Stuart, Sergt. R. Wilson, Staff Sergt. Richardson, Capt. S. Booth.

5,000 CURED OF HAY FEVER.

Instead of sending patients to the mountains, doctors are now prescribing "Catarrhozone." It relieves quickly and permanently cures Hay Fever.

All druggists sell Catarrhozone. Plenty to cure Hay Fever for $1.00.

POULTRY RAISING GENESIS OF INDUSTRY

By D. Pearley, Cedar Hill.

In view of the universal and increasing interest in poultry culture, and its growing magnitude and the earnest inquiry coming from everywhere concerning this pursuit, its principles and its profits, remarking the general unacquaintance among the masses with the fundamental facts and plainest principles that underlie and control this industry as related to, and assisted by modern science, we have thought it essential to success to place before the general public, the new-beginner and all who aire interested in any way in poultry culture, its underlying principles, the science and common sense that must control it. Without these our efforts are wrought out at random, and we are only in the right road when we are all crossing it, for, experience without intelligent guidance is blind. Without scientific assistance no one can forsee or shape the issues of his enterprise and cannot, therefore, wisely decide to engage in poultry culture with capital and healthy confidence, with the assurance of safety. The grandest mission of the daily newspaper is to educate the people, and through the columns of your excellent paper we propose to present certain facts and the philosophy that relates to the simple life, which if read and received in the spirit that prompts them will, we think, enhance the happiness, health and success of the poultryman and producer of fruits and flowers. We shall aim more especially to offer in clear and simple style the essential principles of standard and commercial poultry culture which shall place this important avocation upon a reliable business basis. We hope that the readers of the Times will be pleased and profited, and become anxious to assist in building up an industry which shall ultimately make this beautiful island famous not only for its flowers and fruit, but pre-eminently a paradise for pure-bred poultry.

Poultry culture, though carelessly conducted and scarcely ever studied or sustained by confidence or capital, is yet the largest, the most important and profitable of any single business product. Frequent failures attend the reckless attempts to build vast fortunes from this pursuit at once without capital, without experience or a just conception of what is essential to secure success. Still we affirm that no other avocation on earth will average a larger net return for the time and study, the talent and care and capital involved than poultry culture. We are certain, too, that there is no other known industry so little studied and with the plainest principles of which the people are so generally unacquainted. Wherever an incubator is operated in public and little chicks come tumbling over each other out of hundreds of eggs, it is marvellous to note the vast numbers of intelligent (?) people who constantly inquire, "How long it takes the machine to hatch?" and "How is it possible for the chicks to escape from the eggs without the help of the hen?" Poultry culture, as a scientific industry, is yet in its infancy, and the statement is almost offensive to people who are innocent of ideas, that study and science and principles are involved. In fact, the almost universal isdea is that poultry culture, like Divine Grace and the Christian virtues, is a thing highly wise and useful for women, but even then the men are opposed to giving it too much time and special study and under no circumstances must it cost anything. Poultry culture must have some capital, much confidence and more, intelligent energetic industry. The purspose of these plain, practical and unpretentious articles is to discuss impartially the principles of poultry culture—to submit a few facts drawn from study, statistics and experience in the interest of poultry culture as a profession, as a pastime, and as a bye-product—because the pertinent question comes up always, "Will poultry culture pay?" In other words, are there any safe and sane, clear and certain principles of universal application upon which the enterprise of poultry culture may be profitably prosecuted and enlarged to commercial magnitude?

Can the general principles for special selections for market fowls and for breeding for hygenic laws, for food, for the prevention and cure of disease, for proper mating and general management be confidently prescribed? Can ovulation in hens be augmented and urged and safely diminished or stopped? Are the principles of incubation fully understood? Can nature's entire operations in the delicate processes of hatching eggs by artificial process be plainly pointed out and all nature's requirements as completely met and success as certainly insured by the incubator as by the ancient, slow but time-honored system of sitting hens? In all we shall offer we shall aim to be honest and in everything we assert we shall state the reason why, for thus only are the reader and writer on an equal footing where all may see the force or folly of every idea.

Until within the past few decades the idea of poultry culture as an industry, as a commerce was unthought of, unknown and ignored; and even yet the prejudice prevails that in a measure bars the best results, that weakens the confidence of capital to its claims. But poultry culture is progressing. The poultry culture of my boyhood as compared with the present status, exhibits for the past a degredation that is almost comical indeed, a correct cartoon or caricature of the poultry of fifty years ago would be equally ludicrous and difficult to draw.

Until the past thirty-five years poultry raising was never attempted by men. The wives of a few farmers, more enterprising than the rest, were up the garbage, that a few fowls to eat upp the garbage, that were a mongrel mixture of all the endless varieties that had crossed up since the exit of their ancestors from Noah's Ark. These fowls, as I remember them, combined every conceivable shape and color. They had no abiding place and were taught by the terrors all about them, and by stern necessity, to retire to to forage in the fields, in the garden, roost on the fence or in the trees and on grain stacks and in corn cribs, and steal what they could from other well-fed stock. They were never fed. They annually increased by hatching from eggs they succeeded in hiding in the weeds and hedges, among briars and underbrush, behind old logs and stumps and in fence corners filled with smart-weed and dog-fennel. Their eggs were hunted by crows by day and by coons and other enemies by night, and thus these wild and wayward hens had a rough, romantic and cheerless chance.

Yet often, against all such odds two or three came creeping and clucking out of copse and chaos with a few little lively chicks which they were allowed to scratch for on the theory that her time wasn't worth anything. But once in a while an old blue hen with educated cunning beyond her kind, would elude all opposition and sheltered thus from the rapacity of all around her, this long lost, this ancient, earnest and finally forgotten old dominique would come out of her covert with a chick for every egg which she hazarded her life to hatch. In autumn when the weeds were thick, devoted thus to "nest hiding" and natural hatching, were the only serene, untarnished taste of pure repose and perfect peace that ever filled the soul of these energetic, earnest, gulleless, goodly hens. Nowhere else on earth may we find such examples of self-sacrifice, such care and caution, such energetic honesty, such patient, persistent fortitude and faith as these thus shut out from the world and self-concealed alike from friend and foe, was silently wrought out in worthiest life labors of this spontaneous, self-supporting barn-yard poultry of the past. They are all covered up by the ploughshire of civilized push and progress. Still for all the solace my youthful innocense found in their society, I feel I owe to their memory this recognition, this fearful, tneder tribute, this sad but fond farewell.

Such of this ancient stock as survived by the wild winds of winter—its piercing cold and ice and sleet and snow, and were not starved nor frozen on the roost, emerged in the spring with scaly legs and frozen comb, and with feathers full of vermin, and so out of order that seldom they succeeded in dusting themselves into shape, and gathering from grass and garbage nutrition enough to bring back the abused system to vernal action, to honest vital business before the first of April or May. These ancient farm fowls were much the same in every section all over the continent. They crowed and cackled and looked alike, they wore the same general complexion and were characterized by the same essential habits everywhere all over the United States of America from Maine to Mexico, and from Oregon to the Atlantic ocean. "One general slush of Nature's brush, Had made them all akin."

Their average weight at eighteen months was three to five pounds. They carried surplus fat, they fought for every favor, they took care of themselves from choice from the force of habit, from instinct and from necessity. They combined all conceivable colors from the brilliant long sickle-tailed cock to the curious creature called the "creepy," with very short legs, but above all, we had the sturdy old dominique, which finally became the basis in building our present "Plymouth Rock." These birds were thus bred for ages, forward and backward, and so long that each specimen stood for self and for the whole vast society whence he sprung. He represented no special "strain," which was the unknown, but the first casual glance revealed in the specimen an undisputed original, untarnished and duly branded barnyard bird. Thus everywhere chickens were tolerated or allowed to live but never bred nor fed, nor cultivated. If they yielded little as compared with later years their cost were nothing, and so the net profit of the old barn-yard poultry could be nothing less than one hundred per cent, but birds thus conditioned were really unfit for food, were worthy absolutely nothing, and so we realized a net hundred per cent on nothing. And yet my youthful ardor in their association knew no bounds. The partiality for poultry culture completely possessed me, and the flame of love engendered and still burns on warmly yet. It grew and developed and systematized and is yet a pleasure that is past understanding. Its personal cares, supreme over everything else is the one kind of labor I really love. Thus matters moved along until 1855, when an enterprizing Yankee from Massachusetts emigrated west and settled in Illinois. He brought amongst us the most marvellous creatures that the wild and tragic freaks of poetic dreams could picture. They were the most splendid specimens of the great invincible and voracious Shanghai. They were from China, the home of the Light Brahma and the Langshan, and thus we are indebted to China for all our big breeds of poultry, for the art of printing and for the Golden Rule. I went miles to see these giant celestials. At once they inflamed a furore all over the west that was only equalled in the eastern states when they came and where the so-called "Hen Fever" that had been raging for several years with all the force and dignity of an epidemic, until finally, as I have indicated, it reached the west, until the unsophisticated citizens of Illinois felt the infectious fever for the great fancy fowls. I need scarcely say we all fell down and worshipped this glorious bird of paradise. All offered any price for eggs, and soon pure-bred and high grade birds abounded everywhere. They were sent to relatives and friends and thus the impetus and improvement in poultry culture began and spread from Illinois all over the United States. The color of this early imported standard stock was buff, and differed from the modern Buff Cochin only in length of legs and block-shaped body. In other words, the stately, strong and sturdy Buff Cochin which I have bred as a specialty, is a lineal descendant from the far-famed Shanghai. He is cut down from his original altitude, spread out and yet condensed in every direction, grandly gilded and perfected in plumage and in short, bred up by a standard uniform rule to more consistent symetrical and useful shape. Later the great Asiatic birds, the Light Brahamas, which I am breeding now to perfection, were introduced, and soon these Asiatic breeds, as they are still called, diffused their blood all over the American continent. Their influence for good was felt at once in almost every flock of fowls, and thus there was awakened everywhere an extravagant excitement over the new-born business of poultry culture.

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