

appearance. The Langshan, as I before said, is from China, and looking at the two, one would wonder what makes them look so much alike, and still be different breeds.

Mr. Ludlow, the celebrated English artist, says of the Langshan:—"Langshans have full flowing tails, so also had the Cochins when first known to us, but it was decreed that they should be small; and, alas, how difficult it is after all our experiments, to maintain these artificial points. Notwithstanding all our efforts, the black leg *will* come in black poultry, whether we want it or not, 'tis natural, 'tis harmonious. The wings and tail, too, will speedily revert to nature, without our constant care and judgement, as too many of our weedy Cochins so often sadly prove. To judge this Cochins-Langshan business, comparisons at exhibitions are not of much avail; it's enough, 'tis true, to the practised eye, but the convincing test is to be found elsewhere. The *Standard Cochins* are sent to the shows, but the Langshan type are kept at home for either the spit or breeding *Cochins*."

GRIFFIN-P.G.

Woodstock, Aug. 22nd, 1882.

Mr. Bingham, of Bradford, writes:—"I have some very good Langshans, the birds that the P. A. of Ont. kicked out and branded as cull Black Cochins. Well, I have twenty-seven of them, and they are better than a hundred Black Cochins for table and laying qualities. I will make the Editor a present of a trio to offer as a subscription premium for the first to send in twelve new subscribers to the REVIEW for 1883, and whoever gets them will not regret exerting himself to secure the subscribers."

### Poultry at the Provincial, Montreal.

Editor Review,

I promised to give you the particulars of the poultry exhibit at the Provincial exhibition, held in Montreal in September. At the time I expected to see something worth writing about, but really it was the worst display I ever saw. There might have been twenty or thirty pens occupied, and perhaps as many pigeons. I will not attempt any description, there not being over half a dozen birds in the lot that should ever have seen the inside of a show-pen.

I must say to the credit of the judge, whoever he was, that he showed good sense in withholding prizes, as many of the specimens were totally undeserving of notice. The game display was the greatest farce I ever saw—particularly the Black-reds; only one entry. The cock may have been a Brown Leghorn trimmed, for aught I know, while the hens were about three-quarters Brown-red, the other quarter most anything. "Game, any other variety" brought out an old grey cock, a couple of

queer-looking specimens as hens, and about six or eight half grown chickens, all in one coop. The chicks were all huddled together in one corner of the coop, the "old grey" standing guard over them, and every time one of the cockerels showed on the outside he was immediately pelted in the most vigorous fashion.

They showed a new variety, the "White Pie Game." Perhaps some of your readers would like to get some of them. There were some very good ducks and geese.

It might be expected that this department of the exhibition would be a complete failure when the facts are known. I understand that the birds were required to be shown in trios, to remain five days, and be fed and attended by the exhibitor. This may be why Messrs. Nichol, Costen, Winfield, Scriver, Hall and a host of other good breeders in the vicinity of Montreal, were not heard from.

The poultry building on the exhibition grounds is very tastefully fitted with fine coops, and well arranged, but not sufficient light—however there was plenty on this occasion.

It is my humble opinion that an autumn poultry show is seldom satisfactory to either exhibitor or spectator as a whole. It is an impossibility to show fowls in September; the chicks, if early, may do very well, but the ragged, moulting old cock makes a pretty sickly appearance.

I learned from a friend that the display at the Toronto Industrial was very good. He also mentioned that there was great dissatisfaction with the judging. There always must be. The position of judge, particularly if he be a local man, is an unenviable one. I do not know who the judges were on this occasion, but have no doubt but that they discharged their duties conscientiously, and perhaps well. I think it a great mistake for poultry associations to employ any other than authorized judges—men who make it a study and attend to it as a business during the winter months, they first having passed an examination before the American Poultry Association, and receiving a diploma. There can be no question but what such a person is more competent to judge a show than amateurs. The very fact of the association making known that an authorized judge is engaged insures them a far greater number of entries. I am free to admit that I would much sooner send my birds to an exhibition to be judged by a regular judge than by any gentleman fanciers or amateurs. No doubt the latter would act honorably, and do the best they could, but in all probability many of their awards would be erroneous from want of experience.

I trust the Ontario Association will try this plan the coming year, and also the use of score cards. It is much more satisfactory to an exhibitor to