

You will have a nice, low bush with quantities of fruit, but not more leaves than are necessary. I found the tomatoes ripen quite as soon as when treated on my *single stem* principle: v. Journal for July, 1829; vol. 1. p. 44. The shoots from the *axils* which sprout after the fruit is set must, of course, be pinched off, as in tobacco growing. Two feet, each way, will be found sufficient distance between the plants. It will not answer at all, to let the bush grow as it likes for a month and then stop the shoots: it must be begun as soon as the flowers form. I think this will be found to be the best way of getting an early and plentiful crop. Liquid manure I should not use until the fruit was all set: it encourages leaves and branches. Much, however, as much as you please, with well rotted pig or cow-dung, working it into the ground, and replacing it with fresh, once or twice in the season: when the fruit is nearly turning colour, it can hardly get too much liquid manure. When the tomatoes are ripening, clean, dry straw should be put round and under each plant to keep the fruit from worms and dirt.

A. R. J. F.



Fig. 6. Low-grass.

POULTRY DEPARTMENT.

Under the direction of Dr Andres, Beaver Hall, Montreal.

EXHIBITIONS.

Some may think that it is a little too early to prepare for the shows of the coming year, but I think it better to do so now than to put it off to the last moment. Our Provincial Agricultural Society has announced an exhibition to take place in September. While I knew that it is not a favorable time to exhibit full grown fowls, because of the fact that they are just in the moulting season, it is a good opportunity to bring out early chickens, particularly of the smaller breeds.

It is none too early to make plans for breeding and raising better stocks than last year.

The breeding pens should be properly and carefully mated up, remembering the results of last year's work, where failures were made in so doing, with a view to improvement for the year to come. I simply desire to urge upon the readers of this paper to become exhibitors. If they strive to raise a large number of birds for exhibition they will take greater care of their flocks and, becoming interested in them, will constantly aim at a higher ratio of success each following year. Then, not only will the few birds that are placed on exhibition be put in the best condition, but the whole stock will be improved, not only in health cleanliness, and the consequent general good looks, but in laying qualities and condition for the table. At the same time, they themselves will become educated, and will help to educate their neighbors, in distinguishing the different qualities of the various breeds exhibited. Exhibitions, when properly conducted and well judged, are educators of the people who attend them, and should be thoroughly sustained, and every effort be put forth by the people of this province to make them a success. The exhibits of poultry this year should be better than that of last year, both as to number and quality.

Some breeders who raise poultry for sale never exhibit. Some are afraid of being defeated, and some will not incur the expense. They are afraid that there will be unjust judging, and that they will not gain the prizes they think are their due. Some prefer to advertise that they are "not exhibitors"; laying the flattering unction to their souls, that those who read their advertisements will think that if they did exhibit, they would carry every thing before them.

But we assert that these objections are not justifiable. Every man should know his own stock, and not fear defeat. Studying carefully the standard for poultry, he should learn to score his own birds. Those having good birds, if defeated by those having better ones, should bear it gracefully. They have shown their birds, and having had their names on the coops, it has been an advertisement for them; and if the prizes have been awarded badly, others will know it as well as themselves. Every exhibitor should be willing to do his part towards the common good of all; to make that successful which tends to the greatest possible advantage of the object to be benefited.

There is much to be learned in attending exhibitions; examining closely the birds shown, and reading the score cards, you will soon learn the points of good birds, and know in what way you may have made mistakes.

Make up your minds at once to enter your stock at the exhibition, and begin now to make arrangements for it.

Langshan Fowl.

Having received communications from several parties in regard to the above named fowl, we propose to give our readers in the June number of this Journal an illustration engraved from birds bred by Major Crood, the first importer of it into England.

D. D. Bishop in the *Poultry Monthly* says, in alluding to the fact that the bird had been called an improved Black Cochon:

"I suppose that I have made my share of fun at the so called Langshans. And I should repeat the same sarcastic expressions today upon the same specimens. If they had been fair repre-