

ing to that breed, and if it is true as charged, that the Cochin Club is attempting to lower the standard to a degree that qualifies every chick hatched to compete in the show room, then the Club is damaging the breed it professes to champion. But the writer cannot help sympathizing with the evident leaning of the Cochin Club towards the English Cochin type. The club encourages very heavy leg and toe feathering, extra length of feathers and massive build from the ground up. These characteristics are the distinguishing marks between the Brahma and Cochin types, and my ideal Cochin type is very near the type of the Crystal Palace winners. The removal of the disqualification for vulture hocks is all right. Vulture hocks are a necessity in the breeding pen, if we expect to keep up the heavy leg and toe feathering. The tendency is towards thin feathering and must be counteracted occasionally by vulture hocked breeding birds.

The reduction of weights may be a mistake, but it allows late hatched birds to compete under a cut for weight while the old standard shuts out all but winter-hatched chicks from competing at the early shows.

On the whole, we should say the Club's work is meant honestly and if it makes mistakes it does what we have all done and do almost daily.

F. M. CLEMANS, Jr.

#### TORONTO POULTRY, PIGEON AND PET STOCK ASSOCIATION.

THE regular meeting of the above Association was held in Richmond Hall on Thursday, May 14th, the President, W. Barber, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. Two new members, Mr. R. Atkins, and Mr.

W. Coulter, were proposed by Mr. Gray and accepted. Leghorns and Rabbits were on exhibition, and prizes awarded as follows: Leghorns, all prizes to D. G. Davies including silver cup for best pair. Rabbits, all prizes to W. Fox, who exhibited several pairs of very nice Lops, Dutch, Angoras and Himalayans. Judges, Messrs. Bennett on Leghorns and Messrs. Doty and Macdermot on Rabbits. It was decided to hold our next meeting first Thursday in June.

JOHN GRAY,  
Secretary.

#### GETTING TURKEYS READY FOR MARKET

A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

TURKEYS on the farm are rarely fattened in confinement. They are generally allowed free range, but at the same time are fed so liberally that they care to take but little exercise. The most approved fattening foods are—rice, potatoes, both sweet and Irish; maize in all its various preparations, the grain being given whole, chopped, fine-ground, scalded, boiled or fed raw; wheat, either cracked or left whole, cooked or given dry, with scalded barley or oats for a change. Of these grains, wheat, barley and oats are more properly called egg foods than heat-producing or fattening foods, especially when the whole grain is given; but to some extent they should be used, lest the fowl become unhealthy from eating too much corn. As an additional corrective for indigestion and bowel disorders powdered charcoal should be mixed with their soft or ground food twice a week. An abundance of milk, either sweet or sour, is also very useful in this direction—milk being fattening in its nature, and having a tendency to

keep the bird in good health as well as to render its flesh white, tender, juicy and delicate. When little exercise is allowed, some sort of gritty material, as sand or gravel, should be supplied to aid in digestion. Dust baths must also be provided for their use, and if powdered sulphur is generously sprinkled in the dust, the fowls will the more readily be enabled to rid themselves of vermin; otherwise the fattening process will be slow.

In our locality, the earlier broods of turkeys are generally made ready for Thanksgiving and the later ones for Christmas, much time being saved by marketing them in large lots; but of late years some poultry-keepers declare that the rush of dressed poultry at these special sales is so great as to cause depression in prices, and that the better plan is to sell either before or after the holidays. In fact, I have noticed during several seasons that the price of dressed turkeys per pound was higher at the beginning or very end of the season than it was at almost any time intermediate. So if one wishes to realize the highest market price, it is a good plan to get the older broods ready by the very first cool spell in the fall, and then to keep the later ones until after Christmas, when, the majority of the stock having been disposed of the supply is scarcely equal to the demand, and the price for that reason keeps good until the close of the season.

Wintering a flock of turkeys is not so expensive as one would at first imagine. During the very cold weather, when we expect them to be perfectly ravenous, they scarcely have any appetite at all, but stand about listless and stupid as though in a half torpid state. When the weather moderates then they get hungry again, but are never quite so insatiable as in the fall when they are making their most rapid growth. Still they are steadily