

IN AND IN BREEDING.

A correspondent writes as follows :

While visiting at a neighbor's I was shown the April number of the *Canadian Live Stock and Farm Journal*. On page seventy-five was a quotation from the *Massachusetts Ploughman* headed "The Origin of the brown Leghorn Fowl" by Mr. F. J. Kinney of Worcester. My neighbor did not wish me to cut his paper or would have done so and sent the piece to you as I would like very much to have your opinion on it. If his theory is correct we need not send to a distance every year or two to get new blood to infuse in stock to keep them from deteriorating and to improve them. Would you kindly look the piece up and give your opinion of it, by so doing you would confer a great favor on one of your readers. The article reads, "I bought on board a ship in Boston harbor one brown Leghorn cockerel and two brown Leghorn pullets, forty-three years ago, and they were the first brown Leghorns ever seen in the United States, so far as I have ever been able to learn. I bought them of the sailor who brought them from Italy. Those fowls were the same color as I breed now, but their bodies were small, and their combs and wattles were very large. I bred them several years in Vermont, and by careful selection, early hatching, etc., succeeded in increasing the size of their bodies, and diminishing the size of their combs and wattles. When I moved to Massachusetts some thirty-five years ago, I brought some of the best that I had with me; then I had never seen a Game fowl. We had there the old-fashioned Dominique and other mongrel fowls. Those brown Leghorns had red faces and ear lobes. Some ten years later I discovered a pullet with whitish ear lobes, and I commenced breeding from her, and continued until I had the first white ear-lobed brown Leghorns in America. I bred them in large numbers for many years, winning many prizes and selling birds for fabulous prices in every country in the world, except China and Japan. My brown Leghorns had, and have still, all the good qualities of the first specimens, *i.e.*, were and are non-setters and wonderful layers, with the advantage of weighing twice as much. I have never exchanged a male or a female bird in the forty-three years that I have bred them, and no person can show a more hardy stock of fowls than mine are, or more profitable." We think this question of in-breeding is one which oftentimes forms a stumbling block to breeders. In our experience with various kinds of live stock in-breeding is not injurious (from a size and stamina standpoint) when the original stock was perfectly healthy. It stands to reason that the offspring of fowls and other stock of which the parents are not hardy and in the best of health and condition cannot themselves contain these essentials to well-being. Destroy every weak-

ly and puny chick, use none but the strongest and hardiest in the breeding pens and in-breeding will not result in the deterioration of the stock but the very opposite.

MONTREAL EXPOSITION COMPANY.

The Third Provincial Exhibition will be held at Montreal, from Monday, 4th to Saturday, 9th September, 1893, inclusive.

"THE MINORCA FOWL,"

by Mr. T. H. Harrison, and issued from the office of the *Fanciers Gazette*, London, England, is one of the best shillings-worth we have seen. Chapters are devoted to origin and history, qualities, points and characteristics, selection of stock, mating, breeding, hatching and rearing, exhibition and other kindred subjects. Not the least valuable parts are the engravings given of combs, what they should be, and what they should not be.

THE ENGLISH *Stock-Keeper*

of May 19th says: "We have, this week, to congratulate the Right Honorable the Countess of Aberdeen, of Haddo House, Aberdeen—one of the most enthusiastic breeders and exhibitors that we have among our titled families—on the honor that has been conferred upon her husband by Her Majesty approving of his appointment to be Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, in succession to the Earl of Derby. We have before us the catalogues of many of our leading exhibitions, and find that Lady Aberdeen supported them well, sending last autumn to Birmingham alone no less than twenty entries. We are quite sure that all our numerous readers will wish her ladyship every congratulation on this great honor which has been so worthily bestowed upon her husband." We hope to see the Right Honorable the Countess of Aberdeen an exhibitor at more than one of our Canadian shows during her ladyship's residence in Canada, which we sincerely wish may prove happy and pleasurable.

AN ASSOCIATION IN PORT ARTHUR.

Mr. W. Fountain writes us: "We are going to try and form a Poultry Association here. There are several amateur fanciers here and in Fort William. I would like to obtain a copy of constitution and by-laws of the Association at Toronto, if you could procure one for me I would be very much obliged." Will the Secretary of the Toronto Association kindly oblige.