

The Dairy.

Cheese-Making in Gloucester.

In the regular Gloucester dairies the cheese is made thin—eight of them only weighing one hundred and twenty pounds. They are made twice a day. They commence at seven o'clock in the morning and finish about ten to eleven o'clock. In the afternoon they commence with the evening milk about five and finish again between eight and nine o'clock. These cheeses have a name in the cheese-consuming world as the famous Berkley cheese. They are rich and sweet, if made well. The makers of these are quite as tenacious of their reputation as those who make cheese worth from ten to twenty shillings per cwt. more money. Cows are kept more or less over the country generally, except on the uplands. The south and southwest around the neighbourhood of Bristol, are the coal meadows. The district is formed not the best in the world, from various circumstances; being in the coal district, the surface is uneven, and the enclosures small, as the farms also are. Besides, it is near Bristol, to which place hay, straw and milk are continually sold. *X. A. Willard's Letter from England.*

SORE EYES IN MILCH COWS.—The following enquiry is submitted to the Editor of the *North British Agriculturist*, by a correspondent:—"I have been very much troubled this last week with my milch cows taking sore eyes. The first appearance is water running from the eye, the ball of the eye is a little inflamed, then a white skin grows over the sight of the eye; some of them are slightly affected, others get entirely blind. I can give no reason for their being so seized, they appear to be in good health otherwise. Your opinion would oblige."

To which the Editor replies as follows. From sudden alterations in the weather, from cold winds, and occasionally from atmospheric causes which we cannot yet explain, colds from time to time appear alike amongst men and animals. Throughout a considerable district, numbers of horses, perhaps in a single week, will be seized with influenza or sore throat. In like manner colds come suddenly and without any apparent cause amongst cows. Sometimes the udder suffers especially, becoming hot and tender. Probably from similar causes, the eyes are attacked, as in the cases you mention. Possibly other herds in your neighborhood are suffering in the same way. Such ailments are sometimes popularly stated to depend upon "a blight." Often they disappear as suddenly and unexpectedly as they came. The best treatment for appearances such as you describe will be to keep your cows in the house or yards so soon as you find them to be failing; give them a dose of opening medicine, such as a pound each of Epsom salts and treacle, with two ounces of ginger, mixed up and dissolved in half a gallon of tepid water; bathe the affected eyes twice daily for fifteen minutes with tepid water; and when the eye gets hazy, or "the skin" of which you speak appears to obscure it, moisten it every morning with a camel's-hair brush, wetted with a solution made by dissolving ten grains of nitrate of silver in an ounce of water. If the cows are in a poor condition, a daily allowance of linseed cake will benefit not only the eyes but the general health."

Poultry Yard.

The Coming Provincial Exhibition, Hints on Judging Poultry.

To the Editor of the "CANADA FARMER."

Sir,—As the great Agricultural Exhibition is to take place next month, perhaps you will allow me to offer a few observations with relation to that essential but so generally neglected portion of farm stock, Poultry. In the old country, as they call it, Poultry Exhibitions have done wonders, to supply the market with first class poultry and why should not the same returns be found here? Even the handsome prize list of the Society fails to bring forth in many cases even respectable birds—a few hints to exhibitors of what the points &c., in the birds to be shown, may not therefore be useless at this season, the more so as a spirited farmer of Toronto has offered a handsome prize for the best pen of birds. A

just award will not be arrived at unless the points are particularly noticed by the Judges, and then it will be a most difficult thing to decide upon. The list begins with,—

DONKINGS, size essential—combs immaterial, but in birds in the same pen, legs white with good distinct fine claws—color is not important, but there should be no glaring contrast. Cocks with black, or black and white head, and tail light hackle and saddle. Hens slate color, ash cobweb speckled with brown and black any color but black and white.

POLANDS.—Black lustrous plumage top knots white as may be without trimming, close and compact, leaden blue legs, full tails, and straight even beaks—the cock and hen should have gills, but generally there should be no comb or spikes in front, beard or no beard I should with Mrs. Blair, give my voice against them. Gold and silver Polands must have spangled breasts—in the silver all the tails in the hen should be purely white, tipped with black. In golden birds the tail black and the tail covers black in the centre, but having rich orange shades on each side. The Judges will probably handle these birds as they are very subject to be crooked and hump-backed which would disqualify.

GAME.—Bright red face, strong stout beak, slightly curved, round hard body tapering to the tail; short, round, hard, thigh; stout leg; flat foot; spur low, near the foot; scanty plumage, but very hard; tail scanty, carried rather drooping than otherwise; head moderate in size, but fine, sharp, and snake-like.

COCHIN CHINA.—Large size desirable but not sufficiently important to hide defects; straight and upright combs, sharp heads; well clipped wings, ample fluff and well feathered to the toes, and short, very little tail made up of numerous curly feathers, that seem to roll over the back rather than stand up. The birds must match in each pen, and the white birds must have golden legs.

BRAMAH POOTRA.—Pea or single crest, breast black speckled with white, thigh black; hackle and saddle light; tail black, yellow legs well feathered, deep breast, very full hackle, the hens body should be delicately pencilled all over. In the light varieties the cocks and hens are alike, the tail and flight feathers black, and the hackle black striped, the rest of the plumage white.

SPANISH.—Perfectly upright comb for the cock, falling over for the hen. Thoroughly white faces, without mixture of red, perfectly black plumage, legs large and blue, size desirable not essential.

HAMBERG.—Double combs, full of points ending in a stout pike turning upwards, and fixed firmly in the head, not hollow in the centre, small ample tail, with feathers pencilled to the points, hackles spotted if possible, legs blue. In the spangled variety, the breasts should be well spangled, full black tail in golden and quite white, with a black point at the extremity of each feather in the silver birds and the hackle of the silver cock, should not be shaded or clouded as in the golden. Black birds should be of one colour.

CREVE COEUR.—Cock voluminous, body squarely built, short well seated on solid legs, back almost horizontal and standing but little towards the tail; thighs, legs, and wings, well developed; short limbs; very large head, topknot, whiskers, and beard; double comb shaped like horns, sometimes parallel straight and fleshy; sometimes joined at the base, slightly uneven, pointed and divided at the top, whisker very thick and beard very ample and falling below the wattles. Hens well shaped square body, topknot black, in a pullet whitish, in a hen after second moult beard, ear lobes, short and hidden, comb, and wattle short; should weigh 6 lbs. to 8 lbs.

SEBRIGHT BANTAMS.—Cannot be too small, free firm hackle and saddle, clear tails, and accurately laced feathers, drooping wings, full pointed pike combs pike going upwards.

BLACK AND WHITE BANTAMS.—Small close feathered, with long and full tails. The Black should have white ear lobes, combs, should all match in a pen.

TURNERS.—Should be as large as possible and all match in the same pen.

GEES.—Also, heavy; the White Embden, should have pale bills. Turkeys and Geese are generally, if perfect in other respects, judged by weight.

DUCKS.—Aylesburg ducks should be heavy with pale bills and orange legs, and white plumage. Rouen, as like the wild birds as possible and large as possible.

It would occupy too much of your space to go into detail as to the points of Pigeons, but I shall be most happy so to do if you require it, and I conclude by hoping these hints may be of use to younger exhibitors in the selection of their stock, which is my sole object in having trespassed on your valuable space.

I am &c.,

A POULTRY FANCIER.

NOTE BY EDITOR C. F.—We shall be glad to receive our esteemed correspondents' communication on pigeons. At the same time, we take the liberty of requesting him to write a little more legibly, and only on one side of the paper.

Veterinary Department.

Ringbone in Horses.

RINGBONE, as its name indicates, consists of a ring or circle of bony matter extending round the coronet. Most commonly it is laid down around the lower part of the large pastern bone, but in all bad cases the small pastern bone is likewise involved. The swelling is very distinctive, and can hardly be mistaken for anything else. It is hard and unyielding, and although at first occurring in separate points, it gradually extends round the sides and front of the coronet. Sometimes it passes downwards, implicating the lateral cartilages, and constituting sidebone. It is always apt to increase, especially when the horse continues at work on the road, and sometimes becomes of large size, interfering with the movements of the joints. Out of 150 ossific diseases in the region of the fetlock, Mr. Percival found sixty-three cases of complete ankylosis, including five of the fetlock joint, forty of the pastern joint, and eighteen of the coffin joint; whilst the remainder consisted of bony incrustations of various degrees of severity. When the horse is much used on the stones during the early development of ringbone, the fetlock is apt to become hot and tender, and the animal goes lame. In the large proportion of cases the bony matter, however, is laid down gradually without causing much pain or any notable lameness. A certain degree of stiffness is, however, usually observable. Whether causing lameness or not, ringbone constitutes unsoundness. As it is apt to be hereditary, animals with such exostoses should be avoided for breeding purposes.

Like most other bony deposits, ringbones generally result from concussion. When this is frequent or continued, inflammation is set up in the periosteum and underlying bone, giving rise to the outpouring of plastic lymph, which is gradually converted into bone. The jar is obviously greatest where the pasterns are short and upright, and underbred animals of such conformation furnish a large proportion of cases of ringbone. It is common in the fore limbs of heavy horses, and of high-stepping hacks and carriage horses; but it likewise occurs in the hind limbs particularly of the lighter description of horses. Professor Spooner states that horses with small feet are especially subject to ringbone. From a blow, tread, or other such injury, inflammation of the periosteum is sometimes established, leading, like the concussion of hard work, to bony deposits. When depending upon such cases, ringbone is apt to be confined to one limb.

A deposit of bone once formed cannot be removed by any treatment short of excision. When, therefore, an old ringbone has become hard and unyielding it had better be left alone, especially if it be free from tenderness, and does not cause lameness. Irritants may re-excite inflammation, and increase the evil. A ringbone of recent growth, in which the newly-formed deposit is yet soft and spongy, may, however, be greatly reduced by simple remedies. Any tenderness or heat should be combated by soothing measures, such as cold wet slabs, total immunity from work, a half dose of opening medicine, and laxative cooling diet. After a few days, when the parts are become cool, some ointment of the red iodide of mercury should be well rubbed in, and the blister repeated several times at intervals of a week or ten days. Firing is often resorted to, but has the disadvantage of blemishing, and is not more effectual than the iodide of mercury ointment. After the first days' rest, unless the limb is hot and tender, moderate farm work on the soft land will do no harm. When the horse goes to work, his shoes must be light and nicely fitted; whilst the jar may besides be somewhat abated by the use of leather soles.—*N. B. Agriculturist.*