

but nominal compared to the one they are breeding. For this time we will touch upon the Hens, and try and give an unbiased opinion upon them. There are two classes of those fowl, or rather they are divided into two divisions, termed sitters and non-sitters. All the large breeds are enrolled amongst the sitters, while the smaller birds are noted for their good laying qualities and have not much of a desire to sit or incubate their own eggs.

Among the large breeds to-day, the Langshan is the latest variety, and is claimed by all those who have bred them to be the best of all the Asiatic class. In plumage they are black with a glossy appearance on every feather. The cock is very leggy, often standing two feet in height, arrives at a good weight, has been known to turn the beam at 16 lbs.; comb, face and earlobe are a deep red down the neck beneath the jaw, the flesh is red like that of the turkey cock. The legs and outside toe are feathered, sometimes very full, sometimes very little; the wings are very small and not sufficient to carry him much of a distance while on the wing; the tail is also small, which makes the bird appear to have an unfinished appearance amongst small breeds. He is very docile and fattens rapidly, and is said to be an excellent table fowl. The hen (like the cock) is a raven black with feathery feet, but not so long of leg

#### Poultry at the Provincial Exhibition.

We have to record our thanks to the directors and managers of this institution for their generosity in giving this branch of farm industry so much attention this year. The old Machinery Hall has been converted into a show room for poultry. It is large and was neatly arranged; all the coops were filled with excellent specimens of the various breeds. We think there have been more fowls exhibited at some previous fairs in the city, but seldom have we seen a better show. This is the worst time in the year for showing poultry, just when the birds are "moulting" (or casting their feathers) and we are sorry to say that there are so many farmers that pay so little attention to this stock that they do not understand the fact, as they are often heard to remark when passing by some cages where birds are in the moult: "Did you ever see such specimens, or such hens as those; I could have picked up better ones in the first barn yard I come to." But for all this we presume that the farmers of Ontario would do well to breed such specimens.

On entering the hall our attention was attracted by two large white-headed eagles, perched up in a box of their own, which sat upon the top of the

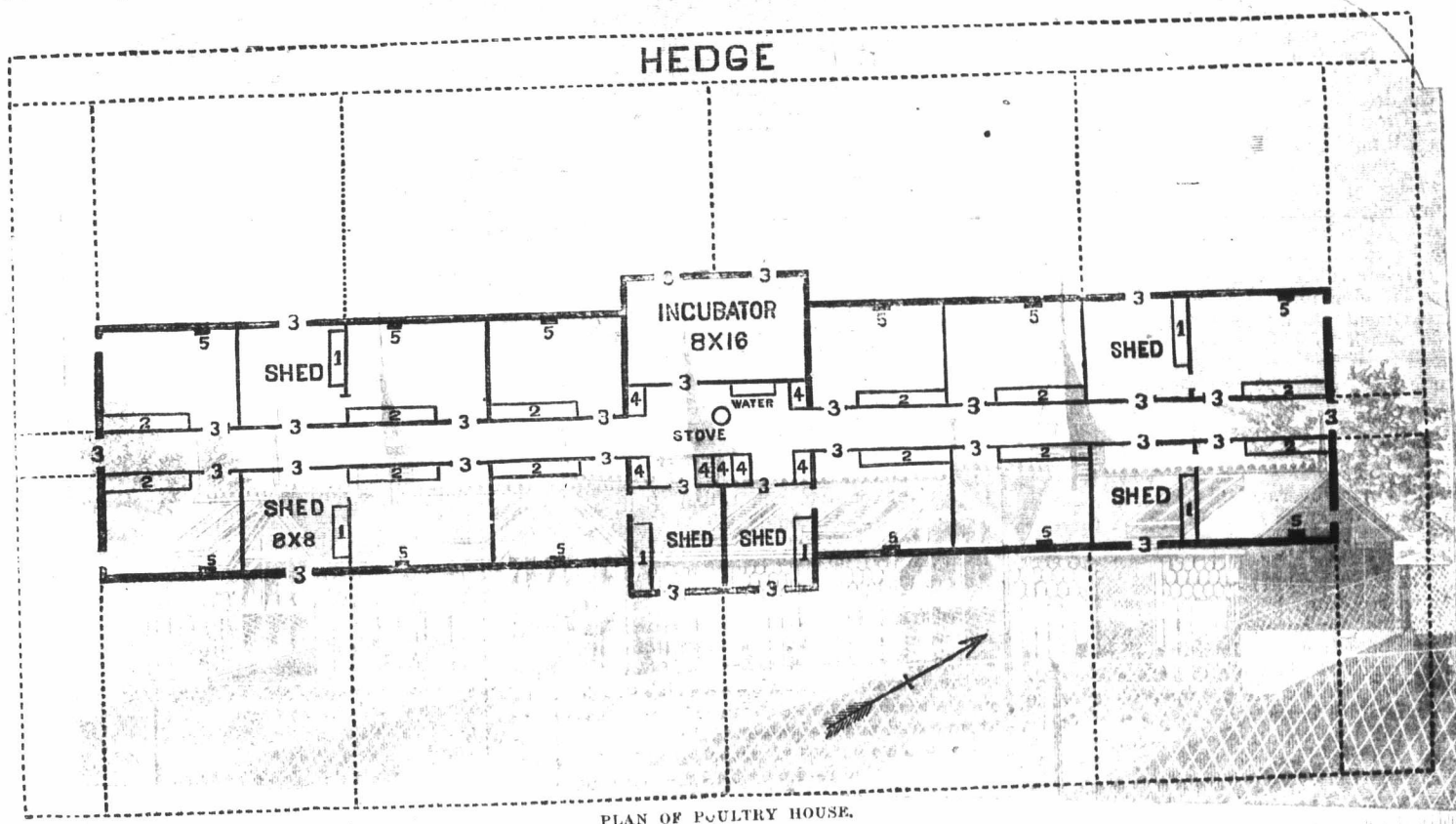
promised to well repay their keeper at no distant day with a good fleece of wool.

Taken in all, the poultry exhibit this year was a success, and should the directors of the Western Fair for 1882 favor the poultry with the same building and erect a few more cages, they will doubtless have a large and good show.

#### Vermin-Proof Poultry Houses.

Many are the ways and means devised to circumvent these pests of the poultryman, some being effectual, provided they are persisted in, while others utterly fail to accomplish the much desired object. When these pests, these insect enemies of poultry, once gain possession of houses and fowls alike, it is a work of time and patience to dislodge them entirely, and far more troublesome than to use measures at first to prevent them from coming, for prevention is far better and far cheaper than cure in this case.

When the breeder can afford it, it is a good plan to have the poultry house lathed and plastered



according to sex, will develop to maturity in about nine months, and begin to lay at that time if properly handled up to then.

She is a good layer of large rich eggs, of about 7 to the pound, and often 6 will make 16 oz.; but they are sometimes very long in hatching. I have known them to remain under the hen for 40 days, and then to bring out a healthy, well developed chick, which when first making its appearance from the shell is sometimes the shade of a canary, and often with light colored bottom and wing feathers. The hen will desire to sit when warm weather sets in, but she is not so determined as most other Asiatic breeds, being easily broken off.

(To be Continued.)

The excrements of sick birds are the principal means of spreading the cholera and the first step in stamping out the disease is, consequently, to destroy all which are voided yellow, urates and the bowel ejaculations, for the latter are frequently of a yellow color in health; but a little observation will preclude any mistake of this kind. The killing should not be by any method which allows the escape of blood, as this fluid is even more virulent than the excrement; wringing the neck is a quick and easy method of destroying the life. Once killed the bodies are to be taken beyond the limits of the poultry run and deeply buried.

show coops. They were noble birds of their species.

There were very few new varieties on exhibit this year; however, at the right side in the centre row of coops were arranged six pair of Langshans, and very fine ones they were. In the Light Brahma class we were very much pleased, especially with the hen in the first prize coop. We believe that it would be a hard matter to beat the same bird on the continent. The Cochins were out in full force, but from comparing coops it is easily seen that all breeders have not yet arrived at a conclusion as to style, shape, and color. We noticed but one pair of Houdans, and we thought they were worthy of their stand. Dorkins were only moderate in quality or number. Plymouth Rocks very few and not good. Hamburgs were plentiful, and there were some beauties amongst the number. Polish were good in some coops others only moderate. Spanish, few but good. Leghorns, very well represented; we saw one poor specimen of the black variety. Bantams were more numerous than usual. Very few Turkeys were shown; we think that they were not as good as at the Western last year. Geese plentiful and *par-excellence*. Ducks were well represented as to varieties and condition. There was a very small show of Pigeons, but those shown were good. Rabbits were few, but fat and slick. We noticed one pair of Angoras; they were young, and

smoothly on the inside, and then frequent applications of whitewash will serve generally to keep them from coming to stay, for the smooth surface of the walls offers no cavities for their lodgment. Such a house, too, is warm and comfortable in winter and cool in summer.

When the expense deters breeders from adopting the above plan, it is a good and cheap substitute to line the entire side of the house with tarred paper, which is manufactured especially for building purposes, and can be had and put on cheaply. This should be treated to frequent coatings of tar, which is very distasteful to vermin and very healthful for the fowls. As far as preventing the appearance of lice and mites, this tarred paper "felting" is ahead of any thing else we know of at present, while it has the advantage of being cheap and readily applied by any one. It gives a smooth finish to the interior of the houses, though many object to the dark color as well as to the smell of the tar. Be that as it may, its great usefulness should overcome such trifling objections to those of a practical turn of mind. We would here remark that old and foul nests and nesting boxes are regular hotbeds of lice and vermin, and no careful breeder will permit such evidences of slothfulness and neglect to find room about his premises, but will condemn them to the flames. Poultry Monthly.