

brotherhood and accepted: Messrs. Warrington, Benson, Todd, Frame, Smith and Thompson.

A motion that the President and those members of the Association who did their utmost to obtain the Ontario Show for Toronto in 1898 be tendered the thanks of the Association was carried unanimously. A vote of thanks was extended to Dr. Bell for his comprehensive essay on "Breeding Buffs for Exhibition." At next meeting an essay will be read by Mr. Dilworth on "Borrowing and Lending Birds for Exhibition."

The following varieties were on exhibition and all classes were well filled: Dark Brahmas, cock or cockerel, 1st and 2nd E. Stephens; hen or pullet, 1st E. Stephens, 2nd J. Brown. Black Minorcas, cock or cockerel, 1st C. W. Wood 2nd J. S. Carter; hen or pullet, 1st R. Durston, 2nd H. Warrington. Spanish and Andalusians, all to J. Yates. Black Red Game Bants, cock or cockerel, 1st F. B. Hawkes; hen or pullet, 1st F. B. Hawkes. Duckwing Game Bants, all to Wm. Barber.

The following varieties will be on exhibition at the next meeting, March 11th: Partridge, buff, white, and black Cochins, white and black Langshans, and Tumblers, Trumpeters, Pouters and Jacobins.

There being no further business to transact the meeting adjourned at 10.30. Receipts for evening, \$11.70.

R. DURSTON, Sec'y.

AN ASSOCIATION IN NORTH BAY.

It is gratifying to notice that the recent formation of a poultry association for northern Ontario, with headquarters at North Bay, in the District of Nipissing, has awakened a general interest in the poultry industry and promises to enlist many intelligent business men in the project. If the formation of this association should lead to the general adoption among poultry breeders in this territory the same skill and care that they devote to other industries the object of its promoters will be attained. That the poultry industry is capable of producing very satisfactory financial results when prosecuted under such conditions is proven by the success of many poultry farms now in operation in Canada and the United States.

Among the number in the vicinity of North Bay who have embarked in this enterprise with fair prospects of success should be mentioned Mr. Thos. McMurray. He is entitled to the distinction of being the first in this locality to give it the rank of a primary industry and to invest a large capital in providing the most approved facilities for its pro-

secution. It was the privilege of the writer recently to visit his establishment and inspect his stock of poultry and his methods of procedure. His hen house consists of a building 40x16 feet, built of cedar logs, chinked and plastered. The roof is composed of shingles, underlaid with board and tar paper, sufficiently high enough to afford an ample supply of fresh air secured by properly constructed ventilators. The building fronts southward, and is furnished with numerous windows, through which floods of sunlight and heat enter to the great comfort and delight of the occupants. It is divided into several apartments, affording conveniences for separating his varieties of stock during the breeding season. Surrounding it are extensive grounds bordering on the lake shore and covered with a plentiful growth of cherry trees which furnishes during the summer months a delightful shade for his chickens.

Mr. McMurray devotes his attention to the cultivation of two breeds only, viz.: S. C. brown Leghorns and golden pencilled Hamburgs.

S. HUNTINGTON.

SCRATCHING GROUND.

I HAVE got on to a scheme for giving my fowls fresh air and a good sun-bath every fine day, and as I have never seen it in poultry papers I give it now hoping it will benefit other poultry keepers as it certainly has me. Before the snow fell I had a good load of long straw drawn in, and spread on the ground in front of the house. After each fall of snow I have taken a broom or shovel and cleared off the straw as much as possible. The result has been that with a day or two of bright sun the snow has completely disappeared and the straw dried out enough to turn the hens on to it.

It is a pleasure each fine day to see them sitting around sunning themselves, and it is not necessary to drive them in as they go in themselves as soon as it gets cooler. I have tested this plan in regard to egg production and the result was that in two weeks I got one-third more eggs from two pens running out than I did from other two pens confined. Everything else being equal as near as possible. There is one thing however that must not be forgotten and that is to keep them always supplied with drinking water of the proper temperature. If this is done there will be very little snow eaten by the fowl. I have also found that this plan gives me a very large percentage of fertile eggs. If desired the straw can first be used inside until it becomes damp when it may be thrown out. Try it and you will find that the sun will keep the top perfectly dry.

FRANK J. BARBER.

Georgetown, Feb. 19, 1897.