

birds so that they are not fit to go into a show pen until they have moulted.

Another correspondent adds:—Allow me to state in reply to Mr. H. Allsop's very useful hints, that I always used cod-liver oil for my pigeons when going light. It is done up in "capsules," which prevent the feathers becoming greased. The birds take the capsules very easily; they are to be procured at any London (England) chemist's for a half-penny each, or one shilling per box, of thirty-six. They should be put in cold water for about half a minute before giving them to the birds, being rather large they slip down better that way. One is quite enough for a dose, two in extreme cases.

---

## Our Letter Box.

---

**MATING FOWLS FOR SEXES.**—(*J. R. R., Ontario.*)—In this case experience is the best teacher, no book we have yet seen treats on this subject, but an article on sexes, will be found in No. 6 of the present volume of this journal. If two brothers are placed with six sisters in two separate pens, it is fair to suppose they will breed alike in both pens. By brothers and sisters we do not mean cocks and pullets should be brothers and sisters, but, if they were they would of course produce the same result. Fanciers who understand it, breed sexes separately by mating according to that they wish to produce. It is simply nonsense to endeavour to produce sexes by choosing eggs of certain shape or size; there is no doubt however that the earliest eggs produce more cocks than the later, and they will be more like the cock than the pullet.

**NUMBER OF DUCKS TO ONE DRAKE.**—(*S. M., Toronto.*)—Three ducks to one drake is the proper run—some people put more,—but then the certainty of young ducklings is not so great. It does not always follow that because you have a greater number of eggs that their produce will be in proportion.

**BRAHMAS AS LAYERS.**—(*Amateur.*)—The Brahmas as layers are really first-class, and we class them among the most useful of fowls. They are good layers, good sitters, and good mothers. We have bred them largely for several years and they have never disappointed us. We do not keep them until they are worn-out birds, indeed seldom after they are two years old. If they have a good run they do not

require very much feed, but if kept in confinement they ought to be plentifully supplied with the helps they pick up when at liberty.

**HOUDANS.**—(*Beginner.*)—Houdans are better layers in the Fall of the year than in the Spring. As a table fowl they are excellent, they are fine in bone and when put to fat lay on flesh very rapidly.

**LIGHT BRAHMAS HATCHING.**—(*L. J. F., Ontario.*)—Light Brahma fowls are not more inclined to sit than any others. All sitters take to their nests when they have done laying—the system requires rest and it is quite natural they should have it. If broody hens are objectionable, let some other breed be kept—Spanish, Hamburgs, Houdans, Creve-cœurs, are all non-sitters.

**CROP-BOUND FOWL.**—(*Amateur, Ottawa.*)—When food becomes solid in the crop and hard to the touch, then a fowl is said to be crop-bound, when in this state all the functions of the body cease and the bird soon dies. You had better administer warm water frequently and manipulate the crop gently until it is softened. As soon as it seems to be liquified, you may hold the bird up by the heels, and let the food run out of his mouth. Then continue the process until he is lively and empty. After the crop is emptied you may give him a tablespoonful of castor-oil.

---

## Advertisements.

---

**THE AMERICAN STANDARD**  
of EXCELLENCE and SCALE of POINTS in  
EXHIBITION POULTRY, certified correct by G. H.  
LEAVETT Esq., Secretary of Convention.

AL-O, contains treatise on diseases of Poultry  
which is alone worth the price of the book.

Price 50 cents.

A. M. HALSTED,  
Box 23, Rye N.Y.

**FIRST CLASS EGGS FROM**  
cup and prize Poultry for sale. Price 10s. 6d. per  
dozen. Varieties as follows:—Golden Spangled,  
Silver Spangled, Golden Pencilled, Silver Pencilled,  
Black Hamburgs, Black Red Game Bantams.

Cups and prizes won during the season 1871, at  
the following shows, viz., Whitehaven, (Cumber-  
land); Otley, (Yorkshire); Bedlington, (Northum-  
berland); Thorne, (Yorkshire); Spalding, (Lincoln-  
shire); Boston, (Lincolnshire); Warrington, (Lan-  
cashire); Littleborough, (Lancashire); Kewley,  
(Yorkshire); the Crystal Palace, (London); Birming-  
ham, York, Edinburgh, &c., &c.

As the supply is limited all orders will be attend-  
ed to in rotation. Carriage paid to Liverpool.

All orders, to be accompanied by a remittance,  
payable to

MR. JOHN ROLLINSON,  
Otley, Yorkshire.

**DARK BRAHMAS.**—A FEW  
pairs of Dark Brahmas for sale, from im-  
ported English eggs. Apply to MISS M. ELMORE,  
box 23, P. O., Toronto.