

difference between the prices at which he buys in the summer plus his warehouse bill and interest charges, and the price he gets.

So far no one seems to have taken advantage of the possibility of getting up a corner in chickens, butter and eggs, though there is an exchange at which there is expensive speculation. A man can contract for 1000 pounds of February butter, just as he can go to the Produce Exchange and contract for February wheat, or to the Consolidated Exchange and buy February petroleum. However, there is slight danger of corners. Occasionally one man tries to carry too much and fails, but where he agrees to deliver future eggs and chickens he usually has them in this cold storage warehouse at the time, and makes the price based on the market quotations of that day and the storage charge.

The banks look more favorably from year to year on this kind of collateral, for they have had few losses. The market quotations are usually toward the increase of the value of the security, as the prices always rise from summer until spring. There is no danger of a bear raid which will smash prices and make the collateral worth less than the face of the notes. The products are easier to sell than real estate, and practically almost as easy to market as standard railroad securities.

It may be well for some one to point out to the farmers who are in the habit of railing at New York banks and capitalists that if no one would loan money on butter, eggs, chickens and small farm products, only so much of these could be carried as the individual capital of the produce men would permit, and prices in the summer would be much lower. The fact that the New York banks will loan money on these products prevents the low drops in price that used to come every summer at the expense of the farmer. It also lowers the price paid by the customers in the city during the winter, for all the farm products stored in the summer and fall have to be sold during the winter to prevent their running into the lower prices of the next summer.—*New York Sun*.

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.....As old geese are better layers and mothers than young ones and young geese are always in demand in the markets a poultry man finds it will pay to keep the old ones, as they are prolific for twenty years.

THE CORNISH INDIAN GAMES.

H. S. BARCOCK, IN RELIABLE POULTRY JOURNAL.

The Indian Game fowl has been long enough in this country to enable us to gain a practical knowledge of its merits and demerits. We have not now to depend upon the rose colored views of its self-constituted special advocates, nor upon the less trustworthy statements of its enemies. We can guarantee information from many sources, and from that information obtain a more correct idea than was at first possible.

In 1887 Mr. H. P. Clarke, of Indianapolis, and the writer of this article, independently of each other, imported Indian Games into this country. Two years later, in 1889, Mr. George F. Whitfield, of Drayton, England, sent a pen of Indian Games, consisting, as I remember, of a cock, one hen and two pullets, to the exhibition at Buffalo, N. Y. These birds were the stock that afterwards passed into the possession of C. A. Sharp & Co., of Lockport, who named the cock "Agitator," and one of the females "Lady Whitfield." In 1889 Mr. C. A. Bowman of Elmira, N. Y. also imported some Indian Games, and the writer made a further importation. The year 1890 was the great year for importers and importations of Indian Games. Messrs. Sharp, Bowman, Arnold, Webster and others engaging in the business.

From this brief review it will be seen that it is but a little more than six years since the first Indian Games were imported into the United States, and that the greatest importations were made as late as 1890. But birds from the first importations were bred so that in 1893 the Indian Game was distributed to all points of this country. The writer has himself sold the fowls as far west as our country extends, as far south as Mexico, and at almost innumerable points between. From many of his customers, as well as from his own personal experience he is able to present what he believes to be the facts in reference to this fowl.

In breeding to color the fowl at first presented not a few difficulties. The imported birds varied in both ground color and marking, and some strains of them were very much affected with white in wings and tail. But the breeding to color has become more and more satisfactory each year and flocks are

growing more and more uniform as time passes. The Morenthal birds were peculiarly exempt from white, and this blood has proved of great value in giving soundness of color to other strains.

Combs still are far from perfect. The Frayn strain, of which the Whitfield is an off-shoot, produces much poorer combs than the Morenthal strain. Suffolk Prince, a straight Morenthal bird, I believe, or else a bird produced by crossing a Morenthal cock on the Frayn hen, was an excellent bird in respect to comb, and has begotten many good combed birds, as did his sire and many of his brothers in my own yards. But he who dares to claim for the Indian Game a very perfect comb, is either inexcusably ignorant of the facts or is extremely parsimonious in the use of truth. Still the combs are, I think, improving, and better—much better—combs are now bred on the average than was the case three years ago.

The size has remained about stationary. We can raise big cocks, but the hens run comparatively small. We get some heavy hens, especially when they are two or three years of age, but the pullets are not so heavy as we fanciers should like them to be. The difference in the weight of male and female in this breed is much greater than it is in nearly every other breed. For the practical poultry man, this is a really desirable condition of things.

The majority of the males eventually will be slaughtered and the increased size makes their carcasses more valuable. The smaller size of the females makes their keeping more economical and the majority of them will be kept for breeding purposes. Thus, there is a nice adaptation to the needs of a raiser of market poultry. No special trouble has been found in rearing, keeping or managing the Indian Game. Given the same care as Plymouth Rocks they have been as easily reared and managed. There will be in every breed an occasional ugly tempered specimen and the Indian Game is no exception to the rule. I have bred a few such brutes among the Indians I have raised, but no larger a percentage than among other breeds.

As a table fowl the Indian Game has more than proved all the claims made for it by its most earnest champion. It has the meaty body, the color and the quality that make it take a place ahead of anything we have had in this country. The Dorking closely approaches it, but the Dorking fails in color and is withal a less hardy fowl. No fowl ever left a