

of the broad principals of the fancy and discuss them.

True, there are societies in our cities, which hold regular monthly meetings, but while these may be very useful, after they have done all that is possible for them to do, their efforts can have only a local influence, from the nature of the organization.

What we want is a representative Dominion Poultry Association, at the deliberations of which each society would have one or more representatives, according to its membership. With concurrent action among all the societies, there need be no difficulty in organizing such an association. We would suggest that a few of the leading fanciers take the initiative, and communicate with the officials of each society, inviting co-operation, and the election of representatives. Action could be taken at the annual meeting of each society, and if the movement should be successful, a meeting should be held at some central place, to be afterwards agreed on, for organization. Once organized, there should be no difficulty in continuing it in active and useful existence. Representatives could be instructed on their course of action on important questions, by a resolution of the fanciers assembled at the meetings of the local societies. The question of finances might present some difficulties, but none, we believe, which could not be surmounted.

There can scarcely be any two opinions as to the benefits of such an association. It would tend to make the fanciers of the different provinces better acquainted with each other, and link them in closer bonds of friendship. It is a notorious fact that they are now less known to each other than their American cousins. This extension of acquaintance would produce a material harvest of profit, in the development and increase of inter-provincial trade. Fanciers would begin to discover that in very many instances, they could import birds from the sister provinces quite as profitably as from the United States.

At the annual meetings matters of interest could be discussed, and the association being representative in its character, every fancier would be interested in its deliberations. Hence its decisions would carry greater weight, and be more generally received as authoritative. Much might be done too to secure greater uniformity in the rules and regulations of the different societies, and it is needless to point out to what an extent this would facilitate the labors of officials, harmonize the machinery of poultry shows, and conduce to the convenience of exhibitors. At the meetings there should be papers read and discussions on subjects of importance, at once concentrating the results of the previous year's experience, and constituting a

land mark by which to estimate yearly the progress of the poultry and pet stock interests. These transactions would form a mass of information of great value to beginners, and even to more experienced breeders. The subject of a Standard of Excellence for the Dominion has already been referred to in our columns, and it is evident that if ever we are to have such a Standard it can be most easily and satisfactorily established through the medium of such an association. Finally, not to mention other advantages, is there not something more than mere sentiment in the idea of a grand confederation, uniting in one whole the separate provinces of our Dominion? At present the poultry societies of different provinces—nay more, of different sections of the same province—remain as far apart as if they belonged to separate and distinct nations. Why should this continue? Why should not fanciers act on that principle of deriving strength from union, on which our present system of government has been founded? The letters of our Halifax friends, which not long since appeared in our columns, show that the fanciers of the maritime provinces are ready and anxious for such an association. We trust their brother fanciers in the other provinces will consider the matter of sufficient importance to extend a helping hand, and by concentrated action secure an object which all must acknowledge to be highly desirable.

Cull Early.

Just as soon as the mother hen ceases to brood her chicks they should be culled. Those that give promise of making fowls good for breeding or exhibition should be placed in one yard, and those that may be disqualified, or the culls, in another. The former should receive the best care that can be given them to develop their fine qualities, the latter should be forced along to the greatest size attainable, and slaughtered before they commence to drop their chicken feathers, or in the stage of growth when known as broilers. It will not pay the fancier with limited space, and who has to buy all the food used, to allow his birds to come to maturity before slaughtering. The farmer who has plenty of room, and can allow his fowls to forage, will find a profit in keeping them until fully developed, and to him should be left the business of supplying the fall market.

With some varieties it may be impossible to cull satisfactorily at such an early stage, when it may be postponed for a term, but the earlier the culling process is commenced the better for those remaining, the fancier being able to give them more room, and better attention.