

that nature when left to herself entirely disproves such theories. A year ago last August a gentleman bought a Plymouth Rock cockerel and pullet at my annual auction sale. They were brother and sister. From these two he raised twenty-two chicks, and out of this number there were *twelve exhibition birds*, and *ten* of them are the finest I have ever seen. The whole flock, including the original pair, are now in my possession.

I have always believed in in-breeding to a certain extent, but not to carry it too far. If one has a perfect strain of birds mated for fine points, the blood should never be mixed. It is very easy to breed from two or three pens, and the next season mate them together, and so on. Once bring in strange blood and the result of years of careful breeding is destroyed. We have only to turn to nature to prove this assertion. Do not wild birds breed together indiscriminately in-and-in, and where will you find such true breeding to feather?

I have given the result of this *close breeding* for the benefit of your numerous readers. Mr. Ball, of Richmond, has seen the whole of the birds, and can vouch for the truth of my statement.

Yours truly,

W. F. JAMES.

Sherbrooke, P. P., Nov. 6th, 1882.

Seasonable Hints.

The fine weather of this Fall has been very favorable for poultry breeders, and has given the stock a chance for out-door life they do not often enjoy so late in the season in this latitude. The careful fancier will have all his arrangements made for the care of his stock through the frost and snow of the next four months, and will be thinking of commencing preparations for the winter shows.

ROUP

should be a comparative stranger to the flocks this fall, as the most fruitful cause of its prevalence—cold, damp, windy weather—has been absent; but where it has appeared it should be stamped out at once, before the fowls are put into close quarters. Those affected should not be housed with the others. The poor specimens should all be killed and buried deep, and the valuable ones, supposed to be curable, should have comfortable quarters, well ventilated but free from drafts, and immediate treatment. There are a great many remedies for this disease advertised in poultry papers, and a couple in Review at the present time, both of which we are assured by several who have tried them, to be good; and any rate the standing of the parties offering them should be some guarantee of their efficiency. The only remedy that we can speak of from experience is the following: 1 ounce

strong vinegar, 1 teaspoonful pulverized alum, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful sugar of lead, all put into a vial and kept well corked; clean out the nostrils of the bird by squeezing or pressing down on them with the finger, and also clean out the cavity in the roof of the mouth; then drop two or three drops of the preparation into each nostril, and let it run into the head; rub it well around the eyes. Repeat three times a day until well. After the disease gets a good foothold, unless the bird is a very strong one, it is almost useless to work with it, and in no case is it of use to attempt a cure if the conditions which caused the disease still remain. If the birds are left to roost in drafts, or rains beat in on them, a cure will never be made, but if the quarters are comfortable, and the fowls have a good constitution, roup, if not of a very severe type or long standing will give way before very simple remedies.

CLEANLINESS

must now be observed. Not only is this necessary for the health and comfort of the stock, but in order that the plumage may not become soiled. It is impossible to wash fowls and make them look anything like so well as those that have been kept clean. A deep bedding of cut straw, hay, leaves or chaff to scratch among, will be found just the thing to keep the feathers in good order, and a dust-bath of clean, fine sand will enable the birds themselves to remove from the plumage a great deal of the matter that soils it. This dust-bath should be large and deep, so that the fowls will not break their feathers by crowding in it; it should be placed in the sunshine if possible. As a matter of cleanliness the roosts should have a wide shelf a few inches below them to catch the droppings. This will not only keep the litter on the floor free from much filth, but the birds will not be fouled by those above them.

When iron is used in the drinking water for white fowls some means should be used to prevent the wattles from getting into it, as the drippings from these discolors the breasts of the birds. A good plan is to have the opening of the drinking dish so narrow that the wattles will hang on the outside when the bird is drinking.

Evidently the poultry interest in this country needs to be promoted, at least as far as the production of eggs is concerned. During the last three months we imported 3,336,246 dozen eggs, valued at \$465,564. It would seem as though hens enough ought to be kept, and well kept, to supply all the eggs we want at all seasons.—*Detroit Commercial Advertiser*.

One more number completes the fifth volume of Review.