

THE EXCELSIOR WIRE AND POULTRY SUPPLY CO.

A big New York concern intend catering to Canadian business and their announcement may be found in this issue. Catalogues may be had free on application to them.

PAISLEY ASSOCIATION.

On behalf of the Association I write to inform you that an Association known as the Paisley Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stork Association has been formed in Paisley. It starts out with twenty five members, nearly all boys. All the officers with the exception of one are boys and we are booming things along. We charge ten cents as a membership fee and intend to have a show some time in March. We are going to canvas the town for special prizes and cash donations and expect to succeed in getting quite a lot. We meet every Thursday night in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Paisley, when we have a question box, read essays, readings, give speeches, etc. We have only had three meetings and are getting along finely. As I said before, we are nearly all boys, with the exception of a few men. We can not expect to do great things at present, but we hope to soon. I will give you the list of officers, we are all but one under 21 years:—Hon. President, J. Nelson; President, K. McKenzie; Vice-President, F. Rayner; Treasurer, D. Fraser; Executive Committee, J. Thompson, G. Quayle, R. Dewar, H. McGill, E. Hay. P. H. HEAD, Secretary.

SOLD ALL HE HAD TO SPARE.

My ad. in December and January numbers paid me well for I sold all the fowls I had to spare, and could have sold more if I had them. I like the REVIEW for through it I can always dispose of my fowls and learn where to buy the best. Wishing you all sorts of success. Yours truly, N. A. Loucks, Dresden, Ont.

BUFF ROCK CUT.

Mr. Essex writes:—In the illustration of my buff Plymouth Rocks it will be noticed that the photograph was taken during a snow fall. The light was by no means good and the birds were inclined to crowd together for warmth. The engraver has made it appear that the pullet Toronto Lady won first prize at the Ontario show. This is incorrect, Ontario Girl won first as hen, and the note should have been placed under her name. The cockerel Shapely is the best shaped male I have yet produced, he looks squatty in the picture, as he carries his head down on his shoulders by reason of the cold. He is a dark bird of good undercolor, high on his legs. He will make a big bird which in my

estimation is the chief point in this breed. The hen Toronto Miss had clear buff wings and tail when a pullet. These are now slightly pencilled; under colour good; surface even. She won first as pullet, Ontario, 1896, second as hen at Toronto, 1896, and second at the recent Ontario show, beaten in each case by one of my own birds. She is a very large bird, over standard weight. The pullet Toronto Lady is a daughter of Toronto Miss and 1st Ontario cock 1897. She resembles the hen in shape, and will be even larger. Follows her sire in color, light buff, wings and tail clear buff. The hen Ontario Girl will weigh over 8 lbs. She won first at the recent Ontario show. Good even light buff, except tail. She is hidden in the illustration, behind the pullet.

SHALL WE USE INCUBATORS?

THE DISADVANTAGES.

BY H. S. BABCOCK, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

THE first disadvantage may be reckoned as the cost. A good incubator, and no other should be considered for a moment, costs something. Twenty-five to fifty dollars must be invested in the machine, with ten or more dollars in brooders, if an incubator is to be used, and the interest on this sum, together with the depreciation of the machine, will do considerable hatching by hen-power. Unless one intends to rear more than one hundred chickens annually it is not advisable to invest in an incubator.

The second disadvantage is that no incubator will hatch as many chickens from a given number of eggs as trusty hens. We say this, after using incubators for a number of years and some of the best machines made. We very well know that this statement is liable to be disputed, but we speak only from our personal experience, and this experience declares such to be the result. We remember reading in one of the articles of Mr. Rudd, the Orrocco Poultry Farm writer, a statement to the same effect. It has happened probably that in some tests the machine has beaten the hens, because the hens were not trusty. But when both work well and at their best, we have the greater confidence in the hen.

A third disadvantage is the danger of receiving no results whatever from a machine full of eggs. By some accident the eggs become overheated and the germs destroyed, or the lamp goes out and lack of warmth destroys the embryos. Such accidents ought not to occur, and would not with good machines, if the operator were always faithful to his duties.