

a dash of salt, and well seasoned with cayenne pepper. On this diet I have *never* lost a chick. I *never* have sick birds from my own stock. "Prevention is better than cure."

Along with this dietry I add these items: (1.) I have lath runs attached to my coops—which are cottage roof shape. These runs confine the hens, but not too closely. Each hen has her feed and water tin, attached so that she can have access, but not her chickens. I never allow the hens to leave the chicks till I am ready. As my Plymouth Rocks are as good layers as any breed I ever kept, I often have hens lay at three weeks after having hatched, and lay along, say five out of seven days. Those virgin eggs make good store eggs, and are good for the house. I think the extended care of the chicks less burdensome to the hen than the attentions of his majesty the cock, as with me they are kept in the mother mood longer, though laying and are well fed. Anyway, this is a fact, my Plymouth Rock hens work as follows: Hatched last of April and first of May, commenced to lay in September and October, continue all winter to April; commence hatching; hatch one brood of chicks; commence to lay on an average within four weeks of chicks coming off, and keep right on till October. At any time my birds are fit for the table. I have not had a single hen stop her egg-production while moulting. The rice meal given to the hens during feather manufacturing explains this.

I will endeavor to finish my hints on making poultry pay in my next and last article.

H. W. KNOWLES.

Lachute, P. Q., Oct. 5th, 1884.

### The Fancy in Listowel.

Editor Review.

The interest in thoroughbred poultry in this vicinity has lately been revived by the fall fairs. There are quite a number of breeders of pure bred stock in this town, some of them keeping as many as ten different varieties. At the fair held here yesterday the exhibit of poultry was the largest ever seen in the county, and some very fine birds were shown. In Light Brahmas there was ten or twelve entries, Plymouth Rocks about an equal number; Black Spanish were not so well represented, though some very fine birds were shown. In Brown Leghorns, White Leghorns and Silver Spangled Hamburgs, the exhibits were large, and the competition very keen. Of Games, both Duckwing and Black-breasted, the exhibit was not large. Golden Polands, Black Hamburgs, Wyandottes, White Cochins, Rose-comb Brown and White Leghorns, Houdans, Black-breasted and Duckwing Bantams, Langshans, Partridge and Buff Cochins, and White Hamburgs were represented in more or less numbers.

Mr. L. G. Jarvis, of London, and Mr. Thos. Woodcock, of Stratford, acted as judges, and their decisions appear to have given almost entire satisfaction.

It is the desire of a number of the fanciers of the town to have an association established, and hold an exhibition in the winter, when the birds are in full plumage. I almost forgot to say that there was quite an exhibit of pigeons, Barbs, Fan-tails, Tumblers, Jacobins, etc., being represented.

ALPHA.

Listowel, Oct. 4th, 1884.

### Poultry Affairs in New Zealand.

Editor Review.

Through the kindness of your friend, Mr. McDonald, of this city, I have been enabled to peruse your valuable paper for some months past. I thought that a few lines from me (although so far distant) concerning poultry, as it is here, might not be without interest to our Canadian friends, and at the same time enable them to see how far we are behind in this profitable business. I am an amateur of one season, but nevertheless a strong lover of poultry in all its varieties.

We are in the middle of our hatching season, and last month I ventured to introduce some three Dark Brahma hens to a dozen eggs apiece, and for the first two weeks all went as merrily as the proverbial marriage bell, till one day two out of the three took into their heads to refuse food, and did so for three days, and on the morning of the fourth day I found both stone dead on the nests. If I had been an old hand instead of a novice numberless ways of saving the batch would have suggested themselves, but I found out all the various methods of rescuing the unfortunate chicks after it was too late. The 3rd hen sat splendidly until the 20th day, when she became literally alive with lice, and no amount of coaxing would induce her to sit again. Not knowing what to do under such circumstances the 3rd batch was spoiled. Two or three days afterward I broke all the eggs and nine out of the twelve had chickens in them, advanced to such a stage that a few hours almost would have seen them out.

These three failures have somewhat damped my ardor in the cause, and have also taken the gilt off the anticipated profit. But better luck next time, and as soon as I have a clucking hen will try again, but with better knowledge I hope.

I have lately bought the best poultry book to be had, viz: Lewis Wright's, published by Cassells & Co., of London. The book is no doubt very familiar to you so I will not describe it.

Our Auckland Poultry, Pigeon, Canary and Rabbit Association held its second show on the 10th