

a few years since, but they are now shown by dozens.

"Geese go on increasing. The Whites hold their own in weight, but the Toulouse are far more numerous. In both classes birds of 28 lbs. each are required for first prize takers—no mean success, when we consider that a few years ago 9 lbs. were the average, and 14 lbs. a marvel. Turkey cocks have been shown 30 lbs. in weight; young birds of the year more than 20 lbs., and young hens of 15 lbs. each.

"These are some of the results of careful breeding, and they are not mean ones. When we are sufficiently advanced to have correct statistics of poultry sold for food, those who now speak lightly of it will alter their opinions. It may safely be said, that of late years, since the poultry movement took place, fowls, geese, turkeys and ducks have increased nearly a third in weight. If we could ascertain the numbers that are sent to market, and thereby publish the extra amount of food produced only by choosing the breeds adapted to the places where they are kept, and by proper and judicious feeding, it would astonish many by showing the enormous increase in the delicate food for which we are indebted to the poultry yard."

DOGS.

BREEDING.

A writer on this subject says:—It is needless to say that at indefinite periods of the year a bitch comes into use, as the term is, generally twice a year, and still more generally speaking, during the time you most require her services, that is, April and September—spring snipe and grouse shooting—in consequence of which you must either sacrifice your pups or your sport. Now, I am aware that in the States, for this reason, a bitch is seldom kept. For my own part, I do not object to them, for from experience I can so regulate their failings as to prevent their family cares from interfering with their hunting. The knowledge of this enables me to have my pups when I want them, to get the cover of a dog I fancy when a strange one comes my way also. The best time, then, to put the bitch to the dog is early in January. By this means you have your pups ready to wean by the middle of April. They have all

summer to grow in, get strong and large, and are fit to break in October, in snipe first, and then quail, finishing off in snipe the following spring. After this litter, the bitch probably comes into use again in the end of July, or in August. Young ones are not so fond of it as old ones, and consequently, for quail shooting, your bitch is all correct and well-behaved, so far as regards the dam. I look upon the breeding of dogs, from any except the best and most perfectly formed of their species, as an act of great folly. There are times when it must be done to keep up the breed, or to acquire one; for no one drafts his bitches unless he is an ass. For my part, I keep five or six constantly, and draft yearly all my dog pups but two or three, say one pointer, setter and cocker. By this means I have the pick out of a large number of well-bred ones for myself, while the drafts pay the expense of keeping and breaking. To bring a

BITCH IN USE,

give seven drops Tincture of Cantharides twice a day till effect is produced, about six days probably; then put her to a dog nearly equal, if you cannot get one quite equal. Save the dog pups, which will take after the dam. It is well understood, that by breeding from young bitches you have faster and higher rangers; and this also reminds me to say that no bitch ought to be bred from till she is full grown, that is to say, till she is two years old. Many people breed at twelve months, but it is wrong. The bitch is not full grown, and consequently the puppies are poor, weak, and miserable. If the bitch has faults, find a dog of the same appearance as her, while he excels her in those points she is deficient in. The bitches are part-takers of his qualities. Are you short of bone, nose, size, form, temper? Look for the excess of these. The cross, or at all events the next remove from it, will be just as you wish. Any peculiarity may be made inherent in a breed by sedulously cultivating that peculiarity. Avoid above all things breeding in-and-in—brother and sister, mother and son, father and daughter—all bad, but the first far worse than either of the others, since the blood of each is the same. The other two are only half so. To perfect form should be added high ranging qualities, high courage, great docil-