

white and intensity of black in the cocks. I would again state, as I have done before, that by those who desire to keep Brahmas for their economic qualities, the Light is at the present on the average to be preferred, being generally a better layer of larger eggs. I have been glad to see how many have lately taken up this variety, and, where it can be kept moderately clean, no more beautiful fowl can be had."

BANTAMS.

The diminutive breeds denominated Bantams, from some totally erroneous supposition that they had been driven from the place bearing that name, have always been popular amongst poultry keepers, and the space before their pens is nearly always thronged at a good show. Many of them have their good point as layers, and for the food they cost, are by no means unprofitable to keep; but all have one conspicuous merit, at least—they can be kept in small places, and in neighborhoods where no large fowls could be kept at all. They are content with small space as well as small meals, and even their little crow does not annoy neighbors who would quickly repeat the teapot storm of the celebrated "great peacock case," did the amateur keep a sonorous rooster of the orthodox persuasion. And if their eggs are small—well, most delicious things are small.

KEEPING POULTRY TO ENRICH LANDS.

Colonel Waring, in his "Elements of Agriculture," says:—Poultry manure is nearly equal in value to Peruvian guano, except that it contains more water. If granted that a hen will consume, of the different kinds of grain, meat and vegetables during the year the equivalent of two bushels of corn, which weigh 120 lbs., then it is certainly low enough to place the excrement—the result of the digestion of these two bushels—as equivalent to fifteen pounds of guano. As the manure from 100 fowls during a year would amount to 1,500 lbs. of guano, taking the above supposition as at least safe, and as 300 pounds is ordinarily sufficient for an acre of corn, it will be seen that the manure from 100 fowls will make compost enough for five acres. The experiment has been tried by the writer, of applying to one acre of corn in the hill the manure of twenty one hens mixed with swamp muck, in the proportion of one part hen manure and three parts muck, and the result was a better crop than upon the adjoining acre, enriched, for sake of experimenting, with a good fair ordinary dressing of stable manure.

COMPETITION IN THE POULTRY MARKET.

Seth Green now proposes frog culture for food. He says: "We have many stagnant pools about the country that are useless in their present state, and, believing that there is nothing made in vain, I do not know of any other use for them than to make them in to frog ponds. I also believe it would make the man wealthy who could raise a million frogs and get them to market. All I would claim is giving him two years' experience in experimenting."

A NEW CEREAL.

A new cereal has been grown in Oregon which has puzzled the farmers, as it is unlike any grain with which they are familiar. From seven to ten stalks grow from one root to a height of about four feet, and these stalks, or straws, are thin and hard. The radicals are tough and spread widely. The heads are six inches in length and covered with a heavy beard, each filament being five inches long. The grain is double the length of a kernel of wheat, and instead of being firm and compact, is hollow, the cavity containing glutinous matter.

While the grain bears a closer resemblance to wheat than to anything else, the straw looks more like that of rye or barley. Its origin is somewhat peculiar, the first grain having been taken from the stomach of a wild goose by a farmer in Tillamook county, nearly three years ago. He was struck with its appearance and planted it, and the succeeding season sowed the product. He distributed a portion of the second crop among a few of his friends in different parts of the State, who this year raised small quantities. It will require another year to determine the value of the grain.

Patrons of Husbandry.

Hereafter we intend to devote a column to communications and other items of interest upon the Granges. Our space does not permit the publication of a full list of the officers. Let us hear how your Granges prosper, because if there is anything that can benefit the farmers of our Dominion we wish to know all about it.

Dunham, P. Q., March 9, 1874.

DUNHAM GRANGE—NO. 7.

R. L. Galer.....W. Master
B. Terril.....W. Secretary

I see that you are aware that we have a few Granges organized in the Province of Quebec. Yes, we have, and are looking for the Order to start in Ontario, and flourish as it deserves. Ignorance and superstition is what we have to contend with here. In our individual Grange we can not boast of numbers, but it is a consolation to know that we

Danville, P. Q., March 9th, 1874.

SHIPTON GRANGE—NO. 4.

T. Leet.....Worthy Master
R. M. J. Bernard.....Secretary

Our Grange has received a considerable increase of members, and I think will in a little time be as strong as any in Quebec Province. Our meetings are on each Saturday in the month, on or before the full of the moon.

Yours, &c.,

R. M. J. BERNARD.

Frelighsburg, P. Q., March 14, 1874.

Frelighsburg Grange is in a very flourishing condition, with a membership of thirty-five.

C. C. Abbott.....W. Master
Zeno Whitman.....W. Secretary

Yours truly,

C. C. ABBOTT.

Abbott's Corner, March 11, 1874.

Maple Grange was organized January 16th last; twenty-four members.

WINCHESTER GRANGE, WINCHESTER P. Q.

Jos. L. Holmes.....W. Master
Cyrus A. Cass.....W. Secretary

The Apiary.

KILLING BEES.

SIR,—I enclose for your inspection a specimen of—well, I don't know what name to give it, but I blame them for killing off my bees. The other day I found my last hive dead, and any amount of honey in it, also, plenty of these little animals (not moths, as you will see). The comb was much chipped, and many of the bees half or more eaten up. No mice got in, so these animals undoubtedly done it. When found they are generally in one of the cells, busy eating.

J. W. JOHNSTON.

Campbellford, March 2nd, 1874.

[We have shown the specimen to Mr. W. Saunders, the editor of the *Entomologist*. He informs us that it is a species of the Cricket tribe. If any other subscribers have had their bees damaged by this insect, we should like to hear from them regarding it. Mr. Saunders kindly furnished us the following description with a plan for their destruction. —Ed. F. A.]

This insect belongs to the order Orthoptera, and is a species of *Blatta*. It is nearly allied to the common cockroach, and may very possibly be the author of the mischief you refer to, although we cannot find any published account of any species injurious to bee-hives. Most of the insects in the family to which this belongs are noted for their destructive powers, eating almost everything that comes in their way.

A simple trap is recommended for catching these creatures, consisting of a small box with a hole in the top, of the size to take the neck of a small bottle. Within this box is placed some food attractive to them, such as sweetened bread and butter or cheese. They enter by the hole and cannot come out again.

Agriculture in Ashantee

The accompanying illustration of the cultivator at work in Ashantee, will be looked on with greater interest, now that that far distant kingdom is associated with the most recent triumphs of British arms. Canadians will feel still more deeply interested in the country and the defeat of its warriors, because Sir Garnet Wolseley, the British General, has already distinguished himself in our own Dominion. From the point of debarkation on the

Gold Coast to Coomassie, the Capitol, is one continuous forest, principally marsh, the malaria of which was even more dreaded by the British soldiers than the forces of King Koffee, who lay in ambush along the route. After leaving the Capitol, the country improves, the land is cultivated, and good roads lead from the Capitol to large rich towns in the interior. This fertile arable country is the scene of our illustration. The question of deep ploughing is not thought of by the Ashantee farmer. Shallow ploughing for light soils, in a climate where heavy rains alternate with strong solar heat, is the native principal, and it is the correct one.

A REMARKABLE CROP OF GRASS.

Capt. McLean, the well known shipping master at the port of St. John, is a gentleman who takes an active interest in agricultural matters, and lives about a mile from the city. His place is five acres in extent, and he takes a good deal of pains to coax old mother earth to bestow upon him exceptional favors. One of these was conferred last year, it being four tons and fourteen hundred pounds of English hay to the acre. When the hay was cured and ready for storage it was sold to a party in the city, and weighed on the city scales.



AGRICULTURE IN ASHANTEE.

have some of the most intelligent and wealthy farmers inside the gate. The Grange is a sort of lecture-room, where the farmer can assemble with his wife, and his sons and daughters can come along with him. Here he can impart his farming experience to others, and in return receive theirs; bits of valuable information will thus be picked up that can be put to immediate use.

Two heads are better than one—so says the proverb—and if two, how much more two hundred; how much more two thousand, or better, all the farmers in the Dominion of Canada and the United States. One of the chief objects of the Grange is to disseminate agricultural information; to keep the farmer posted on new and valuable machinery, improved methods of tillage—in a word, to leave no means unutilized to make him a successful farmer. The watchword, then, is organize! organize!!

Let Granges be formed in every township in the Dominion. When we get thoroughly organized, from a Dominion and a Provincial down to the subordinate Granges—then witness the good effect.

H. H. Hibbard.....W. Master
Levi R. Whitman.....W. Secretary

The Granges in this vicinity are prospering finely, and we are looking forward, anticipating that a Provincial Grange will be organized; and if our neighbor farmers in Ontario will get their eyes open and throw aside this middleman, and assist us in organizing Granges, we will have a Provincial Grange without fail, and then the farmer will be looked up to (instead of down to) as the first man in the country.

Yours, &c.,

GRANGER.

GRANGES IN ONTARIO.

LONGUEUIL GRANGE, L'ORIGINAL.

J. F. Cass.....W. Master
C. A. Cass.....W. Secretary

ADVANCE GRANGE, WESTMINSTER.

Wm. M. Beattie.....W. Master
John H. Elliott.....W. Secretary