

would fulfil its mission. He was thoroughly in sympathy with the remarks of Mr. McLeod as to the necessity for the production of a better class of table poultry by the farmers of the country, for home consumption, or for export. The Minister of Agriculture had arranged cold storage facilities, by which choice poultry could safely and expeditiously reach the English market, but the farmers must remember unless they produced the superior quality of poultry it could not be shipped. He wished the association every success.

From other remarks made it is evidently the intention to make the association educational as well as useful to the farmers and to keep it in close touch with the latter.

GAME BANTAMS.

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

III.

COLOR separates a breed into varieties. Shape gives the characteristics of the breed. Despite the clear distinction between breed and variety there are many who will speak of the buff Leghorn or the partridge Wyandotte as new breeds, the language itself indicating a contradiction of terms, for if the buff Leghorn is a Leghorn and the partridge Wyandotte is a Wyandotte, then, as Leghorns and Wyandottes are not new breeds, the buff and partridge cannot be new breeds; and if they are not Leghorns and Wyandottes, then they have no right to use the names employed.

Color separates the breed of Game Bantams into varieties designated as black-breasted-red, brown-red, red pyle, silver duckwing, golden duckwing, birchen, white, and black, eight well-known varieties, unless it be the last, which is not bred so extensively as the others, and perhaps, in some places, is not well-known. Fortunately or otherwise, the writer has seen very many black Game Bantams, a friend of his being an admirer of this variety and exhibiting it at numerous shows in this vicinity.

As the breed is superior to the variety, so rightly shape, the criterion of the breed, is regarded superior to color, the badge of the variety. In no breed is this distinction so carefully and conscientiously observed by judges as in the Game, large and small. In some breeds color seems to have usurped the rightful place of shape, and a specimen inferior in color, though decidedly superior in shape, stands a good chance of winning. This is all wrong; it is, like other foolish choices, casting aside the more important for

the less important. But let no one imagine that color, though less important than shape in Game Bantams, is of no or little importance. On the contrary it is highly important that the correct color shall be found upon each section of the bird. And by correct color is meant not only that the red shall be red and the black black, but that the desired shade of red and black shall be had. There is a great difference in blacks and reds and even whites. Take white for example. What is desired is a pure lustrous white with no suggestion of yellow. Yet cream color, even decided yellow on the back, yellow quills in the wings and the like are found. Blacks vary from a clean clear blue-black to a brownish tinge, while the ideal black is one full of lustre, green being preferred to all other shades. And of reds there are shades which run from almost yellow to almost black. In every variety of Game Bantams correct color is very important, for upon it depends the beauty of the specimen. Color is the finishing ornament to graceful shape.

PROFITABLE POULTRY KEEPING.

BY T. A. WILLITTS, TORONTO, ONT.

(Continued.)

ONE of the obstacles to profitable poultry keeping is the danger of thieves. In my opinion there is just as much necessity for protection against loss from this source as there is in any other business either agricultural or mercantile. To raise hundreds or thousands of chickens in unprotected grounds, is simply a permanent invitation to the light fingered gentry to come and help themselves.

The cost of an effective electric burglar alarm system is not great and may pay for itself in one night. If chickens are raised in brooders, kept in shanties such as I have described in former chapters, an efficient electric alarm system can easily be arranged. There are two systems by which electric alarm bells may be operated, viz,—the open circuit system, and the closed circuit system; the one system is the reverse of the other, that is to say, the alarm is given in the open circuit system by establishing a current, whilst in the closed circuit system the alarm is given by breaking the current; the latter is the most reliable system, but costs more to put in than the open circuit system. The open circuit system is very simple and can be put in by any handy man. It may be described as of three parts, viz.:—the battery, the