

the well shaped tail, the fully developed sickles and coverts of the male,—all these make the Langshan a beautiful fowl.

The sixth cause has been the wisdom of its breeders. Organized to protect its purity of breeding and to protect the public, they have exercised a wise liberality in making its merits known. If the fowl had been less meritorious their efforts would have been fruitless. They might have given it a temporary vogue, but as soon as it had been tested and proved lacking in unity, it would have lost its temporary popularity. The fact that it has gained steadily in favor and that the better it has been known the greater has become its popularity, which speaks volumes in favor of the breeders and the merits of the breed.

It is unnecessary to mention the many other minor causes which has given this excellent fowl its great popularity. The causes already mentioned indicate why, it seems to the writer, the Langshan is popular, and deserves to remain so.

The work of the club has been excellent, but it still has a duty to perform. Some uniform type should be decided upon, and that type should be the one which will best preserve the practical merits of the breed. As it has won its reputation on its practical qualities, it can maintain it only by the preservation of these qualities. The type, therefore, which gives the greatest prolificacy, without loss to its table qualities and its beauty, is the type that should be sought and adopted. And when this type has once been adopted all Langshan breeders should seek to conform to it, so as to bring about the greatest possible uniformity in the breed.—H. S. BANCROCK, *American Langshan Club Catalogue*.

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### WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

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WRITTEN FOR B. C. FANCIER.  
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#### EGGS WON'T HATCH.

No they certainly *will not* hatch when they are, to begin with, the produce of birds lacking in vigor or when they have been kept on a nice warm shelf in the kitchen until they are almost old enough to "sit up and notice things." Such eggs when fertile are the bane of the eggs for hatching business. The eager but luckless purchaser of them gives them perhaps the very best of care and the most intelligent treatment. On the night they are tested every egg

seems fertile and great are the owner's expectations. But alas for any such hopes! Nature has only been making one of her quiet little protests against slovenly methods on the part of the breeder. The ill-begotten germ in each egg has made its feeble bid for life and then collapsed. The intelligent buyer knows that every egg was fertile and feels that he has no recourse. The seller hears of the result and says it is too bad, that the eggs must have become chilled at a critical period. And these circumstances will apply when buyer and seller are neighbors, as well as when they are a thousand miles apart.

#### EGGS WILL HATCH.

And it seems almost impossible, by mere neglect, to prevent them from hatching, when they are *clean, reasonably fresh, and from birds in full vigor*.

Such eggs may be set on a bare floor, where the hen has to round them up individually, every time she returns to her stamping ground after her natural absences. They may get cold enough to skate on, while their prospective mother is getting in and out of the family water-barrel, but in due course, and often a day ahead of time, outcome the little chirpers every one, and after tumbling down perhaps ten feet of hay loft ladder in obedience to their mother's call from below, they come trooping in to view lively as crickets, and hungry as Coxe's Army. Such eggs, we say, *will hatch* as well, with good treatment, after crossing this Continent, as they will when set in the nest they were laid in. And the proof of it is that they have done so. We have seen winners in this Province out of eggs that yielded ninety-three per cent. of chicks, laid in N. Y. State, hatched on Vancouver Island. *These eggs were clean, fresh, and fertile every one, and they didn't come packed like castors in a cruet stand, so pretty that on opening the box one hated to break up the seven days' jig they had been having among themselves.*

#### VIBRATION.

All our readers have observed the difference in the effect produced on different objects by the tremulous motion of a railway car. This difference is especially noticeable in a freight or express car. The solid heavy packages may sway and lurch now and again, but the lighter parcels seem to keep up a merry dance all the time the car is in motion. The reason of it is that these lighter objects respond readily to the short

units of a vibration that doesn't seem to affect the heavier ones. Now, without going too far into the subject, it must be apparent that an express car, in travelling one mile, or a thousand miles, will, on the average, subject all its contents to a certain number of vibrations, varying in length from those which affect only the dust on the floor to those which would make any a case of kerosene dance the can-can. From observation, and some little experimenting we believe that more than half the vibration in an express car would seriously affect objects of less than four ounces in weight, and that not one tenth of the whole number would similarly disturb a package weighing five pounds. But, the essential condition is this—To ensure the full benefit of the greater weight, the heavier package must of necessity be so solid throughout as to deprive its component parts altogether of their independence of motion. Otherwise a five pound basket of eggs loosely packed remains in effect nothing but a couple of dozen small packages individually subject to a short though modified vibration of the most destructive character.

Some shippers apparently think nothing of this essential feature in packing, so long as each egg is protected from the rest. But, thanks be, there are others who seem to appreciate the principles mentioned. Only last week we saw the first package of eggs for hatching that we ever considered absolutely perfect. It consisted of a wicker basket 14 x 8 and 11 inches deep. In the bottom, dry grass; then a cardboard box 10 x 6 with 15 compartments, each containing an egg and saw dust so firmly pressed down that it required to be picked out (in this case with a pencil,) before the egg could be laid hold of. Two more such boxes, with the dry grass above, below, and about them completed the package of 45 eggs and the whole contents of the basket seemed to have been put in with a hydraulic press. Not a grain of saw-dust had shifted in 3500 miles of travel. After all, it is not the package, but the *packing* that does it.

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#### A PLAIN INVITATION.

We wish to draw the attention of advertisers in all parts of the Continent to the outlet that the north western country affords for first-class thoroughbred poultry and reliable eggs for hatching. Remember, six months ago, there