

# POULTRY

## NOTES OF THE DAY.

BY BLACK WYANDOT.

**C**OCK-FIGHTING is well-nigh a thing of the past in the more civilized portions of the globe, but yet holds its own in Mexico and other distant countries as one of the principal sports of the inhabitants. W. S. Riches, former editor of the *Poultry Record* of St. Louis, but now a resident of the city of Mexico reports that a cock-fight with \$10,000 wagered on a side is no uncommon affair in that festive city of bull-fights.

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Our poultry journals keep on publishing letters from correspondents giving dimensions of big eggs laid by their hens as if such eggs were a great curiosity. They are, in fact, quite a common thing. Nearly every poultry breeder finds a few of them each season often containing two or more yolks and quite often containing one or more fully shelled eggs within the outer shell. They are hard to explain but are very common.

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There is no reason why every farmer's wife should not get as good a reputation for furnishing good fresh eggs as she often gets for good butter. Let her procure a small rubber stamp and stamp her initials or a private "trade mark" on each egg,—always making certain that the eggs are fresh. Fresh eggs bring an advance on market price always when they are guaranteed. A reputation once established will be extra money in the producers pocket every time.

There is no earthly reason why this should not be one of the best and most profitable seasons in the history of the fine poultry business. Good crops for two successive years always stimulate business in all its branches and we have now had two seasons of great prosperity for farmers. I never knew so great a demand so early in the selling season. Everything points to increased activity and a revival of the fine poultry boom.

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Don't forget at this season to lay in a supply of fine cut clover ensilage for a winter feed. It is most excellent scalded with bran and fed for a morning feed in winter. It of course does not contain the qualities of a staple food like grain, shorts, etc., but as an adjunct of these is of great value.

## EARLY LAYING.

*Editor Review:—*

**T**HE following facts may be of interest to your readers, and as the experience seems rather unusual some of them may be able to assign a cause for these birds thus early maturing.

I have two pullets hatched 4th April last bred from Plymouth Rock hen and Andalusian cockerel. These pullets commenced laying about 1st of August and one has now taken to the nest to incubate.

Yours truly,

E. TRIST.

Owen Sound, Aug. 24th, 1892.

[We should be glad to know how these chicks were fed and under what conditions they were kept.—Ed.]

Are your winter quarters ready? It is time they were; use the white wash brush freely.

## THE ARGONAUT.

BY H. S. BABCOCK.

**T**HE Argonaut is an attempt to realize the ideal general purpose fowl, to combine in one the useful and ornamental qualities that are demanded by the practical poultryman and the fancier. My little book upon this fowl removes the necessity of going into many details, and in this article I shall only speak generally upon the breed. I use the term breed advisedly, for the Argonaut is not a new variety of some breed like the white Plymouth Rock and the golden Wyandotte for example, but is a breed in itself having a new and distinctive type, as well as a rich coloring.

It is a combination of the blood of the pea-comb Plymouth Rock, the crimson Game, the Indian Game, and the clean-legged old-fashioned buff Shanghai. As all of these breeds are clean limbed, the Argonaut is also a clean-limbed fowl, and the annoyance of feathered shanks, which was one of the trials of some new varieties when they first appeared, will be lacking.

It has a pea-comb, and is in fact the only pea-combed buff breed in the world. The pea-comb was chosen because the originator of the Argonaut believes it to be the most serviceable comb that has any beauty that there is, and the ideal general purpose fowl ought to have such a comb. The breeders of Brahmans and pea-combed Plymouth Rocks will need no argument to convince them of the serviceableness and beauty of a pea-comb and those who have never tried a pea-combed breed are advised, as the best argument, to make a practical test of the comb, especially in winter in the colder parts of North America. If that test does not convince them, nothing