

rangements are made to ship fowls or any exhibit from Hornellsville at the close of the fair direct to Buffalo in time for the fair there. The premiums offered at Hornellsville are \$5.00 first and \$2.00 second, on breeding pens; \$3.00 and \$2.00 on pairs, beside the specials, making \$1000. We have the finest buildings in Central New York, and the finest grounds.

The Hornellsville Exposition opens Aug. 27, closes Sept. 1st. The Buffalo Fair opens Sept. 4th.

The Buffalo society offers one hundred thousand dollars in cash premiums and the poultry department gets its share. \$10.00 offered for best breeding pen, \$5.00 second; \$3.00 and \$1.00 on single birds; two classes for fowls and chicks, making \$2,398.00 on the poultry department alone.

The breeders of Canada can't possibly afford to let this chance go by as this is the show of the season.

Yours truly,

A. S. SILLMAN,

Supt. Poultry, Hornellsville and Buffalo.
Alfred Centre, N.Y.



PARROTS.

Of the parrot tribe there are known to be upwards of four hundred different varieties, and others are constantly be added to the list. The parrot is admired for its gorgeous plumage, which in some kinds is marvellously beautiful, rich as only tropical birds can be. But he has an even great attractiveness, in that he possesses the imitative faculty developed to such an extent that he can utter the words of man very correctly indeed. Amongst the most intelligent animals, such as the horse and the dog, there is no pow-

er of human speech, and in the multitudinous races of birds we only know of one or two in addition to the parrot which has this imitative faculty. Of these the parrot is the best, for it is trained without great difficulty, and in many specimens there is not only correct imitation, but an aptness in placing the sentences so uttered which almost, if almost is not too great a limitation, amounts to reason. Many stories are told of the way in which parrots can talk, and of late years the importation of good birds has been so great and the training so much increased that these instances are widely known. The parrot, therefore, is popular for his talking powers as well as for his beauty. Just how it is that he can so imitate we are not yet able to discover. Birds and animals evidently have speech of their own, and can communicate with each other. This being so, it is not a little remarkable that the parrot should be an exception, and that almost alone it should have the power of human speech. Dr. Karl Russ, the eminent German naturalist, says that "the predilection and capability of parrots for imitation are not limited to human words, but extend to all sorts of other sounds. With such gifts a bird may be extremely valuable, but it may also become just as unbearable and worthless." The methods of training must be left over to another time, but we may say that the most gifted of all the parrot race is the grey variety, which has probably been known longest of all and though not so gorgeous in plumage as some of the other kinds, it is decidedly the best talker. Included in the term parrot or the parrots proper, the Amazons, the Cockatoos, the Lories, the Macaws, the Parrakeets, and the Conures, there being many variations of each of these kinds. The parrot is found in all parts of the world with the exception of Europe and North America, and is essentially a bird of tropical regions.—*Fanciers' Gazette.*



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