

cise given in securing it. A stubble-field of a few acres will supply sufficient food of the best quality for a large flock of chickens, and in no other place will they make such rapid and solid growth. It would pay fanciers in town to "board out" their chickens on farms for the next two months, and we have no doubt arrangements might be made with farmers in most localities, to take large flocks for a small sum, or pay in kind.

The disqualified birds shall all be killed off as soon as old enough for broilers, and if space is limited, those not up to the mark should soon follow. The hens that have done their work of brooding, and are in good condition, may now be slaughtered with advantage, if not valuable as breeders or as layers—hens are not generally worth their keep for layers after the third year. If left for a short while longer they will commence to moult, when they will be unfit for food, and not be again in condition for a couple of months. By this means the number can be decreased to great advantage, and more room for those left secured, and less labor required in attendance.

There is another strong reason for giving all the room possible. It is a well known fact to most old breeders that when fowls are kept in large numbers in small runs, the soil after a time becomes so saturated with their droppings that they will not thrive, even if frequently dug and turned over, and ultimately it is found necessary to remove them from it, and seed down or cultivate for a couple of years to restore it to a wholesome state. We have no doubt but that there are many breeders at the present time whose flocks are not thrifty, who will find this the cause of their disease and backwardness. When this becomes the case the only course is to remove the fowls and cultivate the soil.

### Our Lefroy Letter.

FRIEND FULLERTON,—We know there are many things of vital importance to us, which we receive so regularly, and secure with so little effort, that we do not realize their value till we are deprived of them. Such has been my experience with *REVIEW*: I did not realize how I would miss it till it was withdrawn. And I would fain hope that its temporary cessation will convince the fanciers of Canada how ill they can afford to do without it; and if so, what their duty is towards it. Now, sir, I do not wish to flatter, but I can say truthfully that in my opinion, the *REVIEW* is one of the best poultry journals in America, and I have read most of them; and I am glad to see that friend Ward, of *American Poultry Journal*, who, if we may judge by his journal, is good authority, also thinks so. It therefore commends itself to every Canadian

fancier, not only as an advertising medium but also as a medium for exchange of thought. But our Canadian fanciers must not forget there is still room for improvement. Then let us hear from you. What are you doing? How are you doing it? What do you intend to do? Why do you intend to do so? Are you satisfied with a host of things: express charges, duty, Brantford as a place for our show, the present high entrance fee, &c. Don't be satisfied grumbling and flashing away back in the horizon all your life, but give us the crash and flare of a genuine thunder storm! We need so much the electricity of expressed opinion to thoroughly disturb the atmosphere of public opinion, so that many of the noxious vapors which destroy the health of the poultry business may be decomposed and enter into other combinations, which will have a healthful instead of a deleterious effect upon our poultry plant. Nearly all the things named and complained of, in general are good and salutary in themselves, but it's their abuse that is hurtful. For instance, how could the fancier of to-day get along without the express companies? But that is no reason why we should pay charges so extremely unreasonable.

Well, sir, I took a run among some of the leading fanciers of this section a couple of weeks ago, and enjoyed myself immensely. I first called upon the energetic and live firm of Bingham & Durham, and found them into chicken raising in earnest. They have a fine lot of early chicks of the varieties they breed. My attention was particularly attracted by a large flock of Buffs, which, for richness of color and leg feathers I have never seen equalled. They are also strong in Black Spanish. They have just added some fine specimens to their already fine stock. One trio of Houdans were grand; the black has that fine metallic lustre which I have found so hard to get in parti-colored birds—I have never seen but one Light Brahma good in this respect, and that was bred by that prince of breeders, P. Williams, and was sold by him to a breeder in this country. B. & D. are also strong on Games. They grumble about *high entrance fee*, and say they can't afford to pay both express and such a high fee, and are therefore kept from showing altogether.

I next called upon R. Green, and had a look at his Games, and was fully recompensed for my trouble. He had just received a trio from England, fine looking birds. A friend of his who was travelling through that country, took care to secure for him a trio worth bringing out, and I think he succeeded. The cost for carriage across the water was only seven shillings and six pence. This was news to me, for I had made up my mind that if the charge for carriage by steamer was in proportion to the charges of the express companies