

some of the standards. It would be well if we could divide our poultry into fancy breeds and useful breeds. No one wants to see the Brahma, the Cochins, or the Hamburgs lose aught of the beauty which the breeder's skill has, through evolution, obtained for them; the Wyandotte, too, will bye-and-bye be a beautiful, fancy fowl. But on the other hand, for breeds of domestic utility, we want standards framed solely with regard to the development of useful features. Why should the Plymouth Rocks, and the Houdans—birds of homely appearance, which no ingenuity can make handsome, be suffered to deteriorate for the sake of fancy points? Why should the wonderful little Leghorns be ruined by their own never-to-be-satisfactorily-cultivated white earlobes? Why should that really useful bird, the Langshan, be foolishly sacrificed by its friends to the ungainly length of its own shanks? One word of advice to amateurs in conclusion. When you are selecting eggs for sitting, always choose the biggest; when you are buying hens, or deciding which of your pullets you will keep, be sure that you take those with the largest combs. In this way anyone can get hold of a good laying strain; for after all, the merit is not so much in the particular breed, but in the strain.—Vintons Gazette.

This correspondent is unearthing an old theory, about the size of the comb being a guide to egg production. The Wyandotte has the smallest of combs, smaller even than many Brahmas. But it will beat them and Plymouth Rocks, Langshans and Leghorns, by the year, for laying. The Brahmas lay a large egg, and what comb has it? None to speak of. Who says the Wyandotte lays a small egg? or the Houdan either, no matter how small the comb. And I can positively say that I have had and known many blue-eyed cats that were not too deaf to hear the cry of "cat's meat." All these wonders are mostly theory, and if ever there was a theory not able to be sustained by facts, it is this of small combs and small eggs, and vice versa. Bring along something fresh.

The legislature should be as willing to appropriate funds for the promotion of the poultry industry in the state as it is for other county industries; the horticultural industry, for instance. This society receives \$1,000 by state appropriations. It is right, too. The improving of points and the experiments necessary to its progress in so new a state as Nebraska call

for a liberal expenditure of money before financial results may be realized. And this is true of the poultry industry. It has never asked a penny from the state. It works away silently and humbly enough, notwithstanding it is one of the greatest—the third on the list—sources of revenue known in this country. This may be doubted by those also, who never give it a thought according to figures, which is natural enough; but the figures are official at Washington. It places the revenue derived from the sale of poultry and eggs in the United States during 1887 at a fraction over \$500,000,000; the importation of fowls and eggs at nearly \$50,000,000, the exportations, nearly \$19,000,000. Just why these standing figures may not seem so large may be found in the answer; nearly every householder on the farms and in the villages of the country own a few or some fowls.—American Poultry Yard.

QUERY * DEPARTMENT *

BLACK JAVAS AND PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

A COUNTRY CHEMIST some weeks ago asked for our opinion as to which of these would stand cold the best. The show season has brought us into close contact with breeders of the Black Javas and we are informed by all, that they are equally alike in that respect, and we are of the same opinion after seeing the several exhibits of the season. Some of them were indeed worthy of the name of Royal. They are much larger than they used to be owing to the careful breeding of those most interested in them. Breeders of them are on the increase, and they will be while such fine stock is shown as we have seen this fall.

COMING SHOWS.

Dunnville, Dec. 3, 4, and 5. R. H. Marshall Sec'y.

Poultry Association of Ontario, St. Catharines, Ont., January 7, 8, 9 and 10, 1890. R. Hamill, Secretary, J. C. Rykert, M. P. President.

OHIO.

Central Ohio, at Mt. Gilead, Ohio, January 7th to 11, 1890. J. Y. Bickdell, Judge, W. F. Bruce, Secretary.

Cleveland, January 14th to 19th, 1890. C. C. Schellentrager, Sec., Glenville.

Fayette Association, at Washington C. H., January 14th to 10th, 1890. J. B. Collier, Sec.

Union, at Cardington, Dec. 17 to 21, 1889, G. S. Singer, Secretary.

NEW YORK.

International, Buffalo, N.Y., December 11th to 18th, 1889. H. M. Fales, Sec., La Salle, N.Y.