

his mind about Rocks being the larger fowl.

We have had three annual poultry shows, and this year we imported a celebrated Eastern judge to score our exhibits. The first for Langshan hen went to a bird which was nothing but a rather tight-feathered black Cochin with dull, black plumage, which scored ninety-seven points. (Ha! ha! Butterfield.—ED. REVIEW.) This, I think, is a great mistake, for the more we obtain those developements which we so admire in our show Cochin, the more we impair his usefulness as a business fowl. A business fowl to my mind must have the deep and prominent breast and close plumage for table purposes, and the long, compact body for laying. Langshan breeders should strenuously oppose any introduction of Cochin blood. Rather let them, if imported birds are hard to get, throw in a cross of black Game.

We have many subscribers in British Columbia, and if "Victoria" is numbered amongst them, an occasional letter from him or any of our other Pacific coast breeders would be accorded a prominent place.

#### REPORT OF THE POULTRY MANAGER CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

A. G. GILBERT.

(Continued from last month.)

**I**N the case of the disease affecting the fowls in your district (in one case a dairyman losing 45,) assuming it to be tuberculosis—which can only be determined by microscopical examination for the 'bacilli' of tuberculosis the question is: 'In what way was it communicated?' Two ways may have

already been noticed. Authorities are well agreed that the milk from an udder (tuberculous) is infectious. Sputum of tuberculous patients is so infectious, that even when diluted with 100,000 times its bulk of water, it is still infectious. Even although the disease may not be recognized, the symptoms being often very obscure, it may exist in animals slaughtered and sold for consumption. It is more prevalent among dairy cows subjected to unsanitary conditions and may exist also in the udder without being suspected. In France the percentage of meat found tuberculous at the various abattoirs varies from 1.43 to 14.5 per 1,000; observations extending over a period of 5 years. In England (Cope, Vet. Journal, 1889, 398) it varies from 1 to 26 per cent.

"Animals, such as dairy cows, subject to special feeding, brewery and distillery waste, &c., are specially liable to a tuberculous condition. Finally, it may be concluded that since the neglect of sanitary precautions, generally, undoubtedly gives rise to tuberculosis, it follows that fowls crowded together in roosting houses without 'proper ventilation,' &c., may generate tuberculosis. In cold winters in order to maintain heat it is a custom with many to 'exclude all air,' and no provision is made to permit foul odours to pass off."

#### ANOTHER DISEASE WHICH CAUSED GREAT LOSS TO FARMERS.

During the first week of September a letter was received from M. André Bertrand, a farmer of St. Esprit, P.Q., stating that a disease had broken out among his poultry and that a number of turkeys, chickens and fowls had died. The remaining birds he feared would be lost. A brief description of the disease was given.

A reply was sent asking him to forward a detailed description of the disease, and expressing the fear that cholera was the ailment. A statement

of how his poultry was housed, extent of premises, &c., was also asked for, as it was intended to submit the correspondence to Prof. Wesley Mills, of McGill University, for his opinion.

In response the following letter was received from M. Bertrand:—

"SIR—You ask me to give you a description of my place and of the disease which has broken out among my fowls. I live on my farm, which is a large one. My farm buildings are extensive and commodious, with the hen-house in the corner of the stable. The buildings are situated near the river. When I noticed that my fowls were getting sick I closed the hen-house and then the fowls went to roost in the trees, in the barn or under the gallery. They all died one after another, until, now, I have only nine chickens out of one hundred. Ten turkeys have died out of thirty-six. The symptoms of the disease are as follows:—The fowls commence at once to fail and to appear broken down, although they eat until the last day. The head becomes of a blueish colour, but is not swollen, as in roup. The droppings are thin, of a white, yellow and greenish tinge. Some contain what looks like coagulated blood. The disease seems to be epidemic, as all my neighbours fowls are suffering from it. This is about all the explanation I can give you.

Yours Truly

ANDRÉ BERTRAND,  
St. Esprit, P.Q.

This letter was at once sent to Professor Wesley Mills, of McGill University, asking the favour of his opinion as to the nature of the disease. In reply the following opinion and advice was received:—

"PHYSIOLOGICAL LABORATORY,  
MCGILL UNIVERSITY,

"MONTREAL, 19th December, 1890.

"DEAR SIR,—The symptoms and results described by Mons. Bertrand seem to point to chicken cholera or