

old must be amused in noticing the end and aim of each and all. It matters little what subject the writer begins with, the *merits* of the *Poultry Herald* are sure to spring up somewhere, and cast everything else in the shade. We are told in every issue, nay, in every column, of its brilliant success and its vast extent of circulation, and of the advantages to be derived from having it to any other publication. This constant harping on the one string is sickening, and shows very clearly that it is done, not for the world-wide benefit of breeders and fanciers, but for a purpose which may be easily guessed. But notwithstanding all exaggerated reports of prosperity, the *Poultry Herald* is evidently dying under the treatment of its M. D. editor.

One of the most influential breeders of Ontario, being requested by Dr. Merry to supply him information regarding his poultry business, for the purpose of giving a gratuitous notice in the *Herald*, refused, stating "that he did not wish his name to appear in that sheet on any account." When breeders in his own immediate neighborhood consider it a discredit to figure in his complimentary notices, it is a good indication of the estimate placed upon his periodical by Canadian fanciers.

After the extraordinary efforts he has made to secure Canadian patronage, he has only been able to obtain for his last issue, four advertisements, three cards in breeders' directory and one other advertisement. American breeders can draw their own conclusions.

A Needed Change.

Heretofore, as many of our readers are aware, the Government Grant of \$600 was divided among a number of different Poultry Societies, who held as many different exhibitions, in as many different places. Had this grant been larger, or had the local support been sufficient to make each of these exhibitions a decided and satisfactory success, there would be no cause to find fault with the arrangement. But we know for a fact that the fanciers and breeders of Canada have lost faith in the paying abilities of our poultry exhibitions, and many have determined to give up showing altogether, unless they can have some guarantee for prompt payment in the future. Besides the division of energy and effort among so many shows renders it impossible to make any one approach as nearly as it should to the true standard of excellence. The labor requisite for any one show is very great, and is borne almost entirely by business men, who in a busy time, do the work voluntarily, and all, except the secretary, without remuneration. These men, thus doing their work without fee or reward, have to bear all the censure in case of a partial

failure. Now the labor of getting up one really good show would be very little greater than for each of three shows, while a concentration of the energy and effort hitherto expended on the several shows, would make success an absolute certainty.

These considerations, and others which we have not named would, if followed to their legitimate conclusion, lead to an amalgamation of all the societies. But, so long as a share of the Legislature Grant could be obtained, local rivalries, and the desire to hold local shows operated powerfully if not irresistibly to prevent so desirable a consummation. But what would have required years for its accomplishment, has been already practically carried out by the action of the Government. Much annoyance has arisen from the numerous applications from different societies for a share of the grant, all claiming to have equal rights and all, apparently, equally worthy, and the Government have at last, wisely as we believe, decided to give only one grant to one society, which must be organized in such a manner as to absorb the others. The smallest amount that will be given is \$600, and this may be increased to \$1000, should their requirements be fully complied with, and the business be properly conducted. This grant will be placed in the estimates for each year. The result will be that the evils we have complained of will be remedied; the society will be able to make arrangements without danger of disappointment, and guarantee a prompt payment of premiums.

But in order that a result so desirable may be attained, speedy and united action is indispensable. What would otherwise be only a matter for discussion and consideration, has now become one of necessity. There can be only one society, and one show, receiving Government aid and no time should be lost in organizing the one, and preparing for the other. We would suggest that a general meeting of the fanciers be called at some central place, at an early date, for the purpose of considering the situation, and taking such action as may be necessary.

In our breeders' directory will be found the cards of Messrs. Breiding & Lockie, of Berlin, successful breeders of many varieties, and very reliable men. Also, of Mr. J. W. Bussell, of Hornby, P.O., whom we can also recommend to those desiring stock such as he breeds. Messrs. Thomas & Campbell, Brooklyn, and Sam. Holmes, of Chatham have changed their "ads." to suit the season.

BREEDERS should now commence to advertise their young stock. The REVIEW will be found the very best medium for that purpose. Try it. "The early bird catches the worm."