

not for shipment up west just now. I must give MR. CAYFORD the credit of being a good satirist, and even think he would be a fair humorist judging from the article in May number.

Now allow me to dot MR. CAYFORD'S I's in this fashion :

1st. It does not require a genius to advertise a poultry show in time to get strange exhibitors to come here.

2nd. It does not require a genius to understand that when all snow blockades and unbearable cold weather is past, poultry shows have more success.

3rd. It does not require a genius to disqualify a *dung hill* entered as a pit game,—but here the fault is not Mr. Nicol's for according to the secretary the pit games were not judged, but they got a prize all the same, and I want a genius to explain me this.

4th. It does not require a genius to understand that cash prizes instead of the Rainbow colored cards would be more acceptable for exhibitors from afar off to help pay expressage etc, on fowls.

5th. It *does* require a genius though to explain to me why every year we have the same judges at our shows here and mostly all these judges are exhibitors themselves and local. Does MR. CAYFORD believe that Montreal has no more amateur fanciers beyond the 3 or 4 persons he knows—If so he is sadly mistaken. He will say, well let these amateurs come forward and help us, or join the Association, I would say *non merci*. When the Montreal Association will be possessed of a genius who will run things in such a shape as to have our fowls judged by outside men so as there will be no grumbling, then we will see.

To run a poultry show successfully, it does not require a genius to understand that to please three or four people does not mean success. All must be satisfied, and this satisfaction will be obtained when Montreal can afford to get such men as FELCH here to act as

judge, and it does not require a genius to understand this.

THE SETTING HEN AND OTHER SUBJECTS.

BY W. C. G. PETER.

I note with much interest the letter from friend ERMATINGER in May Number. No doubt if there was less fuss made over the highly valued eggs, there would be better results in hatching. One thing is quite certain, the chicks in the five dollar sittings are just as able to get out of walled prisons as the veriest scrub that ever picked itself free.

MR.ERMATINGER'S plan of setting the hen is good for one hen at a time. Now I will say a word about setting hens in large flocks of 25 or over. I provide a nest of 20 in. square, leaving the front open, across the bottom of front a narrow strip of 4 in. The rest of front a door of lath strips, for ventilation, (the top is ventilated too) the door hangs on and turns up, fastening at the bottom with a button; bottom of nest sand, then a layer of cut straw, this is better than long straw because it does not get entangled in the feet of the sitter. It is necessary for the attendant to remember or note down what hens were set first, and also which hens occupy each of the several nests. If they are all of one breed the easiest way is to sew a piece of colored cloth on the hens leg and tack a corresponding color on the coop; or notice some peculiar point in each bird and remember her nest, and see that she goes on that one, as some hens seem not to care where they go, and if they take another's nest, that puts the rightful owner in a tantrum, and nothing but "ber-lud," as the tragedienne says, will satisfy her wounded feelings; and that is the signal for general confusion in the brooding house. Friend E. says "leave the door open," but where there are a large number of sitters, that will

never answer. They must be shut up; I think too, that feeding a hen in the nest box, is a bad plan, the bird will soil the nest, and sit too close, besides not getting a chance to dust herself, or get any exercise. I can feed and care for twenty five sitters and have them back on the nest, in half an hour. With regular attention and quiet gentle treatment, your sitting hens need no fuss made over them, sometimes one hen will persist in quarreling, (I have one now) then set her by herself, or else let her go altogether for she will cause much waste of your time, and trouble to the other sitters. If you have fifty brooding hens, divide them if possible into two lots, when you are sure all will agree, the first half can be left feeding, while you let off the others, close the doors of the nests till you return to each house to let the hens on again, which will prevent any bird going on the wrong nest in your absence.

The season here is very late quite two weeks behind, and very cold yet. Broody hens have been at a premium, very few to be had even now.

One of the hints in the article by "Pea Comb" viz the name of varieties on exhibition I hope will be acted on.

It is a pity too that the names are allowed on coops. This seems a sore point with so many people, though in reality it is just as easy for a judge to favor his friends if they are kept off, if he intends to do so. I must say my experience has been, that our judges have as much honor as any others; of course there are occasional mistakes, but I think the question of dishonesty can be dispensed with to advantage. Most of the judges work is done under press of time and other attendant disadvantages. "Pea Comb" rightly says that every man ought to have proper and respectful treatment when he exhibits, more especially, if he is a member of the large body of the working classes. In such a one the desire to exhibit and breed good stock should be encouraged by every lover of our feathered friends.