

**BEES AND POULTRY.****POULTRY TERMS AND TECHNICALITIES.**

There are very many persons who are familiar with poultry, their general appearance and common habits, and yet unacquainted with the terms used in modern poultry-books and journals. As the poultry-books do not, as a general thing, explain the various terms they use, it is hard for the uninformed to understand the meaning of them. I will try to give, in as condensed form as possible, the meaning of those terms most in use.

**Beard:** A bunch of feathers under the throat of some chickens, such as Houdans, Polish, &c. **Breast:** It extends from the neck to the thighs, and from wing to wing.—**Bredd:** A kind of fowl.—**Broody:** Wanting to sit.—**Capon:** A male fowl that has been castrated.—**Carunculated:** Covered with small protuberances, as on the head of a turkey cock.—**Casque:** The helmet-like fleshy protuberance or comb of the Guinea.—**Chick:** A chicken under a year old; when over a year they are called *fowls*.—**Clutch:** This term is applied both to the batch of eggs sat upon by a fowl, and the brood hatched therefrom.—**Cockerel:** A male chicken under one year of age.—**Condition:** The state of a fowl as it regards health and beauty of plumage.—**Crest:** The tuft or bunch of feathers on the top of the head.—**Crop:** The receptacle in which the fowl's food is stored before passing into the gizzard.—**Cushion:** The mass of feathers over the rump of the hen, covering the tail; chiefly developed in Cochins.—**Dubbing:** Cutting off the comb, wattles, and earlobes, so as to leave the head smooth and clean.—**Dunghills:** A chicken of no particular breed, but of a mingling of breeds. Game fanciers call all fowls dunghill that are not game.—**Earlobes:** The folds of bare skin hanging just below the ears.—**Face:** The bare skin around the eye.—**Flights:** The primary feathers of the wings used in flying, but tucked under the wings when at rest.—**Fluff:** Soft, downy feathers about the thighs, chiefly developed in Asiatics.—**Gaff:** The metal spur put on over the natural spur for cock-fighting.—**Game:** A fowl that will fight until he is killed in the pit.—**Gills:** A name often applied to wattles.—**Hackles:** The long narrow feathers on the neck.—**Hock:** The joint between the thigh and the shank.—**Leg:** In the living fowl, this is the scaly part, usually denominated the shank.—**Leg feathers:** Those growing on the outer side of the shank.—**Moulting:** Periodical shedding and renewal of feathers.—**Non-sitters:** Those fowl that do not incubate, such as Leghorns, Polish, &c.—**Pea comb:** A triple comb, resembling three combs in one, the middle being the highest.—**Penciling:** Small markings or stripes over the feather.—**Poult:** A young turkey.—**Primaries:** See flights.—**Stag:** A male game chicken under eighteen months old.—**Strain:** Fowls that are bred in-and-in are said to be of a strain.—**Top-knot:** See Crest.—**Vulture Hock:** It projects two or more inches out from the joint like a spur, and is composed of hard, stiff, quill feathers.—**Walk:** The place where poultry is kept. When a stag is put with some hens, away from any old cock, he is said to be put on a walk.—**Wattles:** The fleshy protuberances hanging from the under

part of the bill and upper part of the throat.—*Cor. Germantown Telegraph.*

**WHITE LEGHORNS.**

This variety of Leghorn has been longest known. They closely resemble the old White Spanish, the principal difference being in the colour of the legs; those of the Spanish being gray or blue—those of the Leghorns yellow. The following description of this breed is from Tegetmeier, as it appeared in the second edition of his "Poultry Book" (1873).

"To our American cousins is due the credit of having introduced certain admirable breeds of poultry. The Brahmas are undoubtedly second to none as useful fowls, being unsurpassed for size, hardihood and fertility amongst the incubating breeds. Another race, which is equally popular in the United States as being at once most useful and ornamental, is that known as the White Leghorn. These fowls are hardly, if at all, known in this country; but, having tested their merits for



WHITE LEGHORNS.

two seasons, I can report most favourably of them, and fully indorse all that has been said in their favour on the other side of the Atlantic.

"White Leghorns are birds of the Spanish type, but with white in the place of black plumage. Their legs are bright yellow, and perfectly free from feathering on the shanks. The faces are red, the ear-lobes only being white. The comb in the cock is thin, erect and evenly serrated. In the hen it falls over like that of a Spanish hen. The tail in the cock is exceedingly well-furnished with side sickle-feathers, and in both sexes is carried particularly erect. The birds are active, good foragers, and have a sprightly and handsome carriage.

"I find them to be abundant layers of full-sized eggs; the hens rarely showing any inclination to sit, but laying the whole year round, except during the time of the annual moult. The chickens are very hardy. Unlike those of the Spanish, they feather quickly and mature rapidly.

"I regard these fowls as an exceedingly useful as well as ornamental addition to our stock of poultry. Whatever competitive shows may have done for other breeds, they have

certainly materially lessened the value of Spanish as useful fowls. In the place of the large, prolific, hardy breed which was formerly known under that name, we have a smaller race, very leggy, and feathering with such slowness that chickens are often seen in prize pens that have not produced their tail-feathers. In fact, the useful qualities of the race have been neglected in breeding for face and ear-lobe.

**THE BEE PASTURES OF MT. SHASTA.**

Shasta is a fire mountain, created by a succession of eruptions of ashes and molten lava, which, flowing over the lips of several craters, grew upward and outward like the trunk of a knotty exogenous tree. Then followed a strange contrast. The glacial winter came on, loading the cooling mountain with ice which flowed slowly outward in every direction, radiating from the summit in the form of one vast conical glacier—a down-crawling mantle of ice upon a fountain of smouldering fire, crushing and grinding for centuries its brown, flinty lavas with incessant activity, and thus degrading and remodelling the entire mountain. When, at length, the glacial period began to draw near its close, the ice-mountain was gradually melted off around the bottom, and in receding and breaking into its present fragmentary condition, irregular rings and heaps of moraine matter were stored upon its flanks. The glacial erosion of most of the Shasta lavas produced a detritus, composed of rough subangular boulders of moderate size, and porous gravel and sand, which yields freely to the transporting power of running water. Under nature's arrangement, the next marked geological event made to take place in the history of Mount Shasta was a water-flood of extraordinary magnitude, which acted with sublime energy upon this prepared glacial detritus, sorting it out and carrying down immense quantities from the higher slopes, and re-depositing it in smooth, delta-like beds of moraine soil, thus suddenly and simultaneously laid down and joined edge to edge, that now form the main honey-zone.

Thus by forces seemingly antagonistic and destructive, has Mother Nature accomplished her beneficent designs—now a flood of fire, now a flood of ice, now a flood of water; and then an outburst of organic life, a milky-way of snowy petals and wings, girdling the rugged mountain like a cloud, as if the vivifying sunbeams beating against its sides had broken into a foam of plant-bloom and bees.

In this lovely wilderness the bees rove and revel, rejoicing in the bounty of the sun, clambering eagerly through bramble and hucklebloom, stirring the clustered bells of the manzanita, now humming aloft among polleny willows and firs, now down on the ashy ground among the gillias and buttercups, and anon plunging deep into snowy banks of cherry and buckthorn. . . . The Shasta bees are perhaps better fed than any other in the sierra. Their field-work is one perpetual feast; but, however exhilarating the sunshine or bountiful the supply of flowers, they are always dainty feeders. Humming-moths and humming-birds seldom set foot upon a flower, but poise on the wing in front of it, and reach forward as though they were sucking through straws. But bees, though as dainty as they,