

without any water except what was given them. When young, I used a common pie-tin, and, as they grew, a milk-pan was placed in its stead, thus saving any from being drowned. I have had good success, seldom losing one. *Rouens*, under ordinary circumstances, will be found as profitable as any variety for the following reasons:

First.—The rapidity with which the young ducks grow. It is not uncommon to see them in full feather, and weighing four pounds when eight or ten weeks old, yielding very fine flesh for the table, which makes them valuable for early market.

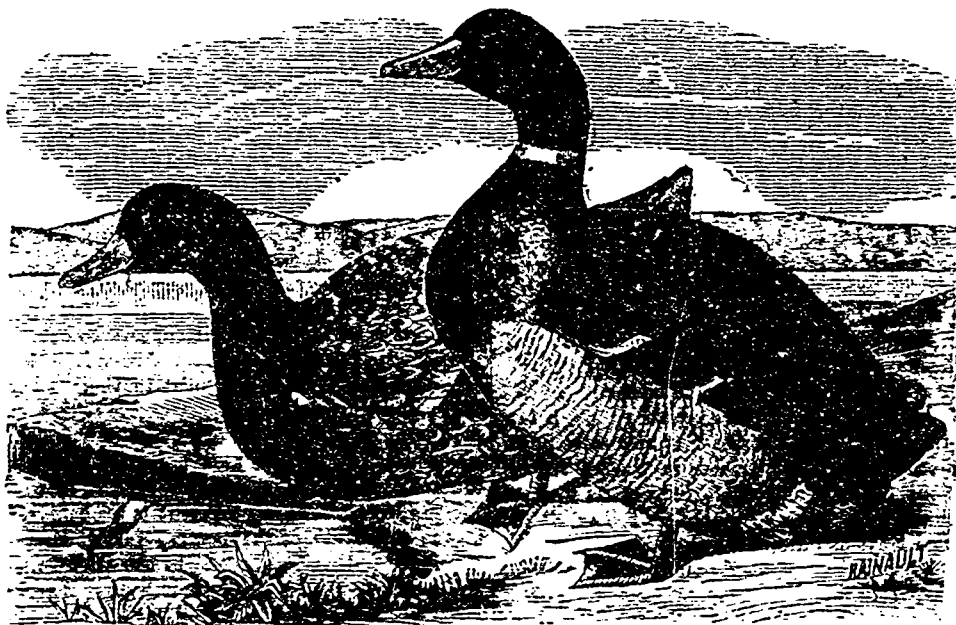
Second.—When full grown they often weigh eight to ten pounds each.

Third.—As egg-producers they rank with the best, laying in the fall a good number of Eggs, then with a little cessation in mid-winter they recommence in spring when other varieties have only just begun. They make a nest, and are jealous in keeping it, saving the trouble of shutting them up at night.

Fourth.—The eggs are large and rich, making them valuable for culinary purposes.

Fifth.—They are the most determined stay-at home birds imaginable, seldom, if ever, rambling beyond sight of home never troubling the neighbors' crops, or giving you trouble at night to bring them home.

C. JOHNS: in *Poultry Journal*.



Rouen Ducks.

FRUIT TREES FOR QUEBEC.

I well remember the time when "iron clad" apple trees were introduced into the western parts of Ontario. It was believed then that nothing else could grow here, but those sly tree agents did not always stick to iron clads; when delivery season came round, they gave a pretty wide variety of stock, and, in a few years, the orchardist discovered, to his intense delight, that instead of two or three varieties, as ordered, he was the possessor of some six or ten varieties of fine fruit, bearing trees. Gradually people became more and more speculative and ventured to risk a few dollars in more tender varieties; as a rule these ventures were rewarded with fruit in the course of time, and thus, from step to step, we have grown, until now Ontario can proudly boast of as fine fruits as any section of this continent. But, after a large and very varied experience here and in the North Eastern States, I conclude that a great deal depends on the quality of the nursery grown stock, in short whether such stock has been naturally, or unnaturally grown. Many people think that if they get fine looking trees from a nursery they require no more, but this is a very great mistake, as any observing grower who has experience in fruit growing in some of the colder sections will readily testify to. Any one will readily admit that forced stock is more tender, more liable to contract disease, because more open and undeveloped. Now, nurserymen like to make money as well as any other class of business men, and they like to get as quick a return for outlay

as possible. In order to grow trees, more especially apple trees, to be ready for market in a shorter time than nature dictates, nurserymen make use of immense quantities of potash, which gives apple trees a fine, light-colored, healthy-looking appearance, and they also use chemical compounds to rush the growth. American trees are nearly all grown in this way, and I would not give orchard room to them. Canadian nurserymen also are following the example of our Yankee cousins, and I am sorry to see this. I noticed a nursery in Welland county where ashes are regularly forced alarmingly into the tree trenches. These trees will show the usual results. When transplanted into virgin, or natural, soil, they will never compare favorably with trees grown on a naturally manured soil. In Maine, and the other Eastern States, I have known orchards grow to maturity with small profit to the owner in the shape of fruit. These trees were magnificent specimens when first planted, but alas! poor Yorick how low you have descended in the lapse of years. In one section of Vermont, an experimental lot of trees were imported from Canada, from a nursery in Toronto, the trees, it appears, were grown on cold soil and no sort of stimulant was used in growing them; the result has been extremely beneficial, the growers have orchards that completely outstrip all others in that part of the States for good fruit, and steady-bearing trees.

I was told a short time ago by one of these orchardists that he had visited the nursery where these trees were purchased, and will make arrangements to buy a large number of