

quarts of ground millet seed per day, to each horse. Fed in the same way to milch cows, it will keep them fat and sleek, and cause an unusual flow of good rich milk. Colts, calves, and sheep fairly luxuriate in the green fodder. The seed fed to hens will make everlasting layers of them, whether Dorkings, Shanghaes, Poland, Spanish, or native, other necessities being provided.

D. W. FREEMAN.

WINDHAM, C. W.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

MR. EDITOR:—Thinking it would interest your readers, I send you a brief description of the first annual exhibition of the Northampton County Poultry Association.

For a few years past, an increased interest has been felt in this part of the state, in improved breeds of fowls. At the county fairs of the past two years, the number and beauty of the improved breeds of poultry excited the admiration and astonishment of all. The attention of our farmers was drawn towards poultry-raising, and men of taste and wealth among them, began at once to manifest more interest in this subject.

The quality and variety of both foreign and native fowls has increased so rapidly that—taking the hint from BARNUM, perhaps—those interested met and organized the above association, which held its first annual exhibition in January last. Had I entertained any doubt of the reality of the affair, that doubt was dispelled when I came near the entrance of the hall where the exhibition was held. But when the door was opened, my ears were greeted with such an outpouring of salutations and overtures, that I stopped on the threshold for some minutes in wondering amazement. It seemed as if every cock was crowing defiance to his neighbor; nor was there any monotony in the tones, or the key-note of this new fangled orchestra;—for, by turns, the shrill, piping tenor of the bantam, the deep, guttural bass of the Shanghai, the chirp of the canary, and the voice of the mocking-bird, parrot or guinea-fowl could be distinguished; but above all, at regular intervals, rang out the hoarse “cronk, cronk,” of a large pair of Bremen geese.

Passing along, I first noticed a number of coops of Shanghaes, Brahma Pootras, Chittagongs, &c. The Shanghaes were beautiful—though large they seemed better favored than any I had before seen—in all the specimens of this breed exhibited, there was a vast improvement upon the specimens which I

first saw some years since. Then they were so tall, bony, gaunt, and ill-favored as to give point to the satirical remark of the negro, that “if you cut dere heads off, de legs would fall right apart.” No other breed exhibited so marked an improvement, though there were many beautiful specimens of Dorkings, Black Spanish, Cochin Chinas, and other fowls of foreign origin too numerous to mention. My knowledge of fowls is entirely too limited to allow me to speak critically of all that I saw; but I suspect that in one or two cases, at least, a foreign name was affixed to a coop containing our common fowl, somewhat peculiarly marked; yet in one case—that of a noble pair of common black turkeys—I feel certain that if a high-sounding polysyllable had been affixed to the coop, nineteen out of every twenty would have left satisfied that they had seen a new variety of the genus turkey.

The show of Pouterfowls was good; there were half a dozen varieties, of which the diminutive Sea-brights seemed to me the most beautiful. In fact, all the varieties which are commonly found in our poultry books, were more or less fully and well represented.

Besides several varieties of ducks and geese, I found a large cage with nearly forty canaries, another with a dozen of quails, and others still with wild pigeons and pheasants, or partridges. Again, as if the managers had tried to make the exhibition an *omnium gatherum*, in another room I saw a crow, and a large white owl, and near them cages containing Scotch terrier puppies, Guinea pigs, three different varieties of rabbits, English, Madagascar, and common wild and gray squirrels. I should not omit to notice a most superb pair of silver pheasants.

During the exhibition a large number of fowls changed owners, bringing from one to twenty dollars apiece. There was one, and but one, fault which I found. In two or three instances, the weight of large fowls was marked from two to three pounds too high, and that of small ones, too low; thus, cocks of fourteen pounds and hens of twelve, were marked upon printed cards; and bantams of ten and eight ounces; when any one at all acquainted with poultry, could see the incorrectness of the statement at once. Altogether, the exhibition was one which reflects great credit upon this part of Pennsylvania.

Yours, &c., E.

EASTON, Penn., 1855.

A woman may as reasonably be proud of the lilies of the field, or the tulips of the garden, as of the beauty of her own face.