

tion. How about the Wyandotte? Why simply a Hamburg and a dark Brahma crossed. What are Red caps? Hamburgs and brown breasted games intermixed probably by a "fluke" on the part of some Yorkshire cottager. The present Minorcas which excel all others as egg-producers and for size, are the result of a cross between a common barnyard fowl, in the British Islands Minorca and Majorca in the Mediterranean Sea and a black Spanish. And so we might ask of the Game Bantams, of the Houdans, La Fleche, Crevecoeur and other breeds produced by skillful crossing and long continued selection to fix the type. But crossing requires skill: and the progeny resulting cannot be called anything but mongrels until, by continued selection and breeding, the characteristics become fixed, so that they will reproduce themselves; and there is no doubt by manipulating, and uniting the size of the Brahmas with the egg-producing prolificacy of the Minorca, and the table qualities of the Dorking, a general fowl, can be produced; but the scientific facts that two elements, flesh-producing and egg-producing, cannot be combined in the same anatomy, is sufficient evidence that opposite qualities cannot be combined in the same animal. With all the multiplicity of breeds of poultry, every Ontario farmer should look on the great principles in breeding, and that is, opposites are not produced from the same elements; eggs and flesh are not combined in the same fowl; speed and weight in the same horse; beef and milk in the same cow. Very few people would imagine that the poultry interests of Canada Great Britain, the United States, and France, were paramount. In France it outweighs all, others, and in the United States it ranks ahead, of the wheat crop, the cotton output, the dairy product, the iron and steel sales and doubles the hog industry.

Just so! The poultry industry is not the "very small potatoes" that some people imagine it to be, and it is only in its infancy, remember that; it will be the giant in the family of industries in the near future. But the writer of the above has a rather slim idea of the difficulties to be encountered in making up new breeds. For instance, he says: "How about the Wyandotte? Why simply a Hamburg and a dark Brahma crossed." But it is no "simple" thing, he can't slap a dark Brahma and a Hamburg together and get a Wyandotte quite so easy as that comes to, or if so, his fortune is established, and he will need no further legacies. The Brahma—Cochin craze of forty years

ago, is over, and we will never see its like again in all probability, but it did one good service; it created such an interest in poultry as had not been known before, and which has been largely instrumental in establishing the business of the present day; for though many were only influenced for the time, others began to look at the possibilities of the case with more interest than they had felt hitherto, and being persuaded of its profitable and healthy nature gave it more thoughtful attention, and finally blossomed into one of the many fathers of the poultry industry. Thus the craze though often referred to with derision, did not only do any harm, but was a positive birth of the enterprise into active, healthy life, and though the excitement of the actual moment of its birth is past, it still lives, grows and thrives, and as far as we can determine, there is no limit to its growth and progress, to which last sentence we heartily say, amen.

COMING SHOWS.

Industrial Exhibition at Toronto, Sept. 9 to 21. H. J. Hill, Secretary.

Central at Ottawa, Sept. 9 to 14. C. R. W. MacCuaig, Secretary, Ottawa.

Great Central Fair at Hamilton, Sept. 23 to 27. C. R. Smith, Secretary, Hamilton.

Great Northern Exhibition at Collingwood, Sept. 25 to 27. T. J. Crawford, Secretary, Collingwood.

West Simcoe, at Stayner, October 1, 2 and 3. Dunnville, Dec. 3, 4, and 5. R. H. Marshall Sec'y.

OHIO.

Central Ohio, at Mt. Gilead, Ohio, January 7th to 11, 1890. J. Y. Bickdell, Judge, W. F. Bruce, Secretary.

Cleveland, January 14th to 19th, 1890. C. C. Schellentrager, Sec., Glenville.

Fayette Association, at Washington C. H., January 14th to 10th, 1890. J. B. Collier, Sec. Union, at Cardington, Dec. 17 to 21, 1889, G. S. Singer, Secretary.

NEW YORK.

International, Buffalo, N.Y., December 11th to 18th, 1889. H. M. Fales, Sec., La Salle, N.Y.

To assist in leading boys upon farms to love the homestead, allow them to build a fowl-house, and then give them a trio or two of choice fowls and a year's subscription to a good poultry journal. Such investments will pay as well as any you can possibly make.