

mens not disqualified are scored. And, when accompanied by a clerk, as "Pure Blood" describes, why should this method occupy more time, or as much time, as taking each specimen out and looking it over and over till the whole is committed to memory? I cannot see why scoring with a clerk is not the shortest method of the two by far.

Now, Sir, does it not occur to your mind that language used in connection with this feature of the case at the annual meeting of the Association was a little strong? Why any of our local judges should take the advocacy of this system as a personal offence I cannot understand. I, for one, say, and say it emphatically, that I have never directly or indirectly impugned the honesty of any of our judges. I have attacked their system as being an obsolete one, and I shall continue to do so till they adopt one more reasonable, and partaking of the advancement of the age. By these reforms their advocates cannot expect favors, for by them such a thing is made impossible, and every judge, wherever he be, is in a position to deal out square, even-handed justice to every man; and he cannot fail to give satisfaction to nearly all, for if a judge go into a room not knowing one man's bird from another's, and by a score-card give a reason for his decision, how can exhibitors reasonably complain. I admit that this will not make his judgement perfect; nor can any system do this, either morally, physically or mentally; but because we cannot become perfect, shall we decide not to improve at all? Surely not. Where would the world of improvements be to-day if all had adopted this course.

When we consider the number and magnitude of shows judged by I. K. Felch,—New York, for example, 220 Light Brahmas and 232 Plymouth Rocks—and keenness of the competition under such circumstances, and how few public complaints have ever appeared against him; and when we go further and examine the system with which he has become identified, giving to every man a detailed report of his work so that his decisions can be compared with those of others, is it not an unanswerable argument in favor of this system that so few complaints have arisen?

Of course I attribute all this to the system carried out by a competent judge, for I assume that I. K. F. is an honest man, and desirous of giving satisfaction by fair judging. His readiness to adopt the scoring system and to use it at every show he judges, thus giving exhibitors an opportunity to criticise his decision with those of others, proves this.

I do not mean to say that those who do not believe in this system, and do not adopt it, are actuated by dishonest motives. I do not think so, but I do think that by the present system they cannot nor have not the means of proving their integrity by

a complete report of their decision. To what does O. Mowat or Sir John A. resort when any insinuations of dishonesty is made? Why the full record of the case or transaction, or the report; and what would be thought of them if they said, "No means have yet been instituted in this particular case by which a record is kept, by which a report can be made out?"

I had not intended to return to this subject again, but have made up my mind that now is the time to get the mind of the fancy on this matter. If the majority say nay! then I am satisfied to remain as we are, at if the opposite is the truth let us have it.

Yours sincerely,

STANLEY SPILLET.

Lefroy, March 31st, 1884.

### Frauds.

It is an old saying that there is fraud in every trade, but there is scarcely any business where fraud can be carried out, by any one so disposed, with so much impunity as in the poultry and egg line. It is a sort of pig in the poke affair from beginning to end, and all that is to be depended upon is the known character of the party from whom one is purchasing, for honesty and squareness in dealing. A person may buy a setting of expensive eggs from another party at a distance, they arrive apparently all right, but after three weeks of patient waiting, nothing comes from them, and then the season is partially or wholly lost. Of course I do not include in this category all who sell eggs, for their number is legion, but there are some who make a business of selling eggs that are never intended to hatch, and which are of no earthly use except to the man who sells them for \$2.00 or more a dozen.

There are several varieties of frauds which I will consider in this article, and we may sum them up under the following heads, as egg frauds and fowl frauds. Under the first named there are those who sell eggs knowing them to be not fertile, or in which the vitality is purposely destroyed. There are those again who advertise eggs of certain breeds and strains of fowls that, when hatched, do not in the most remote particular resemble the breed represented, but are in most cases dunghills, or some scrub stock of perhaps several varieties of fowls; and there are again some who when asked for a certain kind of eggs will say they can supply them, and they do so at 15 cents per dozen from the nearest grocery store; but the after purchaser generally has the privilege of paying \$2.00 or \$2.50 a dozen for these same eggs. With this kind of fraud I have had experience, for I have been sold myself, and I only found it out by the merest accident from a third person. In this case I was