

Our Poultry Number.

As the poultry industry of Canada has assumed such enormous proportions of late years, and bids fair to become one of the most important departments of agriculture, we have decided to issue at stated intervals special poultry numbers.

The present issue is the first of this series, and will be found to contain a vast amount of valuable material, comprising a full report of the Ontario Poultry Association's Exhibition and Convention at New Hamburg, the prize essays which were written on "Poultry Raising from a Farmer's Standpoint," and much other matter of interest to both poultry breeders and farmers generally.

Our Frontispiece.

This illustration was prepared especially for the Manitoba Poultry Show, and portrays prize-winning birds, the property of some of the principal poultry fanciers in Manitoba. They are as follows:

S. LING,

FORT ROUGE, WINNIPEG.

Mr. S. Ling, the proprietor of the Fort Rouge Poultry Yards, is a native of Suffolk county, England, where he was born in 1854, coming to Manitoba in 1880. He soon entered into his favorite occupation, that of breeding pure-bred fowls. From a comparatively modest beginning Mr. Ling has steadily increased his yards, till they now contain eleven varieties, namely:—Light Brahma, Langshan, Plymouth Rocks, both barred and white, Gold and Silver Laced and Black and White Wyandotte, Black Cochins, Pekin Ducks, Bronze turkeys, and black and gray rabbits.

Pen No. 1 of our illustration shows very handsome pairs of Mr. Ling's Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes.

After experimenting for the past eleven years with almost every known variety of fowl, he has come to the conclusion that for this country the Light Brahma and the Langshan are the best table fowl, and the Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks the best general purpose or farmer's fowl. Mr. Ling has kept an exact account of the receipts and expenditures in connection with his poultry, and has every year made a handsome profit. Throughout the present winter fresh eggs have been in so great demand that 50 cents per dozen has been freely paid, and he has received enough from the sale of fresh eggs to pay running expenses.

For winter accommodation he allows a space of 7 feet x 14 feet x 6 feet high for 24 birds, does not use any artificial heat, but has the pens let into the ground about two feet.

Since poultry shows were introduced into Manitoba, Mr. Ling has always taken a goodly share of the "boodle," upwards of 100 prizes in all having been won by him for poultry of various kinds.

W. RUTHERFORD,

180 GARRY STREET, WINNIPEG.

Born near Galt, Ont. Mr. Rutherford has a natural taste for all kinds of good stock (a cousin of his it was who upheld the honor of Ontario at the World's Fair Fat Stock Show, in the sheep classes, by "scooping in" nearly every prize on the list.)

Ever since "Willie" was "knee high to a duck," he has displayed a strong partiality for high-class poultry, and has been an exhibitor and prize winner in Ontario before coming to Manitoba. He is making a good start in this country, having shown a good enough pen of Barred Plymouth Rocks (No. 2 of our illustration) to win the silver cup, value \$25.00, at the last Winnipeg Industrial over every other breed, including many of solid color; twenty-seven pens in all competing. This pen is headed by the great bird, Octimus 2nd.

Besides Barred Rocks, Mr. Rutherford has White Rocks, headed by Snow Drift, Silver Laced and White Wyandottes, and Light Brahmas, headed by Monarch of the West.

As will be remembered, besides capturing the silver cup on pen at the Industrial, he also won first on pair White Plymouth Rocks, first on pair Light Brahmas, second on pair Light Brahmas, second on pair Silver Laced Wyandottes.

His poultry house is seven feet by forty-two feet, divided into six pens by woven wire partitions. A stove is kept in the building for occasional use in severe weather and to dry off any dampness.

A. CURLE,

FORT ROUGE, WINNIPEG.

With a keen eye to pure-bred stock of all kinds, Mr. Andrew Curle has gathered round him a fine little flock of Light Brahmas, Minorcas and Bronze turkeys. With each variety he has been very successful, and as reported in the columns of the ADVOCATE at the time, captured a big share of the prizes at Winnipeg Industrial last summer, including first on Bronze turkey poult of '93, first, second and third on Light Brahma chickens, and second on pair and breeding pen of Black Minorcas.

That handsome pair of Black Minorcas in our illustration No. 3, are a specimen of the kind of birds Mr. Curle raises; the hen is a particularly fine one.

The foundation stock of his Black Minorca flock were procured from the yards of Thos. Reid, Win-

nipeg, mated with an imported rooster. They have given every satisfaction; the pullets have been laying since early in December.

The Brahmas are from the yards of H. W. Dayton, Virden, and S. Ling, and some from the States. It is needless to say that these birds give first-rate return for their board bill.

The Mammoth Bronze turkeys are headed by a fine gobbler from the flock of Sir D. A. Smith, at Silver Heights.

We noticed also at Mr. Curle's yards a promising young Yorkshire sow, which he recently got from Ridout & Percival, Solsgrith, N. W. T., and also some extra nice grade Berkshires. All stock was in good, thrifty condition.

H. K. ZAVITZ,

CARBERRY.

Born in Lobo township, county Middlesex, Ontario. Came west to Manitoba some ten years ago. Having always a strong fancy for poultry breeding in Ontario, coming to this country did not alter his mind as to the advantages of keeping good poultry on the farm.

His poultry house, an illustration of which appears in No. 4 of our frontispiece, is about 65 feet in length, with yards 120 feet by 12 feet wide. He uses a stove in the building for heating and preparing food for the fowls.

Mr. Zavitz's yards contain some of the finest birds in the province. His Light Brahmas and Barred Plymouth Rocks are a particularly grand lot, while his Bronze turkeys and Pekin ducks are simply "immense," and in Indian Games and Brown Leghorns his are equal to the best.

In order to go on improving and building up his flock he has this year imported from the Ottawa district some new blood of the very best strains.

Last season so great was the demand for eggs for hatching that he was tempted to sell a little short. This year, however, he intends to devote his energies more closely than ever to increasing his own flock.

H. A. CHADWICK,

"DEER LODGE," ST. JAMES.

Occupying the central portion of our front page illustration is a cut of the extensive poultry house and yards, and also of some of the celebrated birds belonging to Mr. Chadwick, "Deer Lodge."

The poultry house, which was newly erected last summer, is situated on the south side of a heavy bluff of native trees, and, in fact, is well sheltered on all sides. It is a log structure 110x16 feet, shed roof 6 feet high at eaves, divided into 11 pens with woven wire partitions; a large double window in each pen facing south, and a passage running full length along north side. A stove in the centre keeps the whole building dry and quite warm, and the fowls seem all to be in the best of condition. Dust baths, gravel and all other essentials to their comfort and well-being are supplied liberally.

In pen No. 1 are the Buff Cochins. These, we think, are "Chad's" particular pets, and he may well be proud of them—the old cock and one hen being wonderfully perfect, combs evenly serrated and upright, toe feathering perfect and color faultless, being of that rich reddish buff; even the under plumage and quills are rich buff.

A magnificent lot of Langshan pullets occupy pen No. 2: they are good enough to stand next to the beautiful Buff Cochins.

In No. 3 are White-faced Black Spanish.

In No. 4 are the Partridge Cochins, including the pair that were winners of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE special prize as the best pair of birds at the Winnipeg Industrial last July.

In the next pen are the Barred Plymouth Rocks, including a cock which we think will be hard to beat in any ring; his coloring is darker and more perfect than any bird of his age we have seen. There are also some specially fine hens and pullets in this pen.

Next come the Light Brahmas, with another magnificent, lordly chap in charge of a fine lot of hens, and in the next are the Dark Brahmas, including a wonderfully fine cock and pullets.

Then follow pens of Dorkings, pea fowl, a number of White and Pearl guineas—the noisy little hustlers that are so useful about a poultry yard, giving instant warning of the approach of stray dogs, hawks, &c.

Half-a-dozen golden pheasants occupy the end pen; very shy and timid they are, but very beautiful.

There are also a number of Pit Games, and last and also the least are the Black African Bantams, which are given the liberty of the whole ranch, and take it too.

Mr. Chadwick's successes in poultry shows are too well known to require renumeration here; wherever he has shown he has captured first in every class entered for. His reputation as a judge of poultry is well known, and his services are in demand at the summer and fall shows throughout the country.

THOMAS REID,

293 LIZZIE STREET, WINNIPEG.

Born in Hespeler, Ontario, and for the past twelve years a resident of Manitoba, the last six of which he has taken an active interest in poultry breeding, having at the present time two poultry houses—one 8x12 feet, the other 10x20 feet, in neither of which does he use a stove, and his birds have always done well. He keeps a number of breeds, but as layers

prefers the following in the order named:—Black Minorcas, Golden Wyandottes, Black-breasted Red Game, Barred Plymouth Rocks, with Light Brahmas at the head of the list for table fowl. He also thinks very highly of the White Wyandottes.

As an exhibitor, Mr. Reid has been a very successful prize-winner at all the industrial exhibitions. Last year, out of six entries in classes in which there was strong competition, he got three firsts, one second and two thirds, placed as follows: First on Golden Wyandottes, White Wyandottes and B. B. R. Games; second on Black Minorcas, and third on White Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks. No. 6 shows a pair of Black Minorcas and a pair of Golden Wyandottes from these yards.

J. MCCLURE,

448 CAREY STREET, WINNIPEG.

Block No. 7 of the engraving represents a beautiful pair of White Leghorns from the yards of Mr. J. McClure, which are situated on Carey street, west of Manitoba College. He breeds White Leghorns and Light Brahmas, and has ample room to accommodate his feathered favorites. When Mr. McClure came from Brampton, Ont., some fourteen years ago, he brought with him a few pure-bred White Leghorns. By carefully selecting his best laying hens and mating them with pure-bred cocks from Ontario, Quebec and the United States, he has succeeded in building up a fine laying strain of these birds.

For the last four years he has taken the precaution to introduce a new male bird every year, two of them being from two well-known American yards, and none of the four being related. It is no doubt owing to this wise policy, as well as his long experience in breeding White Leghorns, that since he began to sell eggs for hatching he has only had one complaint, although he has shipped eggs all over Manitoba, and as far west as Alberta.

He is more intent upon producing vigorous laying hens than upon breeding for fancy points, and has no use for a Leghorn hen which might score one hundred points but lay few eggs.

Mr. McClure's introduction of Light Brahmas is of quite recent date. They are his incubators and brooders. They are large, well-marked fowl, and we have no doubt but that under his careful management this breed will not deteriorate in any points of excellence, while, judging from his Leghorn record, they will lay eggs which will hatch a fair percentage of chicks.

We can confidently recommend any of our readers who are in need of new blood for their flocks to go to Mr. McClure, as there are very few poultry yards indeed where so little inbreeding has been done.

Mr. McClure is in communication with several of the best American breeders to procure a cock to head his yards for this season, and by the time this goes to press he will have arrived. This will make the fifth successive year in which a well-bred White Leghorn cockerel of new blood and strain has flourished in these yards.

C. MIDWINTER,

ST. JOHN, WINNIPEG.

Mr. C. Midwinter, as cut No. 8 shows, makes a specialty of Black Minorcas, in the breeding of which he has been singularly successful, having secured all the first prizes at the Winnipeg Industrial in 1893, and all the firsts and seconds in 1892. Though so successful in the management of this breed, he does not confine all his attention to Minorcas by any means, as in addition to them he has a number of Light and Dark Brahmas, Partridge Cochins, Barred Plymouth Rocks, Bronze turkeys, Pekin ducks and Toulouse geese.

He, like so many of Manitoba's prominent farmers, is a native of Ontario, having been born at Burford, in the county of Brant. After removing to Manitoba he settled upon a farm in the municipality of Springfield, where he is looked upon as one of the most progressive farmers of the section. Last year his crop amounted to 1,400 bushels. A field of fifteen acres of wheat averaged 40 bushels per acre. He also has a well-bred herd of Berkshires, comprising both pure-bred and grades.

Having been engaged in the poultry business in Ontario, he early saw the opportunities in Manitoba, and at once turned his attention in this direction, with the result that his business has increased to such an extent that he has found it necessary to devote his time largely to the interests of his poultry. With this object in view he purchased ten acres of land in the district near St. John, and lying within the corporation of the city of Winnipeg, where he will erect suitable buildings and engage more largely in his chosen profession. He has gone to great expense in providing himself with the best regardless of cost, and added to his already large stock several new strains, including ducks and geese from the well-known breeder, Mr. Shoemaker, of Freeport, Ill., U. S. A.

He is thoroughly in love with the land of his adoption. After having visited Mexico, Oklahoma and other places in the south, he returned entirely satisfied with the prairie province. Mr. Midwinter is a veteran poultry breeder of thirty years' standing.