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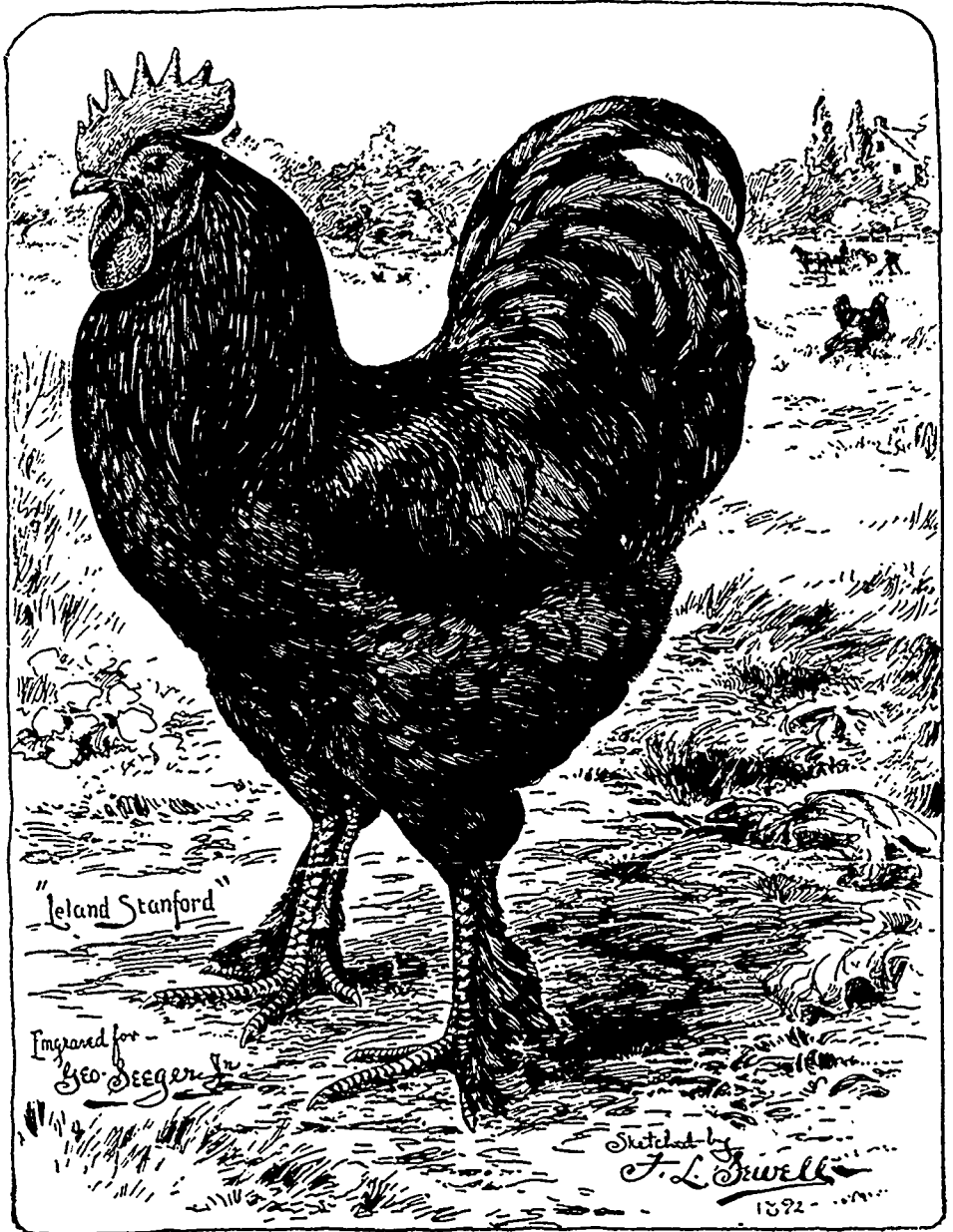
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"LELAND STANFORD."

Score 96 ; by I. N. Barker.

Owned by GEO. SEEGER JR., LaFayette c, Ind.

THE CANADIAN POULTRY REVIEW

DEVOTED TO POULTRY, IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

PUBLISHED BY H. B. DONOVAN.

VOL. XV.

58½ VICTORIA STREET, TORONTO, JUNE, 1892.

No. 6.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Editor of this Journal has assumed control of the Canadian Department of the *Poultry Monthly* published at Albany, N.Y., and beginning with the April issue, this Department appeared under his charge. The *Monthly* is without doubt the best poultry journal published in the United States, and its Canadian Dept't will be made a leading feature. We bespeak for it the support of our readers, and a glance at our business columns will show that we have been able to make very favorable terms for those who wish to take two or more of the journals with which we are connected. To those who wish to try the advertising columns of the *Monthly*, we can offer more favorable terms on yearly contracts than have yet been given, especially to those who are regular patrons of the *Review*. Write us for terms on any size space.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

MESSRS. C. A. SHARP & CO.,

WRITE us "Our trade has been very satisfactory and we are well satisfied with the returns secured from your paper as an advertising medium."

MR. J. M. CARSON,

lately of Orangeville, is now residing at Whitfield, about 16 miles from his former location.

MR. S. M. CLEMO

is another "emigrant," he has shifted his quarters to Galt, where he will be quite an acquisition to the recently formed Association there. His entire stock of fowls accompany him.

MR. JNO. NUNN, TORONTO,

recently received from one of the leading breeders in England some sittings of Spanish eggs which arrived in excellent condition. It is now some two or three and twenty years since Mr Nunn took up the breeding of Spanish in Canada, and he has since stuck to this variety through thick and thin.

MR. H. H. WALLACE

has gone to live in Norwich from which town he wrote us a few days ago. He has received a lucrative position as book-keeper with Messrs. Walker, Harper & Co., millers and grain dealers, and likes his new location well. All his poultry will be moved down and will be placed on farms in the vicinity, thus securing much more room for exercise than in his old place of residence, Woodstock.

MESSRS. JNO. COLE, HAMILTON,

and J. H. Paton, Toronto, have rented a place of about 15 acres at Burlington, and purpose going into poultry on a more extensive scale, both fancy and for market purposes. With the experience both these gentlemen possess, the undertaking should prove a success.

OWEN SOUND ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of this Association the following officers were

elected: President, John Chisholm; 1st Vice-President, Jas. Penny; 2nd Vice-President, L. K. Elwin; Treasurer, F. W. Harrison; Secretary, Jas. McLaren; Directors, E. Trist, L. Davel, J. C. Benner, D. Comely, S. Fox, H. Grier, W. Lloyd, R. McLean; Auditors, E. Trist and H. Wright.

WITH CHICKENS.

The *Scottish Fancier* is responsible for the following:

"A good story is told about a young lady from London who was spending her holidays on a farm near Lumsden Village. One day not long after she had arrived at the farm, the farmer's wife was showing her round the poultry yard, and on coming to some very large hens she greatly surprised the farmer's wife by exclaiming—'These are very fat hens, Mrs. T—; they are surely with chickens.'"

NO SHEPHERDS.

Quite as good was the speech of our own bright little six year old, a thorough fancier. We make it a rule to feed our "furred" stock every night by lamplight and on our rounds he invariably accompanies us. A Himalayan doe rabbit recently kindled a litter of eight, and, in showing them to him he exclaimed, "Is that big rabbit the mother of all these little ones?" On our replying in the affirmative, he made the innocent re-

mark, "Well, pop, *I don't see any shells, anyway.*" He is an observer at any rate.

MR. J. L. CORCORAN, STRATFORD, was in Toronto for part of last month. In a conversation with us he spoke of getting out from England some more Dorkings and Spanish.

"GRANDPA" MAIN.

Mr. Jas. Main, Boyne, is now probably in England, searching high and low for black-reds. We met him on his way to Montreal and he said he would bring a few over surely.

A CHICK WITH FOUR LEGS.

Mr. Fred Goebel writes us that he has a strong lively chick with double the usual quantum of legs, and wants to know if we had heard of anything like this before. Cases of this kind are not so unusual as may be supposed, but the chicks almost invariably die soon after hatching. If Mr. Goebel can raise this one, it would be worth while showing it as a curiosity.

MR. JNO. GRAY, TODMORDEN, complains that he has been treated shabbily by the Ontario Association. He offered a special of \$1 which was won by Mr. S. M. Clemo and paid to him at the show. A letter from the Treasurer of the Association (which we have seen) "when paying his prize" money, says he stops \$1 for his special and now he was recently applied to again for this same special and we believe has paid it, making the third time. We are sure we have but to mention the matter to have the money refunded.

WORLD'S FAIR.

An announcement from the Ontario Commissioner will be found elsewhere. Any breeders wishing to exhibit should apply at the office of the Commissioner for information, lists, &c

POULTRY

MONTHLY MORSELS.

BY F. A. MORTIMER, POTTSVILLE, PA.

IT is often better to go a good way around than to take a short cut across the lots.

Bones are excellent for all classes of poultry and are more highly relished when fresh than at any other time. The difficulty with bones is in preparing them. When the flock is large the poultryman cannot afford the time to pound them, while the grinding of the bones when they are in a green condition is no easy matter. They are equally as beneficial, so far as the phosphates and lime are concerned, when dry, as when fresh, only there is a loss of the meat and gelatine of the bones. When fresh, a large mass of bones will require vigorous pounding with a hammer, or grinding in a strong mill. For ordinary use, the better plan is to render them brittle by heating them in a stove, or by steaming them. If then broken in pieces the size of a walnut they can be easily ground in a hand bone mill, which will be found very convenient.

A little fresh meat occasionally in the absence of insects, is good.

Eggs that are to be sold for hatching purposes should receive extra attention.

It is very hard sometimes to tell the difference from the female guinea fowl. The rattles of the male are a little larger than those of the female and he sometimes exhibits gallantry toward the female by calling her when he finds

something good to eat. Once in a while the male has a fashion of running on tip-toe in a manner the female never affects.

"The coming man" in the poultry business is the honest man.

The season for lice is now at hand. Let's "strike."

Keep the young ducks and turkeys growing right along; if any are wanted for the Thanksgiving market, they will be found of good size and in good shape to take on flesh and fat.

There should be no excess of animal matter given to poultry in warm weather in the shape of meat, oil cake, etc. A little is good, but too much is good for nothing.

Wheat chaff is an excellent thing to throw into your poultry pens. It gives the fowls exercise by scratching amongst it, and they seem to enjoy it very much.

Now is a good time to use whitewash liberally. Indeed all times are suitable for whitewashing, but as summer heat and vermin agree only too well whitewash is especially desirable in hot weather.

Nothing can be more vexatious and discouraging than to have a fine flock of young fowls droop and die one by one, and from no apparent cause; but how often does this occur? The beginner is apt to try all the remedies he has ever heard of for the various poultry disorders, before giving up in despair, satisfied that some mysterious and contagious malady has attacked his fowls. Nine times out of ten, in cases of this kind, if he will examine the chick's head, he will find the little

grey parasite commonly known as the hen louse. These vermin are very small, sometimes so small as to escape a casual examination; but any one who has ever been so unfortunate as to get these mites on his hands or body, can testify to the exquisite torture produced by these little fiends, and how much more must they torment the little helpless chick, whose skin is so tender that we can hardly handle without bruising it!

A good supply of dry earth and fine gravel will be found a great convenience during the breeding season. The gravel supply should not be neglected until the creeks are running full of water and it is impossible to get it.

Diarrhoea in young chicks prevails to a great extent in the summer months. Those suffering with it should be examined, and if necessary the flabby feathers about the seat should be clipped off with a pair of scissors. They should be fed on food that is not laxative, and a little prepared chalk might be mixed in their food with safety, and would undoubtedly produce good results.

Those who sneer and make light of our Standard bred birds encourage a retrograde movement. It took years of perseverance and skill to bring them to their present state of perfection.

"Cracklings" are only fit for fattening. They have no egg properties, and supply in a measure the want of insects.

SHOW GAMES.

WOULD any sane man not influenced by a fancy for the monstrous ever discover any attraction in the exhibition Game

fowls now shown as the cream of the product of our best game yards? The show Game fowl of to-day is a living monument of the wonderful possibilities of scientific breeding. By scientific breeding all that was beautiful in the old Game fowl has been destroyed and in their place we have a fowl that would haunt the mighty dreams of any man unaccustomed to the sight of nature in her terrifying moods. The old Game fowl was a thing of beauty, and some of the pit strains of to-day still preserve that attractive type, but the snaky show Games now shown are such an exaggeration of "station" and "style" that nothing but station and style remains. The practical points have been destroyed in attaining the much-sought for long legs, long necks, extreme close feathering, and whip tails.

Mr. Editor, I would like to know if the best interests of Game breeders would not be subserved by a return to the old type or something near it?

F. M. CLEMANS, JR.

NOTES.

BY BLACK WYANDOT.

THE egg trade is not what it once was. People have learned a good lesson by experience and prefer buying fowls to buying eggs. In this they are wise. The purchaser of eggs is buying a "pig in a poke," while the purchaser of fowls is buying actual value. Every breeding pen no matter how well mated or well bred will throw more or less culls. Just as like as not the purchaser of eggs gets the culls and he naturally kicks.

* * *

Buy fowls and buy the best,—that is the best advice that can be given a beginner. Ten dollars invested in a

trio of fowls is a more profitable investment than ten dollars invested in eggs because the purchaser of the trio gets twice ten dollars worth of eggs from them and has the trio left, and not much depreciated in value either. The writer has bred fine fowls for many years and finds the egg trade decreasing and the trade in fowls increasing from year to year.

EASTERN ONTARIO POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

REGULAR monthly meeting of above Association was held in the office of the Central Canada Exhibition Association, on Monday, May 2nd. The attendance was not as large as usual owing to the fact that a number of other attractions were going on the same night.

The minutes of former meeting were read and approved.

Mr. E. H. Benjamin read a paper entitled, "Poultry Associations, who do they benefit most, the Fancier or the Farmer?" and at the conclusion received a hearty vote of thanks.

The question of judges at the County and Township Fairs was discussed at some length, and it was decided to take some steps to try and have proper persons appointed to judge at these fairs.

Mr. Gilbert of the Experimental Farm made a lengthy speech, in which he referred to the good the Association had done, and hoped that the practice of reading papers at the monthly meetings would be continued, he also referred to the judges at the local fairs, as being in most cases very incompetent, often being persons who did not know one breed from another, and thought that some steps should be taken by the Association in the matter.

After a few small accounts being passed the meeting adjourned.

ALFRED GEDDES,

Secretary.

[Mr. Benjamin's very interesting paper will be found in this issue. — Ed.]

TORONTO POULTRY, PIGEON AND PET STOCK ASSOCIATION.

REGULAR monthly meeting of the above Association was held in Temperance Hall on Thursday the 12th May, 1892. The President Mr. John Miles in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The special prize for the heaviest 1892 chick brought out some very nice early birds, Mr. Joseph Bennett winning first on a Plymouth Rock pullet, weight 2 lbs. 4 oz.; Mr. C. J. Daniels 2nd, on a buff Leghorn cockerel. Mr. W. Fox brought a nice pair each of Lop and Dutch rabbits. This closes the show season for the year 1892. Mr. Bennett read a paper on raising young chicks, and a discussion thereon brought out some good pointers for young beginners. It was moved by Mr. Gray, seconded by Mr. Downs, that we now adjourn until the first Thursday in September. Carried.

JOHN GRAY,
Secretary.

POULTRY ASSOCIATIONS. WHO DO THEY BENEFIT MOST: THE FARMER OR FANCY BREEDER?

BY MR. E. H. BENJAMIN, OTTAWA.

THIS is a question that at first thought one would be inclined to answer in favor of the Fancy. This may be true in one sense, but in reality it is for the farmers' benefit. I am sorry to say, however, that as a general rule the farmer is the last one who takes an interest in what would tend to his good and benefit by a live Poultry Association. How few farmers, for instance, do we see at the exhibitions of poultry associations, even when they are held almost at their own doors. By attend-

ing these exhibitions, I contend that they would be benefiting themselves, because they would then see the various improved breeds, and learn that some are noted for their egg producing qualities, others for their marketable purposes, while others embrace both essential points, and make them what they so much require at the present moment, and are for his benefit. A farmer can realize more out of poultry in proportion to the amount expended for their feeding and care than out of the rest of his stock. Yet how few of them look at it in that light. Another reason why the farmer should patronize these associations is that by attending these exhibitions and becoming an exhibitor, he strengthens the hands of those who are engaged in these organizations, he shows he takes an interest in what is intended to advance his interest. In doing this he can give his experience in their care and culture, but I fear he places too little value on such results. How many of us who have attended most of the county agricultural exhibitions, notice year after year the same birds exhibited, and how they are classified. I would almost venture a wager, if the question were asked of them what breeds they are intended to represent, they could not tell, and if they were asked to describe in a general way they could not tell or describe one leading variety from another. Even some of the Judges at these agricultural exhibitions, they are equally in the dark as to what varieties they are judging. This can only be obviated and overcome by either of the following means, viz. by either their becoming members and exhibitors of a good lively poultry association, or by the selection of a competent judge for the county association one who would point out to them the defects in their birds and inform them of the fact that the birds are nothing less than a common cross,

and advise them to at once become members and exhibitors of the nearest poultry association, as they then could see for themselves the various breeds, and at the same time obtain from the judge or members of the association such information as would lead him to select the most useful breeder and if the farmer will endeavor to keep fowls that are known to possess merit as they do with horses, cattle and sheep, and pay more attention to the poultry on the farm, and aim to derive a profit in proportion to the labor and food bestowed, instead of keeping breeds that are expected to lay by chance, or whenever the fowls find food enough to keep themselves in condition and producing eggs also. It is a mistake in farmers to not only overlook the breeds, but also to overlook the importance of giving the poultry a share of their attention as a profitable source of income, for in nearly all cases where poultry have received judicious management a fair profit has been received for the amount invested. Too much praise cannot be given to those who come under the name of "the Fancy Breeder" for the interest and energy they have taken in improving and bringing to the exhibition standard the various breeds of fowl, in order to accomplish this point they have incurred great expense, they pay out annually large amounts in importing new birds to improve their stock and keep them up to the required standard, they pay large amounts to the various express companies for the conveyance of their birds to and from the various exhibitions, they annually lose a large proportion of their birds by sickness contracted in attending these exhibitions. All these losses and expenses are incurred, in expectation of being reimbursed by sales to the farmer of some of their stock. How far their expectations are realized in this respect they alone can tell. There

are some who will say, "Oh, if it did not pay the fancy breeder to attend these exhibitions he would not." Let me say to such a person, they are greatly mistaken, for exhibitors, I mean the successful ones, no more than pay their expenses after they have deducted express charges, hire of help and losses from the amount received from premiums, to say nothing of those who are exhibitors and gain nothing. Some will say, why do they exhibit? The answer is, to advertise their stock, make sales, and show what care and attention can produce.

PRACTICAL POULTRY RAISING.

BY A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.

(Written for the Rural Press.)

(Continued.)

NOWadays we hear farmers in the older Provinces complain that their land is run down, and in consequence they cannot grow the crops that they used to thirty years ago, this, with the competition from the immense grain fields of the North-West, where wheat can be grown at less cost, in greater abundance and of better quality, are fruitful sources of complaint.

Why not grow something else that will meet with a ready sale, and that offers a reasonable probability of being remunerative. It will be generally admitted that those farmers in Ontario and Quebec who pay the most attention to dairying and stock-raising are much more successful in their calling than their neighbors who depend almost entirely on grain growing; I think I am putting it mildly when I say that very few farmers will dispute this.

Now we will compare cattle raising with growing spring chickens; you

raise a steer and sell him when three years old weighing a thousand pounds for four cents per lb., live weight, thus receiving forty dollars for an animal that you have fed for thirty-six months, and have kept housed in your barn for nearly half of that time, and which has had to be attended either by yourself or your man every day that it has been so housed. Now what do you propose to charge for labor? to say nothing of the feed, in arriving at an estimate of the cost of that steer.

We will figure a little on the cost of producing a thousand pounds of spring chickens: two hundred pairs of chicks of the right breed, will weigh a thousand pounds at the age of eleven weeks, and it should not cost over four cents per lb. to grow them; leaving their total cost, exclusive of eggs from which they were hatched, forty dollars: but the cost of the eggs is an important item, you had to set them about the first of February, when they were worth thirty cents per dozen, and we will suppose that you set seven hundred, this gives a liberal allowance for unfertile eggs, and casualties after the chicks hatched out, thus making the cost of your chicks \$57.50.

These chicks if placed on the Toronto or Montreal markets about the end of May will bring readily 80c per pair, thus realizing the snug sum of \$160.00, of which \$102.50 is profit, and it has taken just fourteen weeks from the time you set the eggs. Now what about that steer? If he cost you nothing for feed, and you know only too well that he did, he has still cost you three years of labor, which is about equivalent to what you get for him. Your thousand pounds of chickens give you over 150 per cent more clean profit than the total amount realized from the sale of your thousand pounds of beef.

You don't believe that such a price 80c. can be obtained, we know that

it can, but to meet your ideas of the matter, we will say that if you only realize 60c, you still have left the respectable sum of \$62.50 as clear profit.

Even if you are now satisfied that this price can be obtained, you perhaps doubt your ability to handle such a flock; and we are perhaps progressing a little too rapidly, but I have made this comparison of beef and poultry growing to attract your attention to what I shall subsequently have to say on this subject. I don't wish you to think for a moment that you could accomplish this with your present methods, neither could you harvest forty acres of grain without assistance, if you used the old sickle of fifty years ago: but the modern self-binder enables you to easily dispose of such a crop. You are quite convinced that modern agricultural machinery is an absolute necessity to every farmer who desires to keep pace with his neighbors.

Then why do you still cling to the time honored methods that were in vogue when Noah's lone pair stepped into the ark, in the management of your poultry?

This is an age of machinery, in farming as in every other pursuit, machines are indispensable, you plant your grain with a "Combined drill and seeder" you cut your hay with a "mower," harvest it with a "sulkey rake," your grain is cut with a "self binder," is threshed by machinery and then run through the fanning mill. Now, how would you like to dispense with these useful inventions, you would as soon think of making a journey of three or four hundred miles in your lumber waggon, instead of stepping aboard the train, and being whirled to your destination swiftly and in comfort. Inventive genius has perfected machines for every description of work, and while the varied uses to which electricity is applied are indeed wonderful, yet no less so is the modern "incubator"

which hatches chickens by thousands, and gets them out on the exact day that you want them. Thousands of these machines are now in use, you may not be aware of it, but it is a fact nevertheless, the incubator of to-day is not an experiment, but the leading makes are the result of years of patient study and experimenting, and are now as nearly perfect as human hands can make them. "Necessity is the mother of invention" and when poultry raisers found that they could get any quantity of eggs in the winter time, but could get no broody hens to hatch them, they began to look about them for some means of accomplishing this desideratum. For many years the student of "Artificial Incubation" was regarded as a sort of harmless lunatic, so also was the inventor of the steam engine, but no one nowadays doubts the efficacy of steam power, and the incubator of to-day is just as great a success in its line, as the swiftest locomotive ever built. In Canada comparatively few incubators are in use, but in the United States there are many large poultry raising establishments that would have to go out of the business but for these useful machines, in other words, they are the result of the invention of the incubator, which opened up a new industry that could not possibly be carried on by any other means. To give some idea of the extent to which incubators and brooders are being used in the United States, I may mention that at one large establishment in New Hampshire they keep sixteen incubators in almost constant operation, having a capacity of six hundred eggs each, then there is the well-known poultry farm of Mr. James Rankin who annually raises thousands of chickens and ducks for the Boston markets by the aid of his "Monarch Incubators" and brooders, Messrs. W. H. Rudd & Son who also cater to the Boston market, and raise

thousands of Plymouth Rock chickens, do all their hatching and rearing by artificial means. In New Jersey there is a little town called Hammonton where the chief industry is raising "broilers" for the New York and Philadelphia markets; they are all hatched in incubators and raised in brooders, thousands of them being marketed annually, many other cases could be mentioned but these are sufficient to give some idea of what is being done in commercial poultry raising. I will not weary the reader with any further exposition of the matter, but I deem it necessary to a proper appreciation of what is to follow that we should thus hastily survey what is actually being done at the present time. At this juncture it may be well to consider the question of supply and demand. We have no official statistics in Canada relating to the consumption of poultry and eggs, but American figures will serve our purpose very well in making an approximate estimate of our consuming powers.

In an article on "Comparative Taxation" by Edward Atkinson in the Century Magazine, June, 1890, he says:—"The value of the entire product of pig iron in that year (1880) was less than one-half the value of the eggs and poultry which were supplied from all the barn-yards of the country. There is no census of eggs and poultry known to me except the assessors returns in Ohio, but perhaps one may take as a standard of general consumption that of the factory boarding houses of New England, in which men and women are boarded at from \$2.25 to \$3.00 per week, and in which the "mealers" so called, who dwell elsewhere but who come for their meals are supplied with twenty one meals per week at a cost of \$1.60 for women and \$2.50 for men.

"The annual value of the poultry

"and eggs consumed per capita under such conditions, and at these prices for subsistence, is \$6.44 per adult.

' Bearing in mind the relatively large consumption of the product of the hen-yards in the South, and perhaps in the West, this may be considered at least an average standard. Our present population of about sixty-five millions, counting two children of ten years or under equal to one adult, has the consuming power of sixty million adults; at \$6.44 each the consumption of poultry and eggs, in round figures, may, therefore come to \$386,000,000 per annum. At the present time this sum is equal to about three times the annual value of the product of pig iron, four to five times the annual value of the wool clip, six to seven times the value of the entire product of all our silver mines, and about equal to the value of the cotton crop. But we depend for a part of our supply of eggs on the hens of Canada, Denmark and Holland.

"Whether this standard of consumption of poultry and eggs is a fair one, each reader may judge for himself. The value of the egg product only of Ohio, computed from the product according to the data collected by the assessors of each town and city, is greater than the value of the wool of Ohio.

Mr. I. K. Felch in his excellent work "Poultry Culture" in estimating the consumption of eggs says, "if each person in the United States were to eat one egg, there would be \$1,000,000 worth consumed at average prices; and if each person were to eat an egg each day for a year, the consumption of this one article of food would amount in the aggregate to \$365,000,000. But some "doubting Thomas" will say that there are thousands of our people who do not eat an egg each day. Granting this to be true, we must face the fact that many other thousands eat from

two to four daily, and that eggs enter very largely into the composition of many articles of food which we consume each day, such as cakes, pies, salads, coffee, custards and puddings."

Applying the same figures to Canada, and estimating our population at five millions, and eggs at an average price of 20c. per dozen; if each person in Canada were to eat an egg to day, there would be 416,666 dozen eggs consumed representing an aggregate value of \$83,333.00.

Then if each person in Canada were to eat an egg per day for a year, the consumption would amount to the enormous sum of \$30,416,545 00.

It is the opinion of the largest dealers in table poultry and eggs in New York and Boston, that a constant supply of first-class goods has a tendency to constantly increase the demand so that the probability of over-stocking the market is very remote. Mr. James Rankin, who is probably the largest breeder of market ducks in America, says that years ago when he first went into the business he had to go into Boston and almost worry the dealers to buy his ducks, but to-day with a stock of twelve-hundred breeding birds, he finds it difficult to fill his orders. Other large producers bear similar testimony to the demand for choice goods, and commission merchants find no difficulty in placing all that is offered at good prices, but there is no room for poor goods, and no money in it for anybody who handles such stuff. In Canada, at the present time, there is unfortunately very little else to be had, hence the low prices of dressed poultry.

Go on the markets of Toronto and Montreal at this season of the year, and you find little else but a lot of miserable scrub hens from one to five years old, the refuse of poultry yards all over the land, too old many of them to lay, and others after laying all winter

are sent to market because they are now broody and have ceased to lay, miserably these are tooth some birds (?) for an epicure.

It is an astonishing thing that the farmers of Canada will continue to stand in the way of their own interests by keeping such a miserable class of poultry as is found on the average farm, those who have added thorough bred fowl to their live stock readily see the advantage of them, but the best stock on earth will not be profitable unless managed with the same business direction which should characterize all farming operations. Having given an inkling of the possibilities of poultry raising, we will now enter upon the practical details of the subject, and in order that all our readers may thoroughly understand us, we shall have to start at the "beginning" and take nothing for granted; those old veteran breeders who probably know more of this subject than the writer, and who may get tired of wading through so much elementary detail, can skip that portion of it, but it must appear for the benefit of those of our readers who are mere tyros, anxious to learn anything that may prove of benefit to them. If at any time the writer advocates any method or makes any statement that does not coincide with the reader's views, please remember that you are not bound to accept it as authority, and it is given here simply as our opinion, which we must stick to until convinced that we are wrong.

MAKING A START.

We have frequently been asked which is the best general purpose breed, now if we mention any particular breed as being the best some of our brother breeders might take exception to the statement, as there are several breeds that lay claim to this honor. A doctor who takes the same medicine himself that he prescribes for his patients would at least be consider-

ed a consistent physician. Similarly we may say that after years of experimenting with the various pure breeds in our search for the most practically useful fowl, we long ago decided that for our purpose the Plymouth Rocks were superior to all others; the longer we breed them the better we like them, and we confidently recommend them to all who want a general purpose breed. Plymouth Rocks are good layers, particularly in cold weather when eggs bring the best price, they are good table fowls, being large and producing a fine quality of meat, are very hardy at all ages, indeed we find them without exception, the hardiest of any breed we have ever experimented with; the chicks grow fast and feather early and are fit to kill at any age from eight weeks old; they make the most attractive table poultry of any breed with which we are acquainted, and finally when well bred they are a handsome variety.

This combination of good qualities will account for our preference of the Plymouth Rocks, but it is for you to select the breed that you think will suit you the best; a few suggestions may perhaps assist you in making the selection. The income from your fowls is to be derived from eggs and market poultry, therefore it is important that you select a breed that produces an abundance of eggs early in the season when the weather is cold and most of the hens in the country are doing nothing, you will obtain the best prices of the year for such eggs as you wish to sell, and you will be enabled to hatch your chickens early, the pullets being saved for the next winter's laying stock, and the cockerels being placed on the market early before the general supplies of spring chicks appear will bring a good price, and often pay the cost of their own raising and the growing of the pullets to maturity, and perhaps leave a profit besides. In order to obtain the best price for your spring chicks it is of the greatest importance that you select a breed that embodies the popular ideal of what a first class table fowl should be.

(To be Continued.)

JACKSON—GURRY.

Editor Review:—

I MOST respectfully decline to run a side show with Mr. Jackson at the Industrial, but if he will modify his terms to suit me I will cover his deposit. You can see by the correspondence that I offered Mr. Jackson everything reasonable if he would show now, but he would have none but Bicknell for judge.

I will enter my light Brahma cock in the regular class at the Industrial, and if he will do the same, and allow them to be judged by the judge appointed, to that class, he will find that I have "courage enough" to accept his challenge.

E. GURRY.

Canning, Ont., May 18th, 1892.

P.S.—What about that \$25 sweep-stake. L.B. breeders beware!

(This is the last communication we can insert on this matter as it seems no nearer a settlement than before. We would suggest that Messrs. Jackson and Gurry use Her Majesty's mails, and let us know the final issue, when we shall be happy to announce it.—Ed.)

DOWNY FOWLS.

FOLLOWING is the history of the fowls as given by W. D. Hill, of North Bend, Ohio.

In the year 1887 among the chickens raised that year were three (3) that were entirely different from any of the Plymouth Rocks and Dominiques in the structure of the feathers, the feathers all being devoid of any web and fluffy; each spray standing out

DOWNY FOWLS.



PAIR OF ROSE-COMB LIGHT DOWNY FOWLS.

Originated in 1888, by

W. D. HILLS, North Bend, O.

separate from the next one like the sprays of an Ostrich plume.

In a neighboring town I found two pullets with the same kind of plumage, but of a different color, these I bought. From this start I have been breeding them, and am now breeding three separate colors, which I have named light, rock, and black Downys respectively.

The light Downys are not pure white, but show more or less of their Dominique ancestry on the male side in the wings, tail and neck. The two special characteristics of the Downys are, 1st, soft downy feathers which can be used for pillows and beds the same as geese feathers; 2nd, they are unable to fly at all owing to the webless character of their wings, hence are very easily kept within bounds as it is impossible for them to get over a three foot fence.

So far they breed very true to feather characteristics, and are also healthy, hardy, and prolific layers of large sized eggs. Full grown fowls average 13 to 14 pounds to the pair; and dress smooth and nice, having plump round bodies and clean legs. Young chicks are never naked and ungainly, and grow rapidly.

From what I have been able to learn fowls with downy plumage have occasionally happened in different flocks at different times, having seen several persons who have seen sports with downy plumage. In 1860 a man by the name of Edgcomb had a pen of downy fowls in New York State. He served in the war of the rebellion, and when he came home his Downys were all gone, and he has never been able to find any till he came across my fowls.

H.

DOWNY FOWL. SCORE CARD.

			SHAPE AND SIZE.	COLOR.	FEATHERS DOWNY.
1st	Head.....	10	2 Beak.....	1	1
			4 Head.....	3	1
			2 Eyes.....		2
			2 Face.....		2
2nd	Comb, etc.....	10	5 Comb.....	5	
			2 Wattles.....	1	1
			3 Earlobes.....	1	2
3rd	Neck.....	10	3 Neck.....	3	
			5 Hackle.....		2
			2 Throat.....	1	1
4th	Back.....	10	5 Back.....	2	1
			5 Saddle.....	2	1
5th	Breast.....	10	10 Breast.....	5	2
6th	Body.....	10	4 Body.....	3	1
			6 Fluff.....		2
7th	Wings.....	10	5 Wings.....	3	1
			5 Primaries & Secondaries		1
8th	Tail.....	10	7 Tail.....	3	1
			3 Tail Coverts.....		1
			4 Thighs.....	2	1
9th	Legs.....	10	3 Shanks.....	2	1
			3 Feet.....		3
10th	Condition.....	10	6 Weight.....		
			4 Condition.....	10	
			100	50	25
			100	25	25

Weight—Cock 8 lbs. ; cockerel 6½ lbs. ; hen 6 lbs. ; pullet 5 lbs.

Take up a list of the known breeds of poultry and make a classification of them into great layers, table fowls and general purpose fowls ; then count up in any poultry publication the number of breeders of each class, and you will find that the general purpose fowl is first and a long way ahead of either of the other classes. In proof of this statement, for I like to verify my own statements, I have examined a number of this publication with the following results:—table fowls 26 ; layers 40 ; general purpose fowls 61 This shows the general purpose fowl to be far in the lead and to nearly equal those of the other two classes combined. In list of table fowls I included exhibition Games and if these were dropped out, as some might contend they ought to be, the list of general purpose would be larger than the other two added together. As a matter of fact I believe it to be true that there are more general purpose fowls bred than there are of all other classes united. It is perfectly safe to make this assertion—the general purpose fowl is the most popular fowl in America.

WHAT IS A GENERAL PURPOSE FOWL ?

BY H. S. BABCOCK.

A GENERAL purpose fowl is by many considered to be one which unites the prolificacy of a Sicilian with the table qualities of an Indian game, an impossible though very desirable combination. In the making of such fowls it has uniformly been the aim to combine great laying and fine table qualities, but as the best mutton and best wool are not found on the same sheep, and as the best beef and the best dairy capacity are not found in the same cow, so the best laying and the best table qualities are not found in the same fowl. The

general purpose fowl is simply a compromise,—it takes from a great laying breed all the prolificacy which can be combined with the table qualities that it receives from the best table fowl. It is inferior in laying qualities to the best layers, and in table qualities to the best table fowls ; but it is superior in laying to the best table fowls and in table qualities to the best layers. It is better than either in the combination of the two qualities but inferior to each in its specialty. Who ever breeds general purpose fowls must be contented with a smaller production of eggs than can be obtained from the best laying breeds, and with poultry which is not equal to that produced by the best table breeds. But the general purpose fowl, nevertheless is a very useful fowl to have.

The reasons for this great popularity are to be found first in the fact that poultry keeping is largely carried on, not by specialists, but in connection with other branches of industry. The specialist, by which term is meant one who makes the keeping of poultry the main business of his life, may demand either great layers or great table fowls, as his object is to supply eggs or the finest of dressed poultry, but everywhere is found the man who keeps a few hens to furnish both eggs and meat for his own table, and the special purpose fowl does not fill this want so well as the general purpose fowl. The fact that it supplies a want no other fowl can, is the chief reason of its great popularity.

But this popularity is doubtless augmented by the notion that it really is

the best layer and the best table fowl a notion which we have asserted is not founded upon fact. Still ideas have more lives than a cat, and it is as difficult to kill a false one as it is to originate a fresh one, and this idea has gained so great prevalence that it doubtless influences to some degree the popularity of the general purpose fowl.

And then there is something in the name. When we speak of a general purpose fowl we instantly think of one that is good every where it is placed. It is good in every direction. And we forget that it is not so good in this direction as some other breed, and that in that direction there are breeds which are better. Our minds are naturally optimistic—a thing to be grateful for—and the defects of such a fowl are lost sight of in its many excellencies. This may seem rather vulgar and difficult of proof, but, while we can not prove the amount of influence a good name may exert, there is no doubt, in my mind at least, that the influence is greater rather than less, than we are willing to acknowledge. How much the Plymouth Rocks owes to its name can never be known, but the name was a good one and helped to carry the fowl through to success. It has been so with the term general purpose.

To sum up then from what has been said a definition or description of a general purpose fowl, it can be said that it is one in which the antagonistic qualities of prolificacy and table qualities are combined in a fairly satisfactory degree,—that the necessary compromise of superlative excellence in either direction has resulted in a combination of both in a reasonable measure,—and that the fowl is the most popular of all because it fills a want more successfully than any other can and because it is assisted by a false idea of its qual-

ities, coupled with the benefit that flows from a good name. This may be a rather long definition but it does not include anything not needed to make it complete.

CANADIAN EGGS IN ENGLAND.

A MONTREAL paper of recent date says:—Mr. Cornelius Howe, representing the Continental Egg Company of Great Grimsby, Yorkshire, England, is stopping at the St. Lawrence Hall for a few days. He is here to look up some of our merchants and inquire into the trade between this country and England. Queried by your correspondent this evening as to how the trade is at present and how he thought it would increase he stated: "The whole matter lies in a nutshell. The eggs must be given a wider area, and not sold only at one port, as at present. Eggs are brought to Liverpool and sold, but they are very often different sizes, the majority of them being very small. What the Canadian merchants should do is to ship all their eggs uniform, whether small or large, and they will bring better prices. We get eggs daily from Germany and Russia in large quantities and they are sold all over the country. If the Canadian people wish to build up a larger trade with England they must abolish the cold store houses and send the eggs immediately. The only way to build up a good and heavy trade is to ship the eggs immediately in large quantities and not store them. By doing this they would be fresh, and the large quantities shipped would enable merchants in England to sell in many more places than Liverpool." Mr. Howe will be in Toronto in a few days, as he intends visiting the principal cities of Canada before returning home.

HAMILTON POULTY, PIGEON AND PET STOCK ASSOCIATION.

ON Thursday, May 26th. The Hamilton Association held its final meeting for the summer. The meetings of the Association have been very instructive to the members. Birds of almost every standard variety have been on exhibition at our meetings during the winter, and been scored by local judges.

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday, August 4th, when delegates will be appointed to the Industrial Exhibition at Toronto. We expect the Hamilton fanciers will capture a good many red tickets at the different shows the coming season.

ALF. J. KERR,
Secretary.

ON THE MATING OF ROUENS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF EXHIBITION STOCK.

BY D. BRAGG.

THE great aim of all waterfowl breeders is to produce size, and that most comprehensive property called quality, a combination most difficult to obtain. Exhibition Rouens must excel in this desired combination to come anything near the standard of perfection, so that great care must be exercised in the selection and mating of the breeding stock.

In the first place it is absolutely necessary to make a study of all the faults and failings most common with Rouen drakes and ducks, and guard against them. Their points of excellence are set forth in the recognised standard of the Waterfowl Club, which should be consulted and bred up to.

To assist those who have had less experience than myself, I will be very glad if they will accompany me in *imagination* through the duck runs while I select the breeding birds for the season, and we will discuss the merits and failings of the *invisible* ducks.

We will select the drakes first, and if time will admit we will then select the ducks afterwards. Let us know what the drake is like we are going to use, then appropriate mates will soon be chosen. To educate your imagination to begin with, let us enter this pretty run and see the combination of size and quality in its one occupant—our 10 lb. three year old Champion drake. We do not require him as a breeder this season, he has now another most important office to fulfil in the successful management of the duck yard. He has fought and won and must live in retirement, and on the fat of the land, until the next challenge is scheduled for another battle royal, when he must again represent us in the field, we trust, to gain another victory. We are proud of his noble stature, his grand look-out, his large and solid claret breast-plate, his deep straight keel, and his gay standard colours, which have caused his opponents to tremble as much as ever the Union Jack did a foreign foe. Yes, we must keep him ready for the silver bugle-call, whether it pierces the soft summer air, or the stormy blasts of winter. Surely such a noble father has given us a promising son: let us leave his shaded bower, and seek the favored haunts of the rising generation.

The first drake to meet us is a lengthy bird with a good head and a grand clear bill, he will measure 34 in., but he has no indication of keel, and he is too high cut in claret below, and too low cut in neck, which leaves his ring too wide, he is much too light in color throughout, but he looks very gay, and may please someone at 10s.; for our purpose he is of no use. Here

is another, quite a contrast in color, very dark, he has plenty of width and depth of claret too, but it is difficult to see where the claret leaves off below and where the undercolor begins, his back is almost self-colored black, his tail and stern are also quite black, his ring is passable, although slightly pinched in front; but we will not dwell longer over him, for although he is good in keel he is rather short made, and his bill is not only slightly dished, but it has an objectionable strip of black between the nostrils. We will let the next pass too, for although he has a good frame, shape, and size, he is very dark in bill and foxy in colour below, and brown on hack.

The next drake may follow with as little comment; he has certainly a long, straight, clear good bill, as such drakes generally have, which are wide in ring, small and pale in claret, light in body-color, white in stern and tail, and white on flight coverts; he is lengthy in frame, but narrow, and as shallow as an Indian runner.

We will describe another which strikes us as perfection at first sight, but on closer examination we find very faulty in color, his ring is much wider at the sides of his neck than in front, his claret breast is wide and deep, but right across the lower part each feather is laced with white, and this extends up the centre almost to the ring—we must not encourage chain armour—he is also laced with white in rump, so we will certainly pass him, although he is up to 9 lbs. in weight and has noble outlines.

We will mention two others which we hatched from imported eggs, and we call special attention to the details of these, as there are many in the country like them, and amateurs are apt to secure them for breeders. They are upstanding, wide-breasted drakes with good clarets and clear bills, but slightly dished; they are keeled, too, but it begins too low down, and not at the point of the breast; judging from

their general shape, their bills, and wide rings, we certainly think they are not very far removed from Pekins.

There are a few others in this run, but they are all smaller, and, besides possessing many of the faults of the birds described above, there are some with slipped wings and wry tails, and others are high in hack. Our friends may observe what an indifferent lot to be allowed to live so long. Green peas must have been a failure last summer. Well, they are right as regards the drakes and in apologizing for introducing you to this run we wish to say that the whole of this lot are the discarded drakes of last year's hatch; and it was to point out the common failings which predominate in color and symmetry among Rouen drakes that has led us to discuss them, so that in selecting a stock drake our friends may be better qualified to guard against such.

We will now introduce you to a few of our selected drakes, out of which we intend to secure one or two fairly perfect and reliable stock drakes. There are ten of them in a pretty run by themselves, which is well shaded by laurels and evergreens, and watered by a shallow stream. When we first entered this run and the drakes came up to meet us, with upstretched necks, in expectation of a feed, we are induced to exclaim, for size and quality we have never seen their equal. Many fanciers will have experienced this on seeing a good lot running together; but love at first sight has often a shallow foundation, which is proved here. When we come to examine the birds individually we find some of them wanting in many points. There are four overyear drakes among these which we will describe first. They were grand youngsters last year, and prize-winners, but two of them have developed peculiarities since their last moult which condemns them as show birds or breeders, one for the present, and the other for altogether. The first is grand in head, bill, shape

and color, with the exception of his breast, which, since his last moult is all mottled with black. We know this may come all right again the next time he moults, so we will give him another year's run in hopeful anticipation.

The second two-year-old drake does not please us at all this season; he is very good in color with the exception of his wing-bars which are slightly defective. Last year he offered to be very deep; he has certainly dropped considerably in front, but his keel cuts up behind too quickly. This should not be encouraged. We like to see Rouens pretty square at each end, and well balanced on their legs. This drake we often notice resting on the front part of his breast, whilst his hinder part is elevated from the ground: they get out of form somehow. We have seen others like him, but those in our possession always have a happy knack of dying suddenly when the green peas are ready.

The third overyear drake is a surprise; he pleases the eye at once. What quality of color he has; his claret breast, his wing-bars, and the centre line of his back are all so sound and clear, sharp and clean cut, and perfect in form. His brilliant head rivals the peacock hue; his under-color, sides and wing-lines are perhaps a shade too light for the exhibition per, but not for our purpose; they are sound and clear up to rump, without any indication of white. The feathers of his dark tail, however, are very neatly laced with white on the outer edges; but in such a drake as this we consider it shows breeding and quality. His head and bill are long and straight, the latter almost bright orange; he is long in frame and of fair depth, although straight and decided in keel he is not so heavy in this point as some of his colleagues; but we know he is bred from heavily keeled parents. He weighs $8\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., but he is the most

active drake on his legs, which may account for any lack of keel and weight. He was from a rather light-colored but beautifully pencilled duck, and by our old Champion. We have always admired this drake, and we now decide to select him for one of our breeding pens. He will suit our darkest medium ducks admirably, and from his mother's side will give more pencilling on the backs of his daughters, an important point in which rich ground-colored ducks are apt to fail. His mother has also a clear bill, like a drake. It would be difficult to overestimate this drake as a breeder. For the object of further reference we will call this drake "Hero."

The fourth two-year-old drake is one we have long decided to use as a stock drake this season; he will take much less describing than the one previous, as he is a true standard drake throughout, a regular chip of our old champion—in fact, he is equal to him in every point with the exception of weight, and this we have purposely kept down, as it is, he weighs about 9 lbs.; he is at present rather too deep in keel, but he will soon lose weight and tighten in keel when the responsibilities of a lord of the duck creation are forced upon him. We will distinguish this drake by the name of "Conqueror."

We still require two more stock drakes, and these we will have to select from the six remaining young birds in this run. If any fancier is interested, perhaps he will run through the lot with me. One of these, although a novelty, is neither use nor ornament, so to speak, for the purpose under discussion, but a description of him may not only amuse, but go to prove that certain points may be carried too far in breeding. We call him "The Wobler," from his wriggling gait. He is the most striking drake in the run, and commands the special attention of

professionals and amateurs alike. He measures the extraordinary length 37 inches, but he is narrow and thin in condition, probably from the extra exertion he is required to use in his occasional walking excursions, and because he is the butt of the party. Keel is his most remarkable feature, and this is certainly in him carried to an extreme, as it extends from throat to paunch like that of the Toulouse goose. His color and markings are good, but he has evidently outgrown his strength, and his spine became affected, so, as I remarked above, he is not ornamental, and as I am afraid he would spoil the green peas, he is not useful.

The next we will examine is a first-rate drake in size and shape, but he is a bit defective in color, although previously selected by us we cannot recognize now as a breeding drake, he is throughout two shades too dark, this would not have been against him for crossing some ducks, had his markings been distinct, but like the majority of dark drakes he is cloudy on his back, he is the worst sort to breed good pencilled ducks from, and his sons would all have his fault. It would be safer to breed from a still darker drake if the markings were decided and clear. We at one time thought such drakes suitable to cross clear-marked ducks, but know now such stock drakes are a failure. Another most objectionable fault has shown itself in this drake lately, he had not the failing last year, and that is, a line of white between the under-color and the velvet black at vent, we must throw him out altogether, as to breed from faults of this kind is only to develop them.

Young drake No. 3, a large, deep, well-shaped bird, is a bit faulty looking in bill at present; he has a few yellow blisters on it, but this is no great eye sore to us, we know that his bill was previously clear and good, and that he has either damaged it in some

way, or he has otherwise not cast the outer skin in the usual way. He has evidently had a check during moulting, as he still has a few duck feathers on sides, but he is too good a drake to condemn altogether, so we will give a summer's run, and see what another moult will do for him.

The fourth young drake is about as perfect in color and shape as we can get them; want of size is his great failing; he is short in neck and in body, but very deep. If we were breeding for keel principally this drake would be our choice, providing he would breed at all, which is doubtful. Those perfect little square drakes, very fine in bone and quality, are never reliable breeders, or worth much for that purpose if they were. We like to see more growth, less keel, and greater activity in our stock drakes than this little model possesses.

We have still two stock drakes to select, but we have them here. We have purposely left them to the last. They may both be described together. One is too shades darker than the other, but with this exception they are pretty equal in merit. They have both long, broad, clear bills, clean cut, well-defined rings, sound and well-developed claret breast, back and wing markings, beautiful even blue sides and under colour right through. They are both exhibition specimens of the highest merit, and fit to produce such if properly mated. For this purpose we have kept them in healthy store condition, and out of the exhibition pen. They weigh about 8 lbs. each, and are very tight in feather and active. After the breeding and moulting season we think there will be no difficulty in growing them to 10 lbs. each, and keeled to the ground. The darker one we will call "Emperor," and the clearer colored one, which is perhaps one of the most

promising youngsters we have seen this season, we will call "The Duke."

Next week I purpose selecting the ducks to mate with the four above mentioned drakes with a view to breeding exhibition stock.

(To be Continued.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS ON DISEASES, BREEDING, MANAGEMENT, ETC.

Correspondents are requested to make full use of this column. The answers to enquiries, as to diseases will be answered by a well-known medical man and breeder. Please read the following rules carefully.

1. Give a concise, clear and exact statement of case, always giving age, sex, and breed.
2. Enclose 3 cent stamp for reply.
3. Report result, not necessarily for publication. *This is absolute.*
4. Acute cases requiring immediate treatment to be answered by mail in the first instance, later through the REVIEW for the benefit of our readers.
5. Write legibly and on one side of the paper only.
6. Answers to be to name in full, initials or *nom de plume*, the second—preferred.

QUE.—Will you kindly give me some information concerning hens. I am keeping a flock of 140 hens for commercial purposes. They are laying about two dozen eggs a day, but I am quite a lot troubled with soft shelled eggs. They lay every night three or four of these which I find in the mornings under the roosts. They are fed with a choice variety of food I think. The morning feed consists of meat, barley, potatoes, shorts cooked together and fed warm. Dry grain at noon and at night sometimes oats, barley, wheat, buck-wheat, &c., constantly changing. They have plenty of fresh water. The floor of the house is from four to six inches of sand and gravel, plenty of earth to scratch in, straw, etc. Besides that they have charcoal in plenty, pounded bone burnt, luts of ground oyster shells, lime, etc. The shells are very thin anyway, can you give me any reason why

I do not get more than two dozen eggs. They have been fed this way all winter from the first of November. They are kept warm, never allowing the house to get to freezing point. I keep a coal stove burning night and day, keeping the thermometer about 50. Another point, I have lost two hens and have several affected with a species of fits. They generally fall off the roost on their sides, draw up the legs and toes tightly and work violently for a few moments. They seem to draw their legs up so tightly that they walk for a week or two after it quite lame. I have just lost one with it. They will have a number of these fits for a day, each one lasting a few minutes and are then lame for a week after it. They will then be free for a week after when they all have another attack. Am I giving meat too much or too much cayenne pepper in their morning feed. An early answer to these questions will oblige. I have the building well ventilated, well lighted and kept scrupulously clean. They are not troubled with lice as I keep them clean. Nearly all my hens are last years chickens, they commenced to lay about September 10th, but it seems to me they should now be laying at least twice as many eggs.

P.S.—My hens are brown Leghorn, black Spanish, Plymouth Rock and a few mongrels.
March 2nd, 1892. N.D.

ANS.—Your account is so full and clear it is almost a model. We fear you have been using your birds too well; been giving too much and too stimulating food. They are likely too fat, change the diet and get them to exercise more. They should soon get out for part of the day. Cut off the potatoes, buck-wheat and most of the meat, also the pepper. Give a little soft food slightly warm (previously well scalded) once a day. Put raw turnips before your birds; also raw cabbages suspended by a string. Bones if thus hung up will be greedily and persistently pecked at. A little liver raw or cooked and cut up fine will be useful now and then. Your charcoal, grit, etc are all right when the birds act as you describe. Dose freely with epsom salts, should this not prove successful, treat for worms. Give 2 grains of santanine in doses half an hour apart and followed by castor oil in an hour.

QUE.—I see by the REVIEW you have a column for different diseases. I have a blue Andalusian hen that has been laying for some time and she has been egg bound for nearly

two weeks, can you give me any good receipt to cure her, she seems to be in good health and eats well and often sits on nest for hours at a time and doesn't seem to pass the egg from her. I have given her three or four doses of castor oil and also of sweet oil, but it doesn't seem to do her good, she is two years old this spring and she gets all the bones she wants also oyster shells and sand and cabbage. If you could advise me in any way on the matter I would be much obliged.

I remain,
Yours, etc.,
W. M. O.

ANS.—It is not very clear that your hen is actually egg bound. You might try passing an oiled feather up the vent or holding this part over the steam from hot water. Feed a little meat now and then and give half a teaspoonful of cod liver oil daily for a week or so.

I used the oil as ordered on blue Andalusian hen and it worked like a charm. Thanking you for receipt.
W. M. O.

QUE. Could you tell me of anything that would cure the rattling in a roosters throat as I have a R. C. brown Leghorn that has had it all winter, and oblige,
Yours truly,
J. B.

ANS.—We would advise you to give the cock a teaspoonful of cod liver oil daily and at night to paint a little glycerine over the opening to the wind-pipe. If not better in a week give the bird 2 drops of balsam of copaiba in a little milk at night.



U. S. OFFICE.

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