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THE CANADIAN Poultry Chronicle.

Vol. 1.

TORONTO, AUGUST, 1870.

No. 2.

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Several copies of No. I. of this journal have been returned, addressed to our Box, without the wrapper containing the name of the person to whom it was sent, which was requested to be returned also; it is therefore impossible for us to know by whom they are refused. To such persons this number will also be forwarded, and if again returned, they will please observe our instructions on the wrapper.

OUR RECEPTION.

We are extremely gratified at the generous reception the CANADIAN POULTRY CHRONICLE has received. Not only

in the columns of the press, but also by private letters, have we received many flattering commendations, and in our efforts to establish a journal to advocate the hitherto much neglected subject of poultry, we have the strongest assurance of co-operation and support, not only in Canada, but also in the United States and England.

Did we feel disposed, we might fill a whole number of our Journal with extracts from letters of a highly laudatory character, but we have no desire to do so. We cannot, however, resist the temptation of giving publicity to the following extract from the letter of a valued correspondent in the United States; it contains the true ring.

“The first number of the ‘Chronicle’ has been kindly forwarded us, and we enclose amount for one year’s subscription. It is just the thing needed, and we are highly pleased with it. There are many articles contained therein, each of which is worth the amount of a year’s subscription. Why so many persons interested in poultry raising do not avail themselves of such opportunities to get posted, when the cost is so trifling, we do not understand, unless it is because it affords them greater pleasure to pay more for a humbug than a reality, which many do.”

Another correspondent says:—

“I have just received the July number of your publication. I thank you for your kind remembrance. Enclosed is \$1.50, the first of, I trust, many subscriptions from me. I intend showing it to my friends, and may induce some

to subscribe. The distance is great, when you consider we have 'Poultry Journals' near home. You have my best wishes for your success.

"I shall watch your different papers with much interest, and you may hear from me after on subjects interesting to your readers. A vast deal is to be accomplished, and I hope with you, to see the day when common fowls shall be no more."

To our many other correspondents who have favoured us with kind letters, we take this opportunity of returning them our hearty thanks for their interest in our welfare, and repeat the assurance given in our first number, that no effort on our part will be spared to make our journal what it professes to be, a thorough medium of communication between the fanciers and breeders of poultry, and for the dissemination of knowledge on such matters.

RESPONSIBILITY — EDITORIAL AND FINANCIAL.

Attached to our Prospectus, when issued, was a certificate signed by the Executive Committee of the Ontario Poultry Association, stating that this journal was to be issued under its auspices and with its consent, and was to be controlled by a few amateurs, well known to the Committee as capable, both financially and editorially, of taking charge of its conduct and management. We had thought this sufficient to identify its editorship with the Society, but it appears it was not so understood, at least by a couple of Canadian journals of which we have heard. To set at rest all uncertainty on this point, we now state, for the information of our doubting cotemporaries, that its editorial management is under the conduct of the Secretary of the Association, assisted by other members of the Executive Committee; and for its financial arrangements, the Vice-President has become wholly and personally responsible. We trust this explanation suffi-

ciently explicit, if not wholly satisfactory to the minds of our "big" cotemporaries, and that in future they will be at no loss to know who it is that speaks "*ex cathedra* on poultry matters to the fowl-fanciers of Canada."

COLONEL F. C. HASSARD, R. E.

The lovers of poultry will learn with regret that this gentleman has been ordered home, and before these lines are in type will have reached England. Few who had any acquaintance with the Colonel will deny that to his individual efforts during his stay in Canada, especially in Toronto, is owing much of the improvement in the culture of pure-bred poultry which has recently become so visible in this country. As a poultry and pigeon fancier he had in Canada no equal, while to his thorough acquaintance with the rules of English poultry clubs, and his superior knowledge of poultry, much of the recent improvement in poultry judging at our shows is to be attributed. With him originated the inception of a poultry club in Ontario. He communicated his views on the subject to a few fanciers, who aided him in the formation of a society, the benefits of which to poultry breeders is a recognized fact.

Although Col. Hassard has left Canada, perhaps never again to return, we are glad to announce that he will be a constant contributor to these columns. From his large experience in the breeding and raising of poultry in Canada, his contributions may be looked upon as highly valuable. Our best wishes accompany him.

FEATHER-EATING FOWLS.—A writer in *Moore's Rural New Yorker* states:—"I have used carbolic disinfecting soap for feather-eating fowls, by dipping the end of the cake of soap in warm rain-water and rubbing it on the feathers; it has never failed to produce a permanent cure. It is not unhealthy for the fowls, and by dissolving a portion in soft water, and dipping the fowls in it, then putting them in a dry place until thoroughly dry, it will rid them of lice in every instance." The experiment is certainly worth a trial.

INCUBATION TABLE.

Day of month when set.	1 MONTH OF 31 DAYS.				2 MONTH OF FEB.				3 MONTH OF 30 DAYS.				REMARKS.		
	Goose—Pea Fowl.	Duck—Tur-key.	Hon.	* Pigeon.	Goose—Pea Fowl.	Duck—Tur-key.	Hen.	Pigeon.	Day of month when set.	Goose—Pea Fowl.	Duck—Tur-key.	Hen.		Pigeon.	
1	31	29	22	20	1	3	1	Feb. 22	Feb. 20	1	1	29	22	20	<p>* Ex.—Set a goose on 4th of a month of 31 days, it should hatch on the 3rd of the month following. If set on 4th Feb., then on the 6th of March—and if set on 4th April or a month with 30 days, will hatch on the 4th of month following.</p> <p>The Pigeon column is from date of laying 1st egg. Thus: if 1st egg is laid on 4th of any month, it should be hatched on 23rd. In a Leap year allowance must be made for the extra day in all cases.</p> <p>F. C. H.</p>
2	1	30	23	21	2	4	2	23	21	2	2	30	23	21	
3	2	31	24	22	3	5	3	24	22	3	3	1	24	22	
4	3	1	25	23	4	6	4	25	23	4	4	2	25	23	
5	4	2	26	24	5	7	5	26	24	5	5	3	26	24	
6	5	3	27	25	6	8	6	27	25	6	6	4	27	25	
7	6	4	28	26	7	9	7	28	26	7	7	5	28	26	
8	7	5	29	27	8	10	8	Mar. 1	27	8	8	6	29	27	
9	8	6	30	28	9	11	9	2	28	9	9	7	30	28	
10	9	7	31	29	10	12	10	3	Mar. 1	10	10	8	1	29	
11	10	8	1	30	11	13	11	4	2	11	11	9	2	30	
12	11	9	2	31	12	14	12	5	3	12	12	10	3	1	
13	12	10	3	1	13	15	13	6	4	13	13	11	4	2	
14	13	11	4	2	14	16	14	7	5	14	14	12	5	3	
15	14	12	5	3	15	17	15	8	6	15	15	13	6	4	
16	15	13	6	4	16	18	16	9	7	16	16	14	7	5	
17	16	14	7	5	17	19	17	10	8	17	17	15	8	6	
18	17	15	8	6	18	20	18	11	9	18	18	16	9	7	
19	18	16	9	7	19	21	19	12	10	19	19	17	10	8	
20	19	17	10	8	20	22	20	13	11	20	20	18	11	9	
21	20	18	11	9	21	23	21	14	12	21	21	19	12	10	
22	21	19	12	10	22	24	22	15	13	22	22	20	13	11	
23	22	20	13	11	23	25	23	16	14	23	23	21	14	12	
24	23	21	14	12	24	26	24	17	15	24	24	22	15	13	
25	24	22	15	13	25	27	25	18	16	25	25	23	16	14	
26	25	23	16	14	26	28	26	19	17	26	26	24	17	15	
27	26	24	17	15	27	29	27	20	18	27	27	25	18	16	
28	27	25	18	16	28	30	28	21	19	28	28	26	19	17	
29	28	26	19	17	Leap Year. 29	31	Leap Year. 29	22	20	29	29	27	20	18	
30	29	27	20	18						30	30	28	21	19	
31	30	28	21	19											

*From laying 1st egg, Pintado sits 28 Days.

Literary Notices.

THE BRAHMA FOWL.

A MONOGRAPH BY LEWIS WRIGHT,
AUTHOR OF "THE PRACTICAL POULTRY
KEEPER."

London: Cassell, Petter and Galpin, Ludgate
Hill; and Journal of "Horticulture and Cot-
tage Gardener." Office, 171, Fleet Street. Pp.
144, illustrated.

The author of the work before us has undertaken, not only to solve, as far as it is possible at this distant day to do, the mystery which hangs over the origin of the Brahma, as a distinct variety of fowl, but also in a plain, practical way, point out its useful and economic qualities as contrasted with other bipeds of the feathered tribe. He dwells on the characteristics which are peculiar to the Dark and Light varieties, as bred for the exhibition pen, while on the judging of Brahmas he offers several suggestions, and gives expression to his own views on the subject; concluding with an appendix containing the latest, and, we presume, the only proof now obtainable as to the origin of the Brahma, as a distinct breed, and not produced by a cross between the Cochin and the Dorking, as has been asserted by a certain class of fowl fanciers, not disposed to look upon it with an eye of favour.

To the lover of poultry literature, more especially that treating of Brahmas this addition will be a great *desideratum* . In the chapter and appendix devoted to the origin of the Brahma, the author clearly and unmistakably combats the adverse views taken by opponents of the theory that it is of separate origin to that of the Cochin; and we are free to confess, to our mind most successfully, to the contrary, notwithstanding some of the adverse opinions we have read.

But whatever obscurity may hang around the origin of the Brahma as a separate breed, of its economic value few, who have had any practical know-

ledge, will deny that in itself "it possesses a *greater* amount of real usefulness and value than any other pure breed." And on this point, as well as on the characteristics of the two varieties of Dark and Light, their practical breeding, rearing and management, the book now under review teems with valuable information.

As a stock bird, Mr. Wright clearly shows that it is not inferior either in table qualities, or in the production of eggs, to any other variety, the Hamburgs included. Of the table value, he says he had recently a good opportunity of testing its merits as compared with the Houdans (the Dorking of France). "The Brahma had quite as much breast meat, the quality was fully as good, and the quantity at least half as much again, a very great point this last in rearing for the market," although he admits that it "cannot equal the game fowl, and perhaps the La Flèche, in the sapidity of its flesh." He combats the very prevalent idea that Brahmas are very great eaters, and distinctly states they do not consume nearly so much as the Cochin or Crève Cœur, and scarcely so much as the Dorking; and of the chickens he says, "like all other fast growing fowls, they have considerable appetites, though they *won't* eat old hats."

On the characteristics of the Dark and Light varieties of the Brahma, a chapter is devoted, well worthy the perusal of the amateur and the fancier. What the colours and markings of these varieties ought to be, are very distinctly pointed out, while size and weight are not omitted to be noticed. We cannot, within our limits, attempt even a synopsis of the many points enumerated, nor indeed if we did would it convey any adequate idea of the author's meaning. The shape, carriage, markings, colour and general appearance of the birds, all come within the range of his

remarks, and are so fully discussed and enumerated, that, to be thoroughly understood and appreciated, the book must be read by one's self, and right well will it repay the perusal.

To the practical breeding, rearing and management for exhibition, is devoted another chapter, fraught with valuable information. To raise birds for the show pen and breeding purposes are very different as well as difficult matters, and much of the ill success at exhibitions is owing to the want of knowledge of these matters by exhibitors, and we might add, not unfrequently judges too. The many valuable hints thrown out in this chapter are well worthy a careful perusal by persons desirous of raising the exhibition standard of their fowls. And while we agree with the author, that "no written instructions can supersede the *personal study*" of fowls, yet the practical knowledge here conveyed will go far to assist to a right understanding of the general principles to be adhered to by all breeders of fancy poultry.

In the chapter devoted to the judging of Brahmas, there are many valuable suggestions made, on some of which no doubt a diversity of opinion will arise.

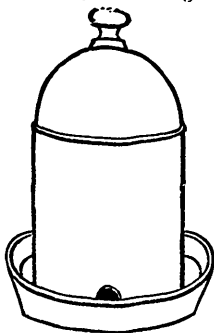
To the farmer as well as the fancier the book is equally adaptable and instructive. The best crosses with the Brahma, for general laying, as well as table purposes, are clearly demonstrated, and the advice offered well worthy the consideration of all. Prior to the perusal of Mr. Wright's book, we thought ourselves well acquainted with the points and merits of the Brahma fowl, and undertook its perusal more in a hostile than a friendly spirit; but in laying it down, gladly confess to a change of disposition, and freely admit having drawn from its pages much information of which we were heretofore in entire ignorance. As to the

habits and disposition, as well as the wants and requirements of this breed of fowls, the author has shown himself a close observer. As a standard work on the Brahma fowl, it will occupy a first place, while to the general breeder, the information it conveys will be of paramount importance. In style, the book is perspicuous, clear, lucid and intelligible, as well as forcible and attractive. It is printed on toned paper, and beautifully illustrated, and should be in the hands of all poultry breeders.

POULTRY APPLIANCES.

DRINKING FOUNTAIN.

Few breeders of poultry but have experienced the want of a convenient vessel to hold drinking water for their fowls, especially young chickens. Water placed in an ordinary open vessel, where fowls are confined within limited space, soon becomes dirtied and unfit for use, for be it remembered that pure clean drinking water is as indispensable to the health of fowls as nutritious food is to the growth of chickens. A Drinking fountain, therefore, constructed so as to prevent impurities mingling with the water, is a necessity of every poultry yard. We give below an illustration of a drinking fountain so constructed as to prevent, if placed one foot from the wall or fence, with its opening towards it, impurities of any kind being thrown into it by scratching of fowls.

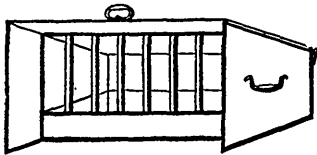


A very cheap and convenient contrivance of this kind may be made out of an earthenware jar, and an ordinary glazed flower-pot saucer, by boring a small hole in the jar an inch and

a half from the edge. When required for use the jar is to be filled with water, and the saucer placed, bottom upwards, on the top. Both together are then turned quickly over, when the water will be found to flow into the saucer to the same height as the hole in the side of the jar.

FEEDING TROUGH.

In fine weather the food for poultry should be thrown broad-cast on the run; it affords them amusement in gathering it up; but in wet weather, or when the run is covered with snow, it should be

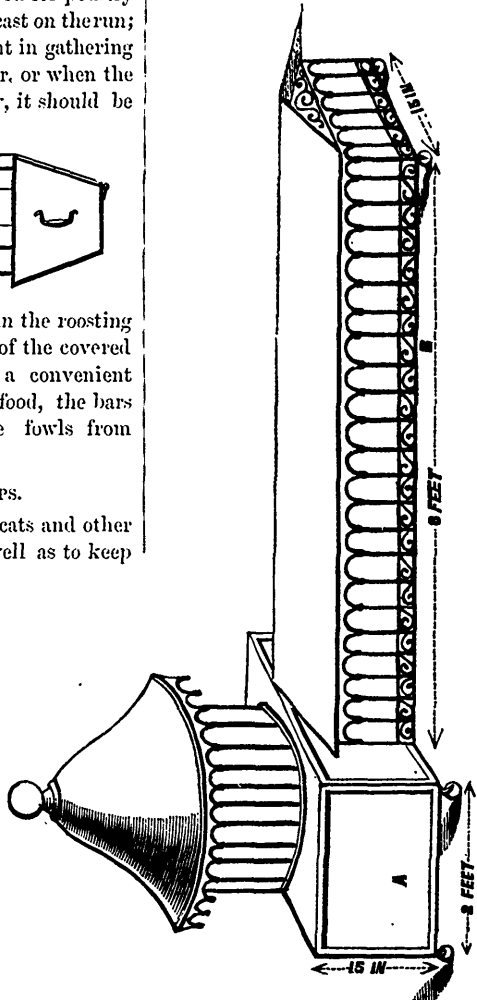


placed in feeding vessels in the roosting room, or near to the door of the covered run. The foregoing is a convenient trough for pultaceous food, the bars in front preventing the fowls from trampling on the food.

CHICKEN COOPS.

To prevent inroads by cats and other animals on chickens, as well as to keep them sheltered in wet weather, it is necessary that chickens should be placed in coops in a warm situation having a southern aspect. The accompanying illustration, designed by Mr. Geyelin, of a coop for the hen and chickens during the night, or in stormy weather, with a fenced-in run for the chickens by day, is admirably adapted for grass plots, and as well as being useful for the purpose for which it is constructed, is also highly ornamental.

DUCK REMOVING EGGS FROM NEST.— A writer in the *Field* newspaper says:— Three weeks ago I set a duck upon eleven eggs in a nest which I made for her of hay and straw. She sat all right for the first fortnight, but during this (third) week she has made herself a new nest at least two feet six inches from the old one, and has removed all her eggs from the old to the new nest, where she is now setting. The old nest was made in a hole at one corner of her



A is a wooden box without floor, on rollers, and say about 2 feet square, and 15 inches high, with a circular opening at top, on which a wire gauze, with the projecting zinc cupola, are fixed, and may be called the observatory of the mother. B is a run formed of wire, the top covered with oil cloth or American cloth. This run can be detached in fine weather if desirable.

place, and I consider she was very clever in being able to get the eggs out of it.

ON TRIMMING.

No. II.

In continuation of this subject we shall first allude to the Black Poland, a class in which a very forcible illustration of trimming is almost universally prevalent. The anterior feathers of the crests are removed to prevent a prominence of black feathers at the front of the top-knot. If the suspected fowls are taken in hand and carefully examined, a bare space would be discovered midway between the base of the bill and the commencement of the white feathers of the crest. In the more artfully divided instances of Poland "trimming," however, the "trickster practice" was applied some months or so previously to the competition at which they were to be entered; the removed feathers in the latter case having been partially restored, the means of detection became far more difficult, and the proprietor, as a rule, laid the whole blame on "the hens pecking each other."

Again, both in Buff Cochin classes and those for both varieties of Pencilled Hamburgs, purely clear ground colored hackles (without any markings whatever), were the main desideratum. These feathers, if objectionable, were frequently plucked away, or, still more artistically, "punicestoned" at the edges, to remove the unpermitted stain that stood between them and success. Still, though the conviction that fraudulent practices had been adopted took firm possession of the arbitrator's mind, if such opinion was mooted, the fringed character of the hackle feathers was at once attributed to "nothing but wear, from the poultry pulling their heads backwards and forwards through the wire meshes of the aviary in which they had been recently confined." The "docking" of the tails of Cochins (more particularly the male birds) was a comparatively easily discovered practice; the original plan was simply to remove

the amount of both shaft and beard feathers from the end of the principal tail feathers. The punicestone here was again called into requisition, and the shaft (or quill portion of the feather) rendered sufficiently pliable by weakening carefully from the under side with a sharp penknife, and afterwards darkening the newly cut part of the surface with nitrate of silver. But to proficient judges, this artifice rarely availed to fulfil the deceptive purpose intended, and is now looked upon as rather a "bungling" fraud. The "modern improvement" is to cut off the too lengthy feathers closely to the rump of the fowl operated upon; shorten them from the bottom end (to the extent deemed advisable), and after sharpening the shafts to fit tightly the hollow of the quill still remaining in the bird, again affix each in its original position with a kind of varnish that dyes instantaneously. Instances have occurred where all the principal feathers of a Cochin cock's tail have been scientifically shortened, and the outward appearances so preserved, to detect the imposition, was far more than a difficulty.

In *Sebright Bantams*, the sickle feathers were oftentimes "broken" off midway of their length, to carry the appearance of accidental injury, a feature that was even passed over at a former Birmingham Show without comment.

Other attempts to improve for exhibition purposes, such as laying down the feathers on the heads of game-cocks with soap or like adhesives, might be alluded to, but enough has been said to show to what extent exhibitors have gone to obtain first class prizes at exhibitions.

AUCTION SALE OF POULTRY

We are now in a position to authoritatively announce that the auction sale of poultry alluded to in our last number, will take place during Exhibition week. The sale will commence on

Thursday, the 6th day of October, the fourth day of the Exhibition, and, if necessary, will be continued next and succeeding days, until the whole are disposed of. The sale will be held under the auspices of the Ontario Poultry Association, and will be by catalogue. Sellers will therefore communicate with the Secretary of the Association not less than two weeks before the above date, stating the number of pens of fowls intended to be sent, the number and breed contained in each pen, and the cost of the pen, which, in all cases, will be added to the price at which the birds will be sold.

It is not intended that the sale shall in any way interfere with the poultry department of the Provincial Exhibition other than beneficially. Intending exhibitors in the poultry class, will, if they so desire, have an opportunity of competing for the prizes offered in this class, and afterwards place their birds in the auction rooms, for sale, while other breeders, having a surplus stock, will by this means have an opportunity of disposing of them at a time when they are sure of having a large number of purchasers to attend. We trust a large number of breeders will take advantage of the opportunity thus offered, and that purchasers will not fail to attend and secure for next season good stock for their breeding yards.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR CANADIAN POULTRY CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR,—According to promise I send you statement of eggs from Mr. Fowler. We had very poor success with his eggs; only two birds, Patridge Cochins, from four and a half dozen eggs. I think the reason was, that the eggs were packed in bran, which made them ride very solid. There were any amount of nails in the lid of the box,

and an old leather strap nailed around that—enough nailing and hammering to spoil the eggs before they started; there was one egg broken when they arrived. I think it was also rather late in the season; I think April is the best month to ship eggs for hatching. In your article on Imported Eggs, Hatching Experience, etc., I think you and your friend have got hold of the wrong Mr. Belden.

Mr. Belden, our man, is a Mr. Belden of Bingley, Yorkshire. I hope your man is not the same. Mr. Belden, by his letters, seems to be a gentleman. Our eggs were well packed and arrived in splendid condition; the box seemed to be made on purpose, instead of being bought from a grocer. The matter of having paper round the eggs amounts to very little unless there is something of an elastic springy nature between the two. I had a setting of eggs (13) from Montreal this spring, nicely papered and packed in bran; I only had four chickens out of the lot. Now, I think it will bother any poultry fancier in the country to take ten dozen eggs out of his own yard and raise seventy chickens—if there are any I would like to see the figures through the columns of your paper.

Yours Truly,

R. PATTERSON.

The Mr. Belden referred to by us in the article alluded to by our correspondent is the same gentleman from whom he received his hatching eggs.—ED.

BUFFETTING INTO FRIENDSHIP.

MR. EDITOR,—I notice in the last number of THE CANADIAN POULTRY CHRONICLE an article under the above heading. Now, the remedy you there give to keep cocks from fighting may do very well for Dung-hills, but I am sure it would never do for true Game cocks, which nothing but separation by

death or otherwise will stop from fighting. I have known them to fight for half a day, and when found both were apparently lying dead, but facing each other, and each having hold of his opponent; it took some time to revive them, and when shown to each other they went at it as fierce as ever. You cannot always judge of the courage of Game fowls by their appearance, but the following plan to test it is sometimes tried: Procure a stag and an old cock,—put on the latter short steels—or shorten them to half an inch by putting on corks; then let the stag “face” the old bird until he gets pretty well “struck”; continue this every morning for a week or ten days to a fresh cock, and if he “shows” to all, it is certain he has been sufficiently tried to breed from with safety. Some prefer breeding from the brothers of birds so tried. Should you consider the above few remarks worth a place in your Chronicle, (which may success attend), you are welcome to them.

Yours,

A GAME FANCIER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADIAN
POULTRY CHRONICLE.

SIR,—In looking over the pithy letter of Colonel Hassard, in your able little paper, I noted the only trouble our friend had in keeping Fowls from freezing in Canada was the dipping of the wattles in the drinking water. For the benefit of brother fanciers and the public, I would state that I have brought my Spanish fowls through the winter without the least appearance of frost-bite, by using the Poultry Fountain, with a cap over the lip, so as to prevent the bird getting his wattles wet. The cap also prevents the water being fouled by the bird getting on the top of the fountain or dust falling into the cup or lip. I have been much interested in Colonel Hassard's able letters in the

different papers, and am sorry we are going to lose him from amongst us. To him the poultry cause in Canada owes much, and although the Atlantic may divide us, we hope still to hear occasionally from his able pen.

D. ALLEN, *Galt.*

THE INFLUENCE OF THE MALE
BIRD ON THE REPRODUCTION
OF THE SPECIES.

TO THE EDITOR CANADIAN POULTRY
CHRONICLE.

It may not be uninteresting to the readers of the POULTRY CHRONICLE to hear the experience of an amateur on the above subject, as it seems to excite a good deal of interest at present. Some time ago I had a very valuable pair of black Spanish fowls. The cock died very suddenly, the hen only having laid some four eggs previous to his death; and being desirous of setting as many of the eggs as I thought would be of any use, I set eleven of her eggs, that is, four laid before the cock's death and seven after,—I omitted to date the eggs. The result of the hatching was seven birds; now, if all the first four hatched, there would consequently have been three hatched after the death of the male bird. There were only three or four of the chickens that were strong and healthy. I leave your readers to draw their own conclusion, and remain, Mr. Editor, yours,

A CANADIAN AMATEUR.

PRACTICAL HINTS.

FLIGHT FEATHERS OF AN OWL PIGEON, should not be of the same colour as the wing bars, but of the same colour as the body of the Pigeon—thus: in Blue Owls, blue, in Silver Owls, silver, etc.

FOOD FOR GAME FOWLS.—Peas are said to be the best for hardening the flesh and feather. Barley is best for cold winter weather, as being the warmest food. For warm summer weather,

wheat, oats, rye, or buckwheat is best; the latter is also good for winter feeding. The hardness of feather and flesh, or what is termed "good condition," will, of course, greatly depend upon the strain of breed of birds kept. No good feeding can make soft birds hard, and good condition also greatly depends upon a good healthy country walk and cleanliness, as bad walks often spoil good birds.

SALT FOR FOWLS.—Salt is said to be injurious to fowls.

DANDELION LEAVES FOR FOWLS.—The leaves of the dandelion plant, when boiled and mixed up with barley meal, form an excellent food for fowls.

WASHING POULTRY.—All white fowls ought to have their feathers washed with soap and water before exhibition. After washing, they ought to be kept until dry in a large hamper or an enclosure, the floor of which is quite covered with clean straw. In washing, great care ought to be exercised in not ruffling the feathers, as in this way more injury to the appearance of the fowls may be done than if not washed at all.

VARIETIES OF COMBS.—There are several varieties of combs. A *rose comb* is a double one full of points, like that of the Hamburg; a *peu comb* is as it were made up of three single combs pressed into one, that in the centre being the highest, and having on each side the impression or projecting outline of the comb united to it by pressure. The *cup comb* is upright and single in front, it then divides; each side bows out in the centre and unites at the back, forming a cup. This comb is serrated all round.

ILL FLAVOURED EGGS.—The disagreeable flavour often perceived in eggs is produced frequently from plants of some sort ate by the fowls; sweepings of peas and beans mixed with buckwheat, often produces a rank flavour in eggs. In such cases calcined oyster shells have a good effect.

FLOORING FOR POULTRY HOUSE.—Bricks or pavement of any kind are the worst of all materials for the floor; they retain moisture whether atmospheric or arising from insufficient drainage; and thus the temperature is kept low where warmth is most essential, and diseases too often follow, especially rheumatic attacks of the feet and legs.

The flooring of a poultry house should be of dry gravel, and quite loose to the depth of two or three inches—nothing can then adhere to it; and it is not necessary nor right to sweep the floor of a poultry house. A broom may be drawn lightly over the surface, and everything offensive to the smell removed; but if turned with a spade twice or thrice a week, the earth deodorises the dung and becomes a good fertilizer in the course of a few months, and ought then to be removed.

JUDGING GAME FOWLS BY SHAPE.

THE PROPER SHAPE OF THE GAME HEN.

Beak the same as described for the cock, smaller of course.

Comb, face, gills or wattles, and deaf ears, same colour as the cock's in red-combed sorts (a little less red), but darker or less red in the dark-combed sorts. Shape of comb, long, low, and thin, reaching well to the back of the head, evenly serrated or lobed; lobes small and quite straight and erect. High, thick, and short combs always show bad, coarse breeding.

Head, long and sharp; eyes bright and clear; face, lean, hard, and thin. Throat the same, and never too prominent or large in the gullet (cock the same). The deaf ears and gills or wattles small, close, and neat, and either red or dark gipsy in colour in both cocks and hens, and never in the least whitish, bluish, or yellowish. Deaf ears close to the face. Feathers of throat close and neat.

Neck, long, arched, and strong; close, short, hard, and neat in feathers.

Back, short and hard, broad at the shoulders, and narrow at the tail.

Wings, very strong and well rounded, neither too long nor too short as in the cock, and carried rather higher and closer than the cock's wings; shape of wing clearly discernible against the side feathers of the body.

Tail, neither too long nor too short, the two longest upper feathers slightly curved, open, fanned, and spreading, carried well up, and never at all drooping, for spirit.

Breast, broad and hard, not too round or full, nor yet too lean or sharp.

Thighs, short, hard, and muscular, and placed exactly as in the cock.

Legs neither too long nor too short,

but shorter than the cock's in proportion. Scales of legs all smooth, close, and neat, and the insteps very smooth.

Feet, as cock's in due proportion.

Plumage, very hard, close, firm, short, strong, and neat in feather.

Carriage, upright, neat, active, fierce, sharp, and fiery.

Weight of hens varies, of course, they being heavier when with eggs. Average weight three pounds to three and a half pounds, or one-third smaller than the cock. Large Game hen are bad and clumsy in general, those of the middle size are best.

Judges should carefully handle all Game fowls, both cocks and hens, in judging them, if they have sufficient time to do so. Full grown birds are, of course, better entitled to silver cups than any birds in the chicken classes, as cock chickens and stags are never "fully furnished" as to their spurs and long sickle tail feathers, as is well known to all.

In judging Game fowls, three different kinds or textures of feathers are clearly discernible, in the cocks more especially. First, the close, hard, short, stiff, broad feather, like the ancient coats of armour to the bird, so to speak, lying so close to the body; such birds are rather scant than thick of feathers, though not too much so, of course. Second, the fine or narrow feathered birds; these are often good, quick birds, but are never so hard, strong, or so "game" as the first named sort; these birds often have the narrow, close whip or switch tails rather drooping. Third, the long, soft, and often coarse feathered birds (like Malays), soft both in flesh and feather, and always inferior to the two sorts first named, being larger in body; these are the worst Game fowls, and should never take prizes; they are also quite unfit for the pit, and less healthy.

DEFECTS IN THE SHAPE OF GAME FOWLS.

1. A short, clumsy, bad shaped head, with a wide, thick gullet.
2. A short, straight, bad beak (weak in bone).
3. A short, soft, weak neck (short necked).
4. Narrow and long body and back (weak birds, the worst defect.)
5. Narrow shoulders and breast (weak birds).

6. Breast too lean, too sharp, or too full (not hard).

7. Crooked breast-bone or keel (a deformity).

8. Flat-sided and mis-shapen generally.

9. Broad, long, and high rump or stern.

10. Too deep or too flat in keel or breast-bone.

11. Thighs long, weak, thin, and dangling behind.

12. Legs too long or too short, feet too much webbed.

13. Legs and thighs placed too close together.

14. Short and duck-footed (too much webbed).

15. Spurs clumsy, straight, and high up.

16. Squirrel-tailed, short stump wings.

17. Soft and fat in flesh (loose fleshed).

18. Long, soft, weak, thick, and weedy in feather (loose feathered).

19. Hump-backed, lop-sided.

THE SMERLE, OR ANTWERP PIGEON.

The Smerles are rather small birds, and look very much as if they had been originally bred from a rather coarse blue Owl Pigeon, crossed with a blue Rock. The head, it may be observed, is arched, and the skull capacious, indicating a full development of brain, and offering a striking contrast to the flat, narrow skull of the English Carrier. The most striking characteristic of these birds, is the firmness and great breadth of the flight feathers of the wings. These overlap each other to a great extent, and afford a strong, firm wing, with which the flight is urged. The keel of the breast bone is deep and well covered with muscles; and there is altogether an absence of any ossal or large development of any part not used in flight. In rapidity and power of flying, these birds far excel any other variety of pigeon. This power of flight is conjoined with an attachment to home that is not surpassed by that of any other pigeon.

With regard to the value of these birds in Belgium, it is stated that a couple of young Smerles, warranted bred from birds that have been flown long distances, sell for 100fs.; and a pigeon which has carried off several

prizes in the long distance matches, will realize even as much as 500*frs.*, equivalent to \$100. Some idea may be gained of the enthusiasm with which the flying fancy is pursued in Belgium, when the fact is stated that there are 150 societies or clubs offering prizes to be flown for, and that these include nearly 10,000 amateurs.

There is one colour that finds but little favour with the Belgium amateurs, and that is white. This dislike is not an unreasoning prejudice, but depends on the fact that white birds are more conspicuous as they fly than those of darker colour, and, consequently, are more apt to be destroyed by hawks and sportsmen. Setting whites, therefore, on one side, there is but little preference shown to any colours; and melays, blues chequers, blacks, and blue or black pied, are all looked upon with equal favour, if they possess the requisite power of wing to fly with equal rapidity. Some of the flying birds seen in England are frilled very much like an owl or turbit; but we prefer birds without any such irregularity of plumage, as it cannot but interfere with easy and rapid passage through the air.

The training that these birds undergo is very severe. The young birds are taken to gradually increasing distances, as their powers of flight increase, so that eventually they are acquainted with all conspicuous landmarks of the long journeys. If it is attempted to train them too rapidly, or by too long stages, many of the birds are lost; whereas, by careful training, as practised at Liege, only ten per cent. are lost in short courses, and only fifty per cent. are lost even in very long distances. In this province (Liege) they do not fly the young birds of the year more than seventy miles, nor even attempt more than 200 miles the second year, leaving the longer and more severe distances for the older and more mature birds, that have acquired full development and experience.

THE BREED OF PUGS.

The Pug derives its name from the Greek word *Πυγ*, from which comes the Latin word *pygnus*, a fist, because the shadow of a clenched fist was considered to resemble the dog's profile. Their jet black muzzles procured them the name of Carlins in France, from a

famous Parisian harlequin who performed on the French stage about the middle of the last century. They were previously known as "doguins," small bull-dogs, and "roquets," which name they still retain in some parts of the empire.

The pug was most highly valued and carefully bred for many years, to the exclusion of almost all other parlour favourites, and many families of distinction possessed very pure and celebrated "pugs."

The marks of excellence have not varied since the middle or end of the sixteenth century, with one small exception. The old English breed had a small patch of black upon the poll, called the "black velvet," and this is not to be seen in the best specimens of the day. The Dutch and the Italians have always cherished the breed, but they have never approached our standard of excellence in colour, distinct marking, or symmetry. The Dutch specimens are coarse, large, crook-kneed, and phlegmatic, whilst the Italian race is pale in colour, and, in plain language, "mongrelized."

Between the years 1836-46 the Pug was the rarest breed in Great Britain. About the year 1846 one or two specimens appeared, and under the fostering care of a few breeders, admirable examples were produced. The old and absurd system of cropping off the whole of the ears prevailed, and this cruelty was excused because it occasioned that wrinkling and puckering of the forehead, considered essential in a pure dog. The barbarous fashion was continued simply because it had been followed in the days of our grandfathers and great grandfathers—at any rate, up to the year 1804, when the dog was the rage; and very beautiful specimens thus mutilated have been exhibited at recent dog shows in England. Within the last year or two this unhappy custom has been on the wane, and where expediency cannot be pleaded, owing to the dog's occupation, we trust such torture will be abandoned.

The true English Pug should be of a fawn colour, devoid of any smut approaching blackness. Clearness and purity of colour are essential, so as to render the various markings (which we shall proceed to describe) as clear and sharp in outline as possible. The dog should stand on short legs, as straight

and well made as a fox-hound, but with long, "bare feet," the toes well split up. His head should be round, and the forehead high, nose short, teeth level, jaw square. The eye should be full and black; the ears are small, silky, black, and close to the head. A black mole should be clearly marked on each cheek, with three hairs in each. The mask should be black, and positively marked; the neck should be strong and thick, devoid of all loose or puckered skin. The chest should be broad, the back and loins wide and strong, and a black line or "trace" should run down the back to the end of the tail. The tail should be tightly curled over the side or hip, having a second curl. The ribs should be round; this is a great point, as a ragged or narrow dog of this description is considered deformed.

A narrow pointed nose is a great disfigurement, so is a woolly or dead coat. The coat should be sleek and shining, short, and soft to the touch. Round feet are also bad, so are white toes, or, indeed, white anywhere. If the black of the mask melts gradually into a grey, and is softened until it mingles with the fawn, the dog loses much of its value.

FORTHCOMING POULTRY EXHIBITION.

Secretaries of Agricultural Societies will please forward prize lists of their intended exhibitions for insertion.

OTTAWA.—Second Annual Exhibition of Ottawa City Agricultural Society, on 21st, 22nd, and 23rd September next.

The twenty-fifth Annual Exhibition of the Ontario Provincial Agricultural Association will be held at the City of Toronto on the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th days of October next. Entries close on 3rd September, and must be made on a printed form supplied by the Secretary, Mr. Hugh C. Thomson. The following prizes are offered:

Best pair white dorkings \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair coloured dorkings \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of white crested black Polands \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair golden Polands \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair silver Polands \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair game fowls (black-breasted and other reds) \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair game fowls, any other variety \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Buff Cochin Chinas \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair white or other

colour Cochin Chinas \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Brahma Pootras, light \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Brahma Pootras, dark \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Spanish fowls \$4, 2nd do \$3, 3rd do \$2; best pair golden pencilled Hamburgs \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair silver pencilled Hamburgs \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of golden spangled Hamburgs \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair silver spangled Hamburgs \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Crève Cœur, or La Flèche \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Houdan fowls \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Sebright Bantams \$2, 2nd do \$1; best pair of any other variety of Bantams \$2, 2nd do \$1; best Turkey Cock (any colour) single bird \$3, 2nd do \$2; best pair of turkeys (any colour) \$5, 2nd do \$3, 3rd do \$2; best pair geese (white) \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair geese (coloured) \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Aylesbury ducks \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Rouen ducks \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of any other kind of ducks \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Guinea fowls \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of pea fowls \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of any other variety of fowl, not included in above class \$4, 2nd do \$2.

PIGEONS

Best carrier, pouter, and tumbler pigeons \$3, 2nd do \$1; best jacobins, fantails, bars, and trumpeters \$3, 2nd do \$1; best collection pigeons, any other varieties \$3, 2nd do \$1.

CHICKENS AND DUCKS OF 1870.

Best pair of dorkings of either variety \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of game fowls of any variety \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Spanish fowls \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Cochin Chinas, of any variety \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Brahma Pootras \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Hamburgs, any variety \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Polands, any variety \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of Aylesbury ducklings \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair Rouen ducklings \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair ducklings, any other kind \$4, 2nd do \$2; best pair of fowls of 1870, of any other kind \$4, 2nd do \$2.

OUR LETTER BOX.

THROAT AND FACE OF A TURKEY SWOLEN.—(*Enquirer*)—The swelling alluded to is certainly merely local, and neither hereditary nor infectious.

WORN-OUT FOWLS.—(*Gallus*)—The Spanish cock, six years and nine months old, was worn out; the falling off of circulation, indicated by his discoloured comb, was a proof of it. We have no doubt he had a fat liver. This will often accompany a state of body in which the blood fills only one function, that of depositing fat. We have seen a young fowl almost bloodless, but so fat as to cause a cessation of all useful operations of the body. It was a Cochin pullet, and she looked like a badly

jaundiced patient in the face. We killed her by cutting her throat, but could draw only a few drops of thick blood. Had she lived a little longer these would have been absorbed, and she would have died from want of blood. We have never seen young Spanish die in this way, but they have diseases of their own. They are not long lived; none of the non-sitters are, and few of the egg-producers reach the age of three years without more or less disease in the different organs having to do with the formation and laying of eggs.

BRAHMA POOTRAS.—(*Lex*)—There is no reason why a Brahma Pootra pullet, running with a three-year old cock, should not produce good chickens. Dead chickens in the shells arise from other causes; probably the hen did not hatch well, or that the eggs were stale, and were not sprinkled with tepid water during incubation.

DO THUNDER STORMS KILL CHICKENS BEFORE THEY ARE HATCHED?—This subject, and the reply given to it by us in our last number, has elicited several communications.

C. W. Postlethwaite, of Toronto, writes:

In support of your opinion as given in the first number of the CHRONICLE, that "Thunder storms do not kill chickens before they are hatched," I will give you my recent experience. On the 14th June, I set nine black Spanish eggs under a Dorking hen, one of which she shortly afterwards broke, leaving but eight eggs. Since that date we had in Toronto six severe thunder storms, besides several of a less degree. Indeed, as you will remember, hardly two consecutive days of the past fortnight have passed without more or less thunder. On the 20th day she brought off seven chickens, and this morning the eighth was hatched."

J. Y. Bicknell, & Co., of Westmoreland, New York State, says:—"Do thunder storms kill chicks before they are hatched?" In reply to the article under the above heading, we would say that we have never had chicks killed by thunder storms, but our neighbours have complained on that account, and we always find that cases where chickens are supposed to be killed by thunder storms before hatching, are in nests placed on the ground, and as the earth is more or less charged with electricity during such times, our opinion has been that the electricity coming in contact with the egg, destroyed the life of the chick, and not the noise of the thunder. We never sit hens on the ground (contrary to all theory), and never have that kind of ill luck attend the hatching, as our neighbours seem to have; we have been of opinion that thunder storms would

kill chicks before they were hatched if the eggs were placed on the ground. Let us hear from others on the subject."

Another correspondent writes:—

"During the late civil war, I knew any quantity of chicks to be hatched in South Carolina, in the midst of the most terrific bombarding that probably the world ever saw, and yet I have repeatedly known chicks to be killed in the shell by only a slight thunder storm. It is a fact that cannot be controverted; it has happened too often to be ignored. Whether it is the jarring of the air that does the mischief, or some electrical phenomenon, I am not prepared to say, but my sometimes better experience has taught me to watch with dread for a thunder gust, when hatching valuable eggs in the incubator or under a hen."

ROYAL JAVA FOWLS.—(*Enquirer*)—Can you or any of your readers give a description of Royal Java fowls? I see no mention of them in *Tegetmeier*, from which fact I conclude them to be an American variety, or perhaps English with an American name, though that would not do, as they are Royal Java.

[We are unable to give the information above asked for, but no doubt some of our many American correspondents can.—Ed.]

CHICKEN CHOLERA.—(*Amateur, U.S.*)—Are the Canadian poulterers troubled with chicken cholera, and if so, what are the remedies? I have been experimenting for some time, and can soon give a complete course of treatment for prevention and cure. English writers seem to be unaware of its existence. [We are not aware of any disease peculiar to chickens known as "cholera," nor have we seen any mention made of it in any of the standard works on poultry. If our correspondent would describe the symptoms, we would be in a better position to give a reply. It is not, however, unlikely that it has been already described under a different name. Since the foregoing was written, we have seen in the *Country Gentleman* the symptoms and cure for chicken cholera given, which we recommended to a friend who had, out of forty young turkeys, lost over one-half by a disease in every way similar to that described, and with good results. The symptoms are—drooping, with little inclination to eat, drowsiness and weakness prevailing. Cure—three or four teaspoonfuls of sirong alum water, once a day for two days; mix the feed (say cornmeal) with strong alum water, feeding twice a day for two or three days; afterwards, once a week. Another writer gives the following remedy; "Take, say, two eggs, a table-spoonful of finely pulverized alum, and a

sufficient quantity of flour to make a thin paste, and force the chicken or turkey to swallow a portion of the mixture.—Ed.]

CARBOLIC ACID.—(J. Y. B.)—As regards the use of Carboxic acid to destroy parasites, we suppose your correspondent used CarboLic acid, as the latter is used as a disinfectant, but not the former. Carboxic acid is a gas, but CarboLic acid is a chrystal which dissolves when exposed to the air, and is used diluted with water with good results.

[The error in spelling was purely typographical, and would have been corrected in this number. We thank our correspondent, however, and publish his remarks on the acid, and its uses.—Ed.]

PLAN OF POULTRY-HOUSE—KEEPING HENS IN LARGE NUMBERS.—(“J. B., Brantford.”) In our next number we will give plan of a poultry-house. In the meantime we would advise our correspondent to procure “The Practical Poultry Keeper,” a book which contains several plans of poultry-houses, with much useful information on poultry-keeping. To keep 2,000 hens will require care and attention, and we would advise first commencing with a much smaller number, and gradually increase. As to the breeds of fowls to keep, we would feel disposed to have several kinds, so as to be able in the spring to supply customers for hatching, as well as eggs for market during the year. Wright, in his work on the “Brahma Fowls,” strongly recommends, for laying purposes, a cross between the Dark Brahma and the Spanish fowls; while, for table purposes, a cross between the former and the Dorking is said to be of the very best kind. In a large establishment, both eggs and table fowls must be steadily kept in view. The cost of keep depends so much on local considerations, that it is impossible to say what per head per annum it would come to. If in the vicinity of a flouring mill, we would strongly advise making an arrangement with the proprietor for all the wheat-screenings produced, as they make excellent feed, and one of which fowls generally do not tire soon. Again, a great proportion of the feed may be raised on that portion of the farm not devoted to poultry runs, the droppings of the fowls affording manure for the production of it, and the green food required. Let our correspondent procure some other works on poultry, such as the “Poultry Book,” by W. B. Tegetmeier, the “Brahma Fowl,” by Wright, all or any of which may be procured from any of our city book-sellers, and study them well before commencing either to build or purchase stock.—Ed.

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I shall also publish in it a list of the officers of all Poultry Societies, also the time when their next exhibition will be given, so far as known to me. Terms for advertising will be:—Whole page, (edition of 10,000) \$15; Half page, \$10; Quarter page, \$5. For entry of Name in Catalogue, showing the various breeds dealt in, \$1. No extra charge for cuts or display. Cuts sent to me will be returned at my expense. An early reply, with copy of advertisement desired, accompanied by a remittance, will secure space in the position.

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FOR SALE, THIS FALL, A few pairs of choice fowls of the following varieties:—Dark and light Brahmas, Partridge and Buff Cochins, Grey Dorkings, Golden Spangled Poland and Black Spanish. Nearly all of the above fowls which I offer for sale are bred from first-class imported birds, and can be relied on as being pure, as I keep my stock birds of each variety separate, summer and winter. For list of prices address H. M. THOMAS, Brooklin, Ontario.

EGGS FOR HATCHING, FROM the following varieties:—Gold Spangled Hamburg, Silver Spangled Poland, Silver Pencilled Hamburg, Blue Leghorn. Price \$2 per setting of thirteen eggs, carefully packed. CHAS. W. TREADWELL, Exeter, N. H., U. S.

FOR SALE, A THOROUGH-BRED POINTER, 20 months old; has been shot over one season; is well trained and obedient; is a good retriever, and takes to water willingly. Apply to Drawer 922 Toronto P. O.

FOR SALE, A TRIO OF WHITE Cochins and Royal Java, fine birds of last year. Also, in the fall, a few pairs, or trios, of superior Houdans and Crève Coeurs, bred directly from imported stock, and *not related*. Also, dark and light Brahmas, grey and white Dorkings, white Cochins, black Spanish and white Leghorn, all from carefully selected stock, warranted pure bred. For further particulars apply to J. W. ACRES, Box 143, Paris, Ont.

FANCY PIGEONS FOR SALE.

Fantails—Yellow, Blue, Silver, Brown and mottled. Turbits—Blue, Yellow and Red Winged. Tumblers—High Flying, Ground and Almond. Jacobins—Red, Black, Yellow, White and Yellow Mottled. Also a few pairs of beautiful Spangled Snabians, from imported birds. Apply to F. F. POLE, Mitchell, Ont.

WHITE COCHINS (COL. HASSARD STRAIN).—A few pairs young birds for sale in the fall. Apply to THOS. McLEAN, Box 25 P. O., Toronto.

THREE FIRST AND ONE SECOND PRIZE, Provincial Exhibition, London, and Counties of Oxford and Brant, 1869.—Houdans, stock imported from England, per pair, \$8 to \$10; do. cockerels, \$7 to \$5; Black Spanish, per pair, \$5 to \$8; Houdan eggs, \$3 per dozen; Black Spanish eggs, \$3 per dozen; English Grey Duck, very large, eggs, \$2 per dozen. All eggs warranted fresh and pure. W. H. VAN ISOGHE, Woodstock, Ontario.

SILVER PENCILLED HAMBURGS.—A few pairs of silver pencilled Hamburgs, hatched from Imported English Eggs, for sale in the fall. Apply to THOS. McLEAN, Box 25 P. O., Toronto.

FANCY PIGEONS.—POUTERS, Fantails, Brown, Cinnamon and Black Tumblers for sale. Apply to W. B. BUTLER, 4 Leader Buildings, Toronto, Ontario.

BUFF COCHINS.—FOR SALE, 4 magnificent Buff Cochins (Col. Hassard strain). Apply to JOHN FORSYTH, Box 1135, P. O., Toronto.

AFRICAN GESE (COLORED). Wanted, in the fall, a trio of African Geese; must be large, and show the distinctive markings of their variety. Apply to THOS. McLEAN, Box 25, P. O., Toronto.

WANTED, NANKIN BANTAMS; must be small, clean legged and rose combed. Apply to Box 787 Toronto P. O.

A. McLEAN HOWARD, TORONTO, has for sale one pair of Gold Spangled Hamburgs, imported, price \$10.

DARK BRAHMAS.—FIRST PRIZE, Exhibition of the Ontario Poultry Association, 1869. First Prize, Exhibition of the Montreal Agricultural Association, Montreal. A few birds, bred from noted prize-winning strains, are offered for sale. S. SHELDON STEPHENS, Montreal.

BRAHMA POOTRAS.—FOR SALE, in the fall, several pairs Light Brahma Pootras, hatched from imported stock and Prize birds. Apply to THOS. McLEAN, Box 25 P. O., Toronto.

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