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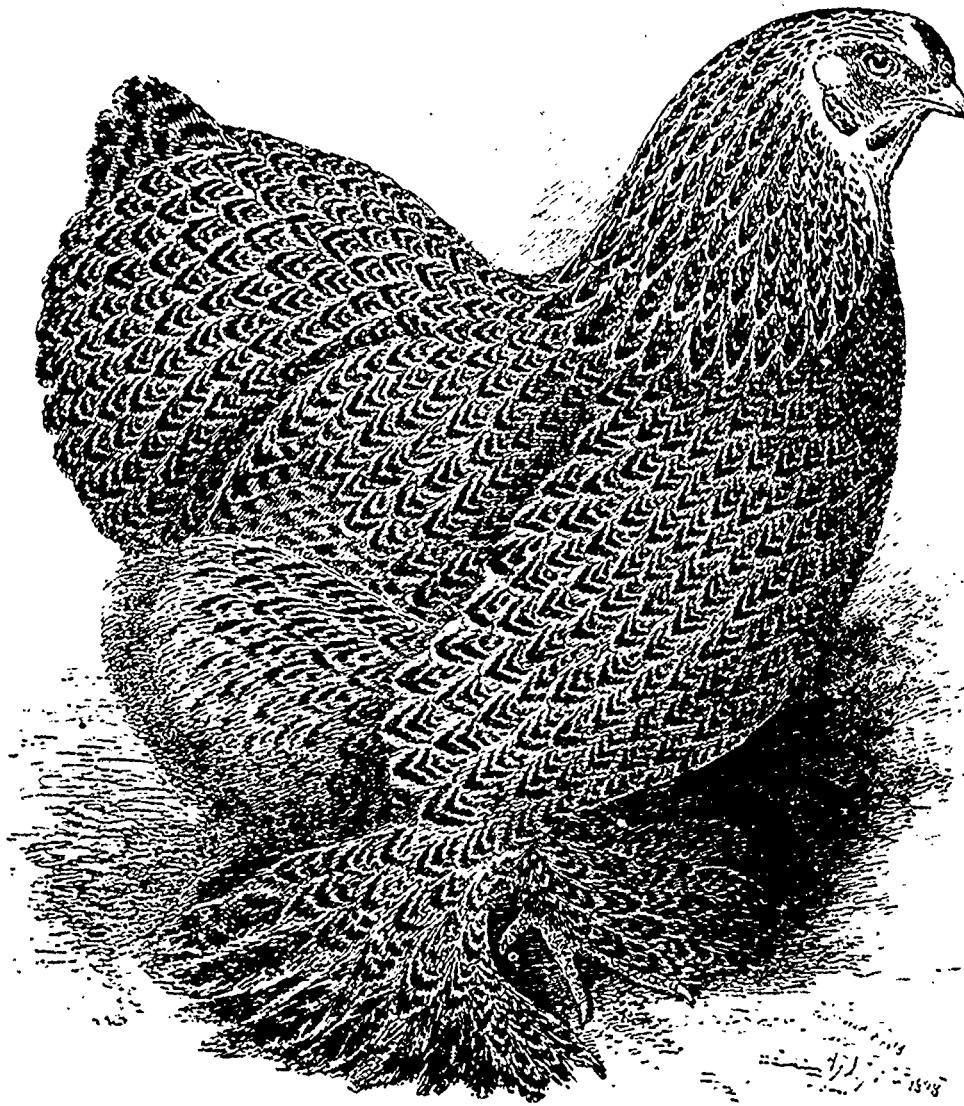
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AN ENGLISH DARK BRAHMA PULLET.

First and Cup at Crystal Palace and First at Dairy Show.

CANADIAN POULTRY REVIEW, Toronto, September, 1898.

# THE CANADIAN POULTRY REVIEW

DEVOTED TO A POULTRY, IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

For the FANCIER, the FARMER, and the SMALL BREEDER.

VOL. XXI.

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No. 9

## POULTRY FARMING IN FRANCE.

### FRENCH GEESE.

BY EDWARD CONNER, PARIS, FRANCE.

GEESE are bred in France mostly for their feathers, their livers and their flesh. Their bill is as long as their head; in the case of ducks this is less so. The body is also more in equilibrium, hence they swim more at ease, but plunge with greater difficulty. Their march is more rapid, and less rolling than that of the duck. They are not so aquatic either as ducks—though many of the large duck farms in the United States have no water accommodation at all. Geese like marshes and banks of rivers, and eat the tender shoots of weeds, etc. They are cleaner feeders than ducks and are, indeed, in this point of comparison, vegetarians; ducks devour every kind of detritus, hence their flesh too often reflects their food. Being able to fly higher, though slower than ducks, their migration can go far. Even in a wild state, geese are sociable, as they live in small groups, and in ordinary life the ganders do not quarrel though living together. Good geese ought to have a decided gait and a lively eye. They are not so stupid as generally believed; they know and become attached to their masters, and in those parts of France where they are reared in flocks, as in Alsace and the valley of the Garonne, they assemble and march to the sound of a horn or trumpet, to be conducted to graze as well as to be led home. The vigilance of geese is proverbial; the least surprise induces them to utter piercing screams; the gander is very courageous, whistles like a serpent while trying to strike with bill and wing.

The brilliant whiteness of geese induced the Greek poets to find in them a simile for young girls. The Egyptians deified the goose, and named a city after the bird. For a time the goose was sacred with the Romans, since its screaming saved the Capitol from the Barbarians; in time, they preferred its gastronomic value, and the Gauls sent from Picardy every year, flocks of geese across France, and over the Alps, down into Italy.

Till the introduction of the more delicate turkey, geese were the favourite table birds at banquets and festivals. In the middle ages a new profession came into existence, that of poulterers selling also roasted geese. The flesh, the most important product, is close grained, and nutritive; it is savoury, though heavy, but in any case is welcomed by robust stomachs. Geese are largely consumed in France to-day, but yet not so extensively as in England. The turkey, though possessing a very appetizing and fine flesh, is not accorded the first place at very select dinner parties, that honor is reserved for a good capon. There are two very distinct varieties of geese in France; the common breed and peculiar to the central regions of the country, is small, and when not wholly white, is white and grey. The Toulouse goose, the second variety, is very large, low breasted, walks with difficulty, and seems to indicate it has been hatched to grow rapidly, and yield a large liver. With ordinary attention, the farming of geese is not difficult, it is profitable, and ever more so, if the rearer has plenty of grass and marsh land to allow the birds to roam over. The gander is generally allowed six females—double the number the Romans allotted. For breeding purposes, the gander can be useful at seven months, but will be in his prime at twelve. As goose eggs are

in no marked demand in France, save for making omelettes, there is not much to be gained in forcing a goose to lay an extra supply. She can give twenty eggs, aye up to thirty-five, but twelve to fifteen are as many as she wants to hatch properly. A turkey will brood the same number of eggs, but in the case of ordinary hens, six eggs are sufficient to hatch over at one time. The nest must not be situated in a humid or damp position; the goose takes seriously to hatching, and must be well watched. In fact, so intense is her interest in the duty, so great is her dread to quit the nest, that both food and water ought to be placed within her reach. She hatches during twenty-eight to thirty-two days, and care must be taken when the goslings appear not to let the mother bolt with some of the young birds before the others quit the shell. The early arrivals are placed in a basket lined with wool, and when the birds are completely out, all the young ones are returned to the mother. The commencing or first food consists of well cooked eggs, mixed with barley or buckwheat meals, chopped chicory, and nettle shoots; a little later crumbled pieces of stale bread mixed with chopped chicory, chervil, watercress, parsley, etc., will be enjoyed; let the youngsters pick at whole coss lettuces. Protect the birds from rain and full sunshine, and though young ducks rush for the water when born, the goslings prefer a grassy river bank. When the young geese cannot be penned on grass land, they must be herded by a boy or a girl. It is a good and wise plan to have a feed ready for the birds on arriving home for the night, such as grain, bruised potatoes and green vegetables, all of which are very suitable, for geese are known to be voracious feeders.

The idea of plucking geese alive suggests perhaps to some the idea of cruelty. All birds undergo once or twice a year a change of feathers, sometimes sudden and often gradual. In the case of geese, the moulting is rapid; hence, pluck to avoid loss. Young birds can be plucked twice a year, and older birds thrice. The first crop is taken when the birds are three months old; when the feathers are gathered from the breast, under the wings, tail, and off the neck. In the course of two months they are plucked again; after the said operation, keep the geese in the house for three days in order to harden. When in the yard, the

geese ought to have separate compartments, containing a fixed number of birds; if not, much fighting will ensue. The ordinary feathers fetch from two to three francs a pound, and the down from two and a half to four francs. There is not any demand now for quills, but formerly they were pulled out. In the department of the Vienne, the skin of the goose is largely in request to be converted into "Swan's skin," for the farriers.

In some parts of France, the wings and legs of geese are preserved in their own grease, for goose fat is an invaluable culinary article, especially for making pastry. It is Pomerania which supplies the smoked breasts of geese, which sell at three francs a pound. In some districts the flesh is salted for keeping. In Berry, the skin of the neck forms a sausage roll, composed of chopped goose liver and fresh pork.

One part of the great industry is to fatten geese for their livers. The Toulouse variety is that preferred, when the fattening is pushed to its utmost limit, in order to obtain a most fatty liver, and impart whiteness, delicacy and flavour to the flesh. The fattening process takes place twice a year in summer and autumn, generally the latter, in October the best period. Its principle is, to confine the bird in a box compartment 18 inches wide, 24 inches long and 24 high, called the "seminary," with only room to stretch out its neck to feed, or to be crammed with food, and kept in complete obscurity and stillness, during the whole of the fattening process, which may last twenty-four to thirty days. A ball of fat will form under each wing; the functions of respiration and digestion will have next to ceased; then kill the bird. The Romans fattened their geese within forty to sixty days upon meal or flour, given three times a day, with plenty of drink, and lodged in a dark and warm spot. To induce the formation of the desired enlarged liver, food rich in fatty substance must of course be employed, and the goose maintained in a state of repose. The absence of exercise prevents the necessary combustion of the food, which is thus turned into fat and accumulates in the tissues. The liver acts as a reservoir for the fat, while fabricating fat itself. Before cooping the birds, they ought to have been well fed; in this case, wheat, maize, flour, bran, oats, and water, are the proper rations to be given. The flour

is generally made into a paste, and forced down the throat of the goose, in the shape of inch cylinders, known as patons. Germany relies on boiled potatoes and whey curd. Maize meal is preferred, for it is naturally rich in fatty matter, and the older the grain, the greater will be its richness. A goose to be fattened weighs nine to ten pounds, and at the close of the operation eighteen pounds. It costs four to five francs and sells for double that sum when fattened up. Then the liver, which originally weighed between two and three ounces, will have risen to seven, and as high as eighteen ounces. After the bird is killed, the liver is placed aside and sold to pastry cooks, or to specialists, who preserve it with truffles and veal in tureens; or within a pie-crust, or pate, following the discovery of the cook of Marshal de Constate at Strasburg in 1788. The dressed liver is called "foie-gras," and otherwise prepared, was highly esteemed in Rome. It is a very indigestible aliment, no matter how served for the table, and is not rich, as Chemist Payen has shown, in nitrogenous or muscle-forming matters.

It is difficult to know exactly the number of geese sent annually to the Paris markets, as the French farmers now utilize the parcel post for agricultural produce, up to a weight of twenty-two pounds, and thus supply private families and green grocers direct. Thus in 1893, while 560,715 geese arrived at the Central Market (Paris), in 1894 there were but 472,304. The Sarthe, Le Mans, Vienne, and Poitiers forward most geese to Paris, and the cost of transport, entry taxes and market dues, amount to thirty-one or thirty-three francs per two hundredweights. The mean average price of two hundredweights, is 148 to 172 francs, and the selling wholesale price, at the Central Markets, was seven to ten francs per fat, and four to ten francs per ordinary bird. The geese arrived ready plucked, save the wings and neck. The average weight of a market goose is eight pounds, and the city entrance tax eighteen francs per two hundredweights.

Mr. I. B. Johnson has just returned to Toronto from an extended visit to England, where he inspected many prominent yards.

Don't forget your entry for the London and Ontario fairs.

## BUFF WYANDOTTES.

BY H. S. BARCOCK, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

THE shows for 1897-98 which I had the good fortune to attend had classes for buff Wyandottes, and I took some pains to observe whether the variety was advancing or retrograding.

In shape the variety shows a decided improvement. It is assuming the blocky form which is the "sine qua non" of the breed. I noticed very few of the Rhode Island red type of birds, the parent type of both the buff Wyandotte and the buff Plymouth Rock. The combs, as well as the bodies, showed the Wyandotte type. Though one could not say a few years ago that we had real buff Wyandottes, he could say so, without qualification, this season.

In color, the specimens on exhibition showed fully as great an advance as they did in shape. I examined specimens that were really or quite as perfect in color as the buff Cochin in its best estate. The tails, hackles and wings had become free from black. Even the males showed this perfection in coloring. Of course these were picked birds, the cream of the flock. Probably there were left at home specimens defective in shape and coloring. It is not at all probable that the buff Wyandotte, as a variety, is yet perfect. But that such perfect specimens have been bred is a hopeful sign for the future.

This variety, I believe, has a future before it. It has a satisfying shape and it has a beautiful coloring. It gives evidence of possessing qualities which will render it a favorite fowl among both fanciers and practical men. It is a good variety to invest in. I say this, and I do not own a buff Wyandotte, and further I have a buff breed which I personally prefer to the Wyandotte. But I honestly believe that to any one who likes buff as a color and desires a blocky-built bird, the buff Wyandotte will be a good investment. One of my friends, a practical poultryman, always taking the side of the practical man against the fancier, has become so impressed with this variety that I think he will soon be breeding it. Another friend, a fancier of fanciers, is in a like state of mind. I should not be surprised to learn that a good many

others throughout the country were feeling similarly.

But one should not expect too much of so recent a variety as this. He must be prepared to meet some disappointments for several years to come. There probably will be "culls" to kill in most of the broods. But if one will persevere, killing the culls, breeding only from the better specimens, the time does not seem to be far distant when the buff Wyandotte will be a formidable rival to the popular white, whether one is seeking a fowl for business or for pleasure.

### BUFF ROCKS—THE BIRDS THAT ARE.

BY R. H. ESSEX, TORONTO.

IT would be superfluous for me to argue that buff Rocks are the leading variety of the day, or to rehearse their many superior attributes, which have so often been discussed by the breeders before whom this will come.

The old saying "Every dog has its day," applies equally well to fowls; they all have their day. The Leghorn that has been so much improved since its importation, the light Brahma that has changed so much in style, the Minorca that even now is struggling to hold its own, and the barred Rock that has always held its own—and more too—they have all had their day, and now it is our turn with the buff Rocks. It needs no reiteration to convince the poultry fraternity of America of the truth of my headlines—"Buff Rocks—The Birds That ARE."

Long may they continue.

This wish, I believe, is the basis upon which the Buff Rock Club is erected, and, in perpetuating the worth and popularity of the breed, much depends on individual action of our members.

The Buff Rock Club will be the biggest specialty organization in America and will have great influence on the future of the bird, members will, therefore, see the necessity for great care in forwarding its interests.

It is a new variety of the Rock, and, therefore, not yet perfect. It should be the endeavor of breeders to continually and carefully place before the purchasing public, not only the bird's beauties, but its present defects.

Many a prospective breeder has been disheartened

and driven from the ranks by an incomplete or mistaken description of birds he has purchased. This has reference to every variety of fowl. How very important then, in a new variety, to correctly state every defect.

Prospective breeders of buff Rocks, before purchasing, have convinced themselves that these are the birds they want, these are the birds they must have. They have decided there is money in them, they have reckoned on a big demand, and therefore a profitable investment; they may or may not, have decided that the breed is perfect. How much better for us that they should know the present standing of the buffs, rather than have their anticipations unfulfilled, which, as I have said, often results in their retreat from the ranks, which is a loss to us all.

It is no use beating about the bush. We all encounter one or more deficiencies, and we all find it an impossibility to satisfy the inevitable buyer who wants an "all buff" bird for \$5 or so. This expectant gentleman is not always to blame.

I have just received from one of the most prominent firms in the country, a catalogue which, speaking of their buff Rocks, says:

"They are noted for their perfection of color, size, and symmetry. All birds sold by us are guaranteed true to type. "They are solid buffs."

These advertisers, without doubt, are going too far, and likely, quite unintentionally. "Solid buffs," if I understand English, means buff wings and tail; the word "solid" suggests "throughout" in this case. If it were limited to surface color it would be so stated. Such thoughtless advertisements are not only injuring the business of the advertiser, but they place every breeder in the unenviable position of having to reply to the queries of many such correspondents as I have mentioned, who want "solid buff" birds. They say, "Mr. So and So has them, and if you haven't you're behind the times."

I have, therefore, thought it well to state my knowledge of the present standing of buff Rocks, and hope it may instruct those who otherwise might expect too much of us. In order that this may have due weight, it may be necessary to state that, although I have encountered at different times all the defects I mention, it is not an experience of mine alone. The best stock

in the country to-day will breed a certain number of culls, and when I say that, in the stiffest competition in Canada for the past three years, I have never failed to win first prize on hen, and a majority of firsts on other exhibits I have made, it will be understood that these drawbacks exist even in the best flocks.

#### THE MALE.

Black in wings and tail is to be found, I may say, on every male bird. If there is one in a thousand without it, this is the exception which proves the rule. This year of 1898 finds among the winners at first-class shows, pure buff primaries, 75 per cent. buff secondaries, with wing coverts perhaps clear, but usually pencilled. In tail, the sickles and coverlets are buff, the main tail perhaps 50 per cent buff. In the exception mentioned above, if the wings and tail are buff look out for a small bird that has not much Rock shape, though even in this case there may be an exception. As a rule white is not tolerated either in tail or wings, and a bird must be extra good to overcome this drawback. Yet it appears. The surface color of the best show males approaches perfection. Combs are yet too large on the majority. I don't wish it to be understood that a single bird carries all the defects. Some excel in one particular, some in another.

The average male breeder has these defects to a greater extent than the show bird, and so far as the black goes, some people consider it a necessity in the head of the breeding pen. Feathers on legs do not bother the male to any great extent, neither does black in the hackle, but white in wings is often found in old birds.

#### THE FEMALE.

In color the female leads. Nearly all prominent breeders possess one or two females which may be designated solid buff, that is, there will be no white or black in wings or tail. Surface color is even and, in pullets, an excellent buff, but the hens have in most cases moulted lighter.

In the breeding pen we find pullets with a good even surface, clear primaries, wing coverts 25 to 50 per cent. pencilled, tails 25 to 75 per cent. black. The female is more subject to feathers on legs than the male. Black frequently appears in the hackle. I was surprised at the late Buffalo show to observe many pullets with

black in hackle, which is a thing to be carefully weeded out.

Solid buff male Rocks do not go begging at \$50 each. Solid buff females are none too plentiful at \$20 each. So do not let the expectant investor be disappointed if his \$5 bill does not secure such a bird, and do not let us advertise such stock at \$3 up until we have a surplus of such stock for sale.

There is a big fortune in buff Rocks, at his own home, for the man who can breed solid buffs, so take a hand in.

#### ROUP AND CANKER CURE.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following prescription for certain forms of roup and canker, which she thinks is of great value: Five grains sugar of lead, five grains calomel, three grains sulphate of zinc, one-half grain morphine, one tablespoonful loaf sugar, one-fourth pint soft water. Put all into a bottle and as soon as the sugar dissolves it is ready for use. The above is an old tried and true recipe for "eye water," but has been found a most excellent cure for roup in fowls, swelled eyes, and the worst cases of cankered tongues and throats are soon cured by it.

Don't use any harsh means, such as scraping the canker off the poor hens' tongues, but gently hold the beak up, and by placing the tip end of a glass eye dropper between her beak and letting a few drops of the medicine flow down her throat. In a few days the tongue and throat will be clean and well. Shake before using; apply twice a day.

#### MANITOBA POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Manitoba Poultry Association was held in Winnipeg on July 13th, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Patrons, His Honor Lieut. Governor Patterson and Hon. Thos. Greenway; Hon. President, E. L. Drewry. President, H. A. Chadwick, St. James; Vice-Presidents, A. Stovel, Winnipeg; J. W. Higginbotham, Virden; J. G. Rutherford, M.P., Portage la Prairie; J. Kitson, McDonald. Secretary, E. R. Collier, Winnipeg; Treasurer, S. B. Blackhall, Winnipeg, Executive Committee, George Wood, Charles Midwinter, John Law, John Todd, Thomas Reed and E. B. Lemon, all of Winnipeg; Auditors, C. H. Wise and John Dolbear.

## POULTRY FOODS.

BY JAMES GREENWOOD.

ALL poultry-keepers will agree with me, I am sure, that it is advantageous for them to understand something of the nature of the foods they give their birds. They then will best be able to decide what foods are calculated to produce such-and-such effects. To begin with, say we take—

**OATMEAL.**—This is a food which is considered to be more nutritious than either wheat or barley. The proportion of fat in oatmeal is large—fully  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. It has the advantage of being easily cooked. It contains much nutriment—and this in small bulk. An excellent food this is to give poultry, but it must be given cautiously, otherwise its fattening quality soon shows itself. Right enough if poultry are wanted for killing in a short time, then it may be given often, but only a little at a time, mixed up, and that with other foods, for laying hens.

**WHEAT.**—Is poor in water and rich in solids, therefore very nutritious in small bulk. The starchy substances are large, yet easily digested. It contains useful salts, chiefly phosphates of potash and magnesia. It contains rather a small per cent. of fat (usually 2.) May be classed an excellent grain to give to poultry.

**MAIZE OR INDIAN CORN.**—It contains a large quantity of yellow fat, from 7 to 8 per cent. It is like oatmeal, a very nutritious food, but must be given with caution. Consider myself the meal is best given to fowls after it has been boiled, and not the grain, as then the birds are not nearly so likely to have diarrhoea—a not uncommon occurrence after giving maize grains in bulk. A vast number of fowls are prevented from laying simply through giving this food to them too freely; their bodies are often lined internally with this yellow fat; sometimes I have seen it an inch or more in thickness.

**BARLEY.**—Has pretty much the same qualities as wheat. It is very nutritious, but rather laxative

Contains only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of fat—sometimes as little as 2 per cent. An excellent food for poultry.

**PEA MEAL.**—A very good food to give poultry now and again for a change. It does not contain too much fat. Is very nutritious.

**RICE.**—A very easily-digested food; this is the reason it is given to young chickens, whose powers of digestion are not so great as those of adult birds. Contains very little fat (about 1 per cent., or hardly any).

**POTATOES.**—Contain a lot of starch (about 22 per cent). Potato starch is very digestible, though potatoes contain very little fat (often about  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent). They are not given so much on account of their nutritive qualities as their supply of desirable salts.

**ANIMAL FOOD FOR FOWLS.**—This must be supplied to them when they are unable to find any naturally. When fowls have access to grass runs they are generally able to find animal food for themselves—such as insects, worms, etc. In winter though, and in very dry weather in summer time, fowls are unable to scratch for insects on the ground, it being so dry and scorched that few insects come within the birds' reach. Then animal food, even if 'tis only a little now and then, ought certainly to be given them. Bones from the table may be given them to pick, or fresh bones may be boiled, and the water in which they are boiled mixed up with their usual soft food. Crushed bones furnish one of the best of foods to give to young growing chickens; it brings them on wonderfully. Liver and lights got nice and fresh from the butcher's, boiled, and cut up into very small pieces, will repay the poultry-keeper for his little trouble. The egg-basket in the winter-time looks all the better for this little alteration.

**CONDIMENTS.**—These are very well given as occasion requires; a little pepper, say, mixed up with the soft food on a cold morning will do good. A little common salt, too, is beneficial.

ALL these foods, if they be judiciously chosen, you



cannot go far wrong in giving to your birds. Changing the diet frequently. Keeping your birds clean, allowing them sufficient exercise is of all other ways the one to make poultry keeping a success.

If you would gain strength, eat freely poultry and eggs. Physiologists have found the energy developed by one ounce of the following substances that have had the water extracted from them, and when they are oxidized or used up by the body, to be as follows :

|     |                |               |
|-----|----------------|---------------|
|     | 1 oz. Potatoes | 127 foot-tons |
|     | “ Arrowroot    | 136 “ “       |
|     | “ Bread        | 147 “ “       |
|     | “ Fish         | 187 “ “       |
| But | “ Poultry      | 192 “ “       |
|     | “ Eggs         | 257 “ “       |

(Practical Hygiene by Dr. Parkes).

IN other words that there is more strength to be gained from poultry and eggs than from potatoes, arrowroot, bread or fish.

FRICASSEED chicken is a delightful dish, easily prepared ; is easily digested, the whole time occupied in the process of digestion being a little over two hours only.

WHIPPED eggs are excellent for invalids. They are easier digested than even sago, barley, tapioca or boiled milk.—“ Fowls.”

#### EARTH WORMS AND GAPES.

**B**ULLETIN No. 70 of the Kentucky Station contains an account of an experiment made in the spring of 1897 with a view of getting information as to the source from which chickens obtain gape worms, and it was shown that the worms were not obtained by chicks kept from the time they were hatched on a wooden floor, and the conclusion was drawn that the lot under experiment which became affected with the disease obtained the gape-worms either from the soil or from fish-worms.

This spring six chicks taken direct from the nest in which they hatched were divided into two equal lots

and kept in two cages with wooden bottoms and wire gauze sides, which were suspended at first over hot water pipes of the vivarium of my division, and later were placed on slate-topped tables. One lot was given a daily ration of earthworms with its other daily food, while the check lot received no earthworms. Some sand and gravel was put in each cage, but first thoroughly sterilized by baking in an oven commonly used for bacteriological work. They were confined in the cages March 19. It soon became evident that the lot that received the earthworms was growing faster than the other, and to supply the place of the worms cooked meat was thereafter given to the checked lot. Chicks in both lots suffered from a trouble resembling rheumatism in its effect on the legs, probably by dampness in the vivarium or lack of exercise. Later a bowel trouble became apparent, culminating April 26th in the death of one of the check lots. Its trachea was examined for gapeworms, but none were present.

On April 27 one of the lot which ate earthworms was observed to show symptoms of gapes. April 28 a second chick was affected. On the night of April 19 both of these chicks died. Both had gapeworms in the trachea. The third chick appeared to suffer occasionally from an obstruction in its trachea, and sometimes when it exercised more vigorously than usual became afflicted with something resembling a spasm, lying upon the bottom of the box, opening its mouth and twisting its head about as if suffering acutely. It was now a considerable size, and, although these outward symptoms were not those usually presented by fowls suffering from gapes, it was decided to kill it and make an examination of the trachea, which was done May 3. On opening the trachea the lower part was found empty and in good condition, but just below the glottis it was plugged with a mass of mucus, in which was a single gapeworm.

The two remaining chicks of the check lot are still alive, and have not thus far shown any symptoms of the disease.

I can draw only one conclusion from the experiment, which is that the earthworms conveyed the disease to the treated lot. So far as the experiment is of immediate practical interest, this is all that need be said. Several questions arise, however, that have a scien-

tific interest and may eventually prove to have important practical bearings. How does the gapeworm get into the body of the earthworm? Is it swallowed with earth or other matter taken into the alimentary canal as food, or does it make its way in by boring through the skin? How long does it remain alive in the bodies of earthworms, and in what situation and condition? Does it infect the bodies of all earthworms, or only of particular species? It may be suggested that since earthworms live in soil, it is possible that the young gapeworms adhere to the outside of their bodies in particles of dirt. The worms were always washed carefully to remove all traces of soil under the tap of a sink before being fed to the chicks. But even with this precaution it cannot be denied that a minute gapeworm might adhere to the moist skin of an earthworm. I have no desire to argue this question now, but merely to point out the possibilities. The experiments have been made from the point of view of the practical man, to whom it is immaterial what the condition of the gapeworms may be when introduced. The main question is settled that earthworms will convey the gape disease to poultry, and the common practice of feeding young chicks with these worms is consequently not to be commended.

By itself the experiment made in 1897 was not conclusive as to the part taken by earthworms in conveying the gapeworm, but taken in connection with the experiment just reported, it has more weight as evidence that the gapeworm is obtained by chickens from earthworms. Briefly told, the result of the experiments, taken together, is: Number of treated chicks affected with gapes, 100 per cent.; number of untreated chicks affected, none.

The worms fed to the chicks were largely obtained on my own place and consisted of three or four species. The most common was *Allolobophora tu gida*; the next in numbers was *Allolobophora foetida*, the small brown-banded worm, common everywhere in the United States and Europe. The others I am not sure about, but think I observed among them *A. mucosa*.

I am thoroughly convinced that the buff Plymouth Rocks are THE "all purpose" fowls of the future, on the utility side, while the difficulty and keen competition in producing exhibition birds, will add zest enough to their breeding, to satisfy the most ardent fancier.—S. Z. HARROUN.

## THE INDIAN RUNNER DUCK.

### ITS QUALITIES AND CHARACTERISTICS.

H. DIGBY, BIRCHENCLIFFE, HUDDERSFIELD,  
IN "FOWLS."

WITHOUT in the slightest degree wishing to be disrespectful towards the apparently irreproachable authenticity or the "bona fides" of any opinions expressed hitherto, regarding the introduction into the British Isles of the Indian Runner, I humbly submit that the date, circumstances, and history of the debut of this bird, so far as this country is concerned, is more or less a matter of uncertainty and speculation.

Obviously, if their name affords any guide as to the land of their nativity—and it is reasonable at least to rely on their distinctive title for the purpose of tracing and fixing their origin—to India must inevitably belong the distinction of being the birthplace of the original type.

Admitting then that the Indian Runners are a species that first saw the light of day in India, the next question which suggests itself is, "How did they get into this country?"

In an able and comprehensive treatise on the breed, Mr. J. Donald, of Wigton, Cumberland, fixes the date of their introduction into this country as some fifty years back, and explains the circumstances surrounding it in the following sentence: "A drake and trio of ducks were originally brought from India by a sea-captain to Whitehaven, and presented by him to some friend who at that time followed the occupation of farming in West Cumberland." Mr. Donald also states that "another consignment was imported by the same gentleman some years later, and from these two importations, it is probable that all the present day Runner ducks are descended."

During recent years, Miss Wilson-Wilson, of Kendal, myself, and others, have made special efforts to trace the origin of this variety, and if possible to procure and import fresh birds from the original stock. I am, however, sorry to say that all efforts in this direction have proved futile. After all, as a matter of

plain and simple fact, the all-important point, and certainly the one with which I and others of the "Fancying" persuasion are more directly and intimately concerned, is not the subject of origin, but the retaining of the true type and character of the original Indian Runner as far as possible. Therefore, I shall leave the vexed question of origin, and proceed, as far as circumstances will permit in an essay of this kind, to the consideration of how we breeders can turn the Indian Runners to best account, both for exhibition and other purposes.

Until very recent times, the variety has, for a period of upwards of fifteen years, been lying in a comparatively dormant state, that is to say, as a "fancy" or exhibition bird. The Runner ducks had, up to then, been obliged to compete in the "Any Other Variety" Classes, at nearly all exhibitions where it entered the lists. No serious organized attempt was made to popularize the species until the end of the year 1895. Before then there had been some attempts on the part of individuals to place the Runner as a definite variety, on a sounder and more popular basis, but all these endeavors had not served to give it that position and popularity which its more sanguine supporters believed it deserved.

Towards the close of the year mentioned, Miss Wilson-Wilson sought my opinion at the Dairy Show as to the advisability of making a joint endeavor to raise the Runner in the estimation of the fancy. Needless to say I advised our "Cosy Coop" friend to become a member of the Waterfowl Club, in the belief that that influential and well informed body might be able to assist in drawing up a "Standard of perfection" for the Runner variety, and also in procuring the much desired classification for it at exhibitions where waterfowl are shown.

The credit for the first class (of any importance) for Indian Runner ducks, which has been provided at any leading show for many years, belongs entirely to the lady named, for it was mainly through her instrumentality and generosity that twenty-one pairs of Runners were drawn together in November, 1896, at Kendal. This latter occasion has undoubtedly been the chief factor towards the success and encouragement that is now being accorded to the Indian Run-

ners. This year we have a class for our favourites at the Dairy Show, and four classes at the Crystal Palace; Kendal has also doubled its classification for Runners, and it is to be hoped other leading societies will see their way to encourage this deserving variety.

Now that the Waterfowl Club has taken up the interests of Runner fanciers, and have published an official "Standard of Perfection" for their guidance, there is not the least doubt that the variety will ere long find its way into general favour and popularity. That the "Standard" is appreciated is abundantly attested by judges and fanciers alike, the former regarding it as a reliable guide at all times, and the latter finding in it much to aid and instruct them in the selection, fostering and developing of this particular fancy. It will readily be understood and conceded that the Standard embodies the results of innumerable enquiries and many years' varied and practical experience.

In referring to the chief properties of the Indian Runner ducks, I have no hesitation in saying they surpass all other known varieties of ducks as egg producers, they are also highly esteemed as ornamental waterfowl. Perfect specimens are truly beautiful, but by no means plentiful or easy to breed. On this account, if on no other, they commend themselves to the fancier having a desire to make his hobby interesting as well as remunerative. Experience shows that their season of laying begins earlier and lasts longer than that of other ducks. They stand in this respect in the same relation to waterfowl as Hamburgs have done to poultry.

No claim is made for the species on the ground of fitness for marketing purposes, inasmuch as the smallness of their bodies, and their naturally active habits, render them, generally speaking, unprofitable for the table. Although I have observed that, generally speaking, they are not a profitable line to rear and cultivate for the market, I must, however, admit that when young, for those who can afford to breed them for table purposes, they are a choice delicacy, their flesh being finer in texture and richer in flavor than that of most other ducks.

The Indian Runners are, as already conveyed, most active in their habits, capital foragers, and on a good

run are able to find for themselves three fourths of their sustenance.

The general characteristics of the Indian Runners are as follows :

**HEAD (SHAPE OF), EYES AND BILL.** Fine and comparatively flat, with the eyes situate high up. Bill strong at the base, broad and long, coming as near as possible straight down from the skull, giving it the appearance of a long wedge. The color of the bill when young is yellow, but as the birds grow a green line begins to develop at the base of the beak, and this is frequently accompanied by green spots, which gradually increase in number and size, until by the time the birds are a year old the whole surface of the mandible is entirely green ; a black bean on the tip is preferable.

**HEAD MARKINGS.**—The head should be adorned with a cap and check markings, as near the same color of the body as possible, a narrow white line should divide the cap from the check marks, and a line of white about one-eighth of an inch should divide the base of the bill from the head markings.

**NECK.**—As long and thin as possible, perfectly white from the head to where the breast marking begins, which should be about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. to 2 in. from the base of the neck.

**BODY.**—Long, narrow and racey looking, without the slightest indication of keel.

**LEGS.**—The legs are a deep bright yellow color, set well back, compelling the bird to carry its body erect, something like the form of a penguin.

**BODY MARKINGS.**—Whatever color an Indian Runner may be, that color should be uniform throughout the whole of its surface plumage, except the tail of the drake, which is darker. The breast should be evenly cut about half way between the point of the breastbone and the legs. The shoulders, top part of wings, and tail should be of the same color as the breast, and should be the shape of a heart pressed flat on the back. Flights and fluff, white, except an indistinct line of color which runs from the base of the tail to the thighs.

Colors preferred, fawns and greys. Weight not to exceed 5 lbs. in either sex, a fair average weight for drakes is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to  $4\frac{3}{4}$  lbs., and for ducks 4 lbs. ; 30 inches is considered a fair good length for a drake not

exceeding 5 lbs., whilst twenty-five inches is a good length for a duck not exceeding 4 lbs. ; any excess on these lengths in birds not exceeding the above weights should be allowed for as extraordinary merit.

It is the nature of the true Indian Runner duck to run without waddling, like most breeds of ducks, but unfortunately, this distinguishing characteristic cannot be seen in the show pen, for it is only observable when the birds are at liberty.

**DISQUALIFICATIONS.**—Blue ribbon wing bars, claret breasts, horizontal shape or carriage ; absence of feathers from the flights, secondary flights, or any other part of the body ; slipped wings, wry tail, or any other deformity.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF BREEDS.

### LBGHORN QUALITIES.

IT is a difficult matter to decide which breed to keep ; in fact, among the number of profitable breeds the choice of the most profitable becomes a task. If one is driven to write to prominent breeders who are known to be successful, the satisfaction will be but limited, inasmuch as each breeder will naturally praise the particular breed or breeds he keeps. How then is one to decide. Suppose for example we choose white Wyandottes. In order to ascertain their valuable qualities, we must write to or visit some reliable white Wyandotte breeder. We will of course hear nothing but praise of them. This will be made so very plain to us that we shall be convinced that it is the only breed in the world worth keeping—in fact, they will be proved to us to be the ideal profitable fowl. And this is a perfectly natural state of affairs, because such a breeder has probably proved to his own satisfaction, from experience, that the breed is all he claims for them. But we must stop to reflect that they are in hands that have studied their nature and habits and that have without doubt obtained from them the very best results. Can you do the same with them, can you obtain from them what this successful breeder does ?

It would be much better instead of asking for good qualities in a breed, to begin by asking what faults

they have. If a breed is as good as the enthusiastic breeder represents it to be, then it is needless to go farther to find one's ideal. That the white Wyandotte, the Plymouth Rock, the Brahma, the Minorca and the Leghorn are all good and first-class, profitable fowls, no one will deny who has had experience with any of them. But, as I have said, one must be able, from a thorough knowledge of their natures, to obtain the best results from any of them. Some may say. How is this possible unless we keep the breed and try for results? This is the very point. But will the trial be made, or will the breed be discarded as worthless and another substituted, and probably with the same result; then another, and so on, until at the end one is worse off than at the beginning!

Starting, then, with any breed known and proved by its record in the hands of expert breeders to be profitable, it must be given a fair trial in any one's hands. A breeder who shifts from one breed to another will never make a success of poultry raising. One cannot always make the most judicious choice at the start, but one cannot go far astray if he selects a reliable breed, and then devotes time and attention to its development.

No breed of fowls today is perfection. They are all capable of improvement. If this were not so, there would be little interest left among the fanciers, and exhibitions would diminish instead of increasing as they are each year. The life of poultry culture is the improvement of breeds. Any breeder who is satisfied to rest on the reputation that some one else has given a breed will soon be outclassed by the progressive fancier. The improvement of a breed of fowls should not be confined entirely to plumage and other show qualities. I will admit that this sort of improvement is in the ascendant to-day, and it is to be regretted that such qualities are allowed to take precedence over the natural qualities of the fowls. Of course, what I mean by natural qualities are those tending to egg production. But inasmuch as there seems to be more profit in show birds, we cannot blame breeders for catering to the greatest demand.

There is one breed of fowls and they constitute quite a family, which have been less injured by the improvement in show qualities than any breed I know of. I refer to the Leghorns. The Leghorns are what I call

natural layers, that is, their chief object in life seems to be to lay eggs. They were, we must assume, originally created for such a purpose. They are an old breed, known the world over. They have been bred in many lands, and their reputation to-day is as strong as it was thirty years ago. They are egg machines, pure and simple. Considered generally poor in market qualities, they have never been condemned for any other cause. Therefore, if we start by asking for their faults, we find them few. The three most popular varieties are the white, brown and buff. The white and brown are both very handsome. The buff's appeal to all fanciers of the buff color. The Leghorns carry beauty in both males and females. This is especially true of the whites.

They have been improved in plumage, shape and size year after year, and yet they continue the same natural layers. If there is one breed the beginner can experiment with at the start and make a success with, it is the Leghorn. They will thrive on almost any feed, and it is almost impossible to overfeed them, because of their very active habits. As for diseases, they are subject to few. If properly housed, they seldom have roup. Because of their fast and furious life—for they are the most active of all breeds—they have a tendency to "going light"—that is, to consumption.

But it does not follow because they are great egg producers that every flock will lay the greatest possible number of eggs. Here there is a chance for improvement, just as in any other breed. They will stand neglect as well as any other breed and yet lay a sufficient number of eggs. But in order to obtain the greatest yield, their nature and habits must be studied. And I maintain that no other breed to-day will give such satisfactory returns for the same care as the Leghorns. Being non-sitters, they have a great advantage over the heavier breeds in continuous laying. Since the incubator has proved a more popular substitute for the sitting hen, their non-sitting qualities are no drawback to their general usefulness. Especially is this true as their eggs hatch the best of all breeds, artificially. The chicks grow very fast and mature more rapidly and lay sooner than those of any other breed. At twelve weeks old they make the sweetest small broilers, their opponents to the contrary notwithstanding.

House them warmly and they will lay all winter. In fact, for an annual egg supply, I have never known any breed that could compare with the Leghorns. Give them a fair trial, study their nature, strive for the best results and the Leghorn will prove a profitable fowl and a profitable investment.—E. O. Roessle in "The Country Gentleman."

### THE WINNIPEG SHOW.

THE "Nor'-West Farmer" gives the Winnipeg breeders some good advice when it says: "If the first impressions are lasting, the heat of the building is the one thing that will stay in the writer's mind as he remembers the exhibit of 1898. Surely something could be done in the way of better ventilation to make a change in this respect at coming shows. It was really unbearable at times. Breeders, put on your thinking caps and find a remedy."

Some of our eastern exhibitions might well bear this in mind also, but old Sol does not seem amenable to man's wishes, unfortunately or otherwise, more likely otherwise.

"The judge, Sharp Butterfield, London, Ont., is to be congratulated on his work. After talking with nearly every exhibitor, we failed to hear even the semblance of a complaint, but, on the contrary, there seemed to be a general feeling of satisfaction and also appreciation of the way in which he would answer questions and give pointers to any and everyone.

American class, which includes Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Javas, was as usual, the largest display in the show, barred Plymouth Rocks taking the lead over all others. The winning barred Rocks were very fine, and would give a good account of themselves at the larger eastern shows. The white Rocks were the next in point of numbers, there being strong competition in breeding pens and some first-class birds were shown. Buff Rocks were a small class as compared with the winter show held here, but were of good quality, the color of the birds exhibited showing marked improvement.

Wyandottes.—All classes, golden, silver, black, white and buff were represented. The goldens were

not up to the quality shown in former years. Silvers were out in full force, but were of only medium quality. Whites a good class, the winning pair being very firm, but the balance of exhibit were badly off in color. This seems to have been an off year with breeders of this popular variety. There was only one pen of black shown, but they were well worthy of first prize. Buffs, small class, but birds were of good quality. Only three coops of black Javas shown, all fair quality.

Asiatic.—Light Brahma exhibit was very small, but winners were fine birds. In dark Brahmas only one pen and pair exhibited. In buff Cochins the winning pair were first-class birds. There was a fine exhibit of partridge Cochins, fit to show in any company; not a poor bird in the lot. Black Cochins good in number but only fair in quality, the birds being all on the small side. This bird seems to have been put on the shelf by Manitoba breeders for the past few years. Langshans, a smaller class than usual; quality away up.

The buff Cochin pen which secured first prize, were a fine lot of birds. In fact, the judge stated that but for one or two small black feathers in the tail of one pullet they stood an excellent chance of winning the silver cup.

Mediterranean Class. The Leghorn, as usual, takes the lead in this class. The winning single comb white and brown being in every respect first-class birds. Rose-comb whites were a good class. One pen of blacks held the fort alone, but were good birds. Other classes of Leghorns were all represented.

Minorcas and Spanish, a small show, but winners were good birds and a credit to their breeders.

Hamburg class, a good exhibit for Manitoba, nearly all classes being represented.

Houdans, Games and Dorkings made the smallest display ever seen at the show here, but some very good birds were shown.

Polish Class.—A very fair show, the golden variety taking the lead in number.

Bantams.—A good show; some very fine black Africans and Pekins.

Turkeys, Geese and Ducks.—Fully as large a display as usual, and it would be hard to find anywhere an equal number of as good birds.

## SKIM MILK FOR CHICKENS.

BULLETIN PURDUE EXPERIMENT STATION—BY  
DIRECTOR C. S. PLUMB.

**A**T this season of the year young chickens and skim milk are more abundant on our Canadian farms than at any other time. In view of this fact it would be well if more people growing chickens would feed them some of this milk.

Skim milk is a food which contains muscle and flesh forming material in a form to be readily taken up and digested by the system. Milk that has been skimmed has really lost but a small amount of its value as a food, the cream consisting of considerable fat which in itself is the least nutritious part of the milk. The cheesy matter left in the milk is its most valuable part for food and tends to produce a vigorous, healthful growth when fed to calves, pigs and chickens. If more American pigs and chickens were fed less corn and more skim milk it would not only be to their lasting benefit but it would also eventually result in financial benefit to the farmer.

With the purpose of studying the effect of skim milk diet on young growing chickens an experiment was conducted at the Indiana Agricultural Experiment Station in which two lots of chickens were under observation. There were ten chickens of two breeds in each lot, ranging from four to six weeks of age at the beginning of the experiment. Each lot received the same food, care and treatment excepting that one was fed all the skim milk wanted while the other was given none. The grain fed consisted of two parts crushed corn, one part bran and one part ground oats. They were also fed cracked bone, cabbage and lettuce. When the experiment began the total weight of one lot of chickens was only one-half an ounce more than the other. The experiment lasted from July 11th to September 5th.

The results of the feeding show that the chickens fed milk and grain ate some considerable more grain than did those receiving no milk. The results also show that the chickens of lot 1, receiving no milk, made an average weekly gain of 2.62 ounces, while those fed milk made a gain per week of 4.46 ounces,

or over one-fourth pound. The chickens fed milk made a more rapid and uniform gain than those fed grain only. The general results of the feeding in every way seemed to show the superior influence of the skim milk on the growth of the birds. These chickens were raised on the station grounds, were uniform in character and kept under good conditions under confinement so that no food was available excepting as was given by Mr. Anderson, who conducted the experiment.

It would be well if our poultry growers would place plenty of skim milk available to the chickens. If the vessel containing the milk was thoroughly scalded daily to keep the sanitary conditions good the feeding of the milk would unquestionably result in profit.

## HEN MANURE.

**T**HE "Co-operative Farmer" says that this valuable fertilizer is very rich in nitrogen and is a good supplement to ashes and bone meal or Thomas phosphate. Every 100 lbs. of fresh manure from chickens will contain about 1.6 pounds of nitrogen, 1.5 pounds phosphoric acid, and .8 lbs. potash, while the dry well preserved droppings, will contain fully three times that proportion of nitrogen. Lots of dry earth should be used in the hen house to preserve the droppings. There is no other absorbent as good. It can be applied to almost any soil, and when properly mixed with earth will be a comparatively bulky manure, and may be applied at the rate of several tons to the acre. Hen manure if allowed to lie under the roots and heat parts with almost all its nitrogen, becomes nearly valueless. Hen manure in a concentrated form is a splendid application for cabbages and cauliflowers, etc., but we would strongly advise mixing it with dry earth and using it as a general manure.

MR. WILL SECKER

of Dunbarton, Ont., sends us several pleasing photos of his yards and stock, which are appreciated. Mr. Secker will be an exhibitor at the Industrial this year, and a little bird has whispered to us that he has something extra in light Brahma hens to bring out.

## DATES

OF SHOWS ADVERTISED IN REVIEW.

Industrial, Toronto, September 1 to 10.  
 Great Eastern, Sherbrooke, September 5 to 10.  
 Great Western, London, September 12 to 17.  
 Great Southern, Brantford, September 17th to 22nd.  
 Central Canada, Ottawa, September 19 to 24.

## ENTRIES CLOSE

London, September 7th.  
 Ottawa, September 13th.

NOTES  
AND COMMENTS

## EXCELLENT PLATE.

THE excellent plate of a dark Brahma which we reproduce in this issue from the English "Feathered World" will show breeders on this side what fanciers in Britain are aiming at, as doubtless from her wins the pullet is a typical one and correctly portrayed.

## BRANTFORD SOUTHERN FAIR.

Five days exhibition, September 17th, 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd. The management of the Brantford Southern Fair have arranged to give a five days exhibition this year, commencing on Saturday, Sept. 17th, and ending on Thursday, Sept. 22nd. So pronounced a success was the "Southern Fair" last year, that it at once took a jump into the race with the larger shows of the Dominion. Four thousand dollars in prizes will be given. Immense new cattle and horse sheds are being built, and by the time the show is opened, the buildings and grounds will be among the best in the Dominion. The prize list in the live stock department is very large, and breeders will find this, together with the grand new sheds, a feature of the show deserving their careful consideration. There will be a grand auction sale of live stock on the grounds on Farmers' Day. Large numbers of entries have already been made, both with and without reserve, thus ensuring success. Brantford is full of poultry breeders and this

branch of the fair is now a leading attraction. Send for a list.

A SPLENDID SEASON—BIG LOSS OF CHICKS—LIKES  
REVIEW BEST OF ALL.

"I have had a splendid season. I have shipped more eggs this season than ever before. I have shipped them to California, British Columbia, Manitoba and the N.W.T., P.E.I., Nova Scotia, and a great many down to the Province of Quebec. I also had splendid luck in hatching this season but have lost over two hundred chicks by rats, dogs, cats and crows. Among them were quite a few from imported English stock. I think that this is the largest number of chickens that I have ever lost in one season, but it is not an unusual thing to lose one hundred during one season. I like the REVIEW very much, in fact I could not get along without it. I advertise in several other papers but my little ad. in the old REVIEW is worth more to me than all others put together. Yours respectfully,  
 Ayr, Aug. 21, '98. W. W. REID.

AS EASY AS ROLLING OFF A LOG—DID MORE  
THAN WE ASK.

Just two days ago I was looking through the REVIEW and noticed your offer of a new revised Standard as a premium for five new subscribers. As I cannot do without a copy of the new Standard, I thought I might as well get it in this way. I asked a few friends and not one refused to subscribe and before I knew it I had not only five but six new subscribers for the REVIEW. I now enclose you three dollars and will expect you to send me my Standard just as soon as you receive the first lot. U. BONNEVILLE.

Danville, Que., August 16, '98.

The names Mr. Bonneville sends are all in Danville. Have you no friends? or perhaps you don't want a Standard?

## IT IS WITH SATISFACTION

I remit a report but am dissatisfied with the number of chicks I have, as orders came in so fast just at the time I wanted to set eggs for myself. But I advertised and had to sell. I have orders on my books from Crow's Nest Construction, N.W.T., Winnipeg,



Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton, Ontario, and from the States of Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, Michigan and New York. Anyone can see these order sheets here. I not only sold a few but a great many mostly going to the Lower Provinces. I have only had one kick so far. I try to treat everyone honest and only one trouble I had was not being able to ship on time in every case. Most of my stock is therefore later than I prefer, but all are doing fine. My buffs are all good in color.

New Dundee, Aug. 15, '98. E. H. PERRIN.

#### OTTAWA'S GREAT FAIR.

Exhibitors are reminded that entries close for this show on the 13th September. The list is an excellent one, three money prizes of \$1.50, \$1 and 50c. being given right through the classification, and Mr. Butterfield is to judge all sections. As Ottawa follows London this year our western breeders could very easily make up an exhibit to take in the three shows in rotation—Toronto, London, Ottawa.

#### THE LONDON ENTRIES

close on the 7th September and as the Western Fair is this year celebrating its silver jubilee, a much larger entry than usual is assured. The classification is elaborate, all sections being filled, and two money prizes of \$1.25 and \$1 with a card for third are given. Visitors to London are assured of a hearty welcome, but fanciers unable to accompany their entries may rely on their stock getting the best of attention in the hands of the Superintendent and committee, who are all experienced breeders.

#### ST. JOHN, N.B.

A new poultry building 40x100 feet is now in course of construction on the St. John Exhibition grounds, and it will be a model both in the ventilating and lighting arrangements as well as in its great capacity. A capable superintendent will be in charge of the building and exhibitors who may not wish to give their birds their personal attention, may arrange with him for their care.—“Co-operative Farmer.”

#### MR. E. H. PERRIN

writes he is pleased with results from his adv. and

adds: “My brother, W. S. Perrin of Newmarket, wrote me the other day of an exciting experience with a sitting hen, a Dr. Bell buff Cochin. After trying every known method laid down by common judgment and poultry magazines for breaking her up, he put a pail of water in the nest, but Betty proudly waded into the water—let it be remembered this was soft water and was easy to sit in—and sat there until he was forced to remove her for fear of hatching a cistern.” ‘Too bad! too bad! to try her young affections thus. Why not start her in a fish hatchery. This, of course, is not a “fishy” tale, as the Doctor’s buffs have no tails.

#### MR. C. J. DANIELS

has been engaged to judge poultry at the Bowmanville, Whitby and Chatham fall fairs. Where fall fairs employ a specialist judge a dollar or two spent in advertising would help them by an increased entry. Don’t hide your light under a bushel, gentlemen. Let it shine. The REVIEW supplies the electric fluid.

#### WASH FOR BARNs AND FENCES.

GOOD receipts for making a wash that will stand the test of time and look well are as given below: Half a bushel of lime is slacked and strained and three pecks of hydraulic cement are added, with water sufficient to reduce it to a proper liquid condition. Ten pounds of burnt umber and one pound of Venetian red are well mixed dry; four ounces of lampblack killed with sufficient vinegar are then mixed with water and added to the other materials. The whole is diluted to make a barrel of thirty gallons. It must stand a few days and be frequently stirred before being used. A wash for inside work that will not rub off is made of one pailful of common lime wash, to which is added a thin paste made of half a pint of flour and boiling apples.

The whitewash used by the United States Government for the lighthouses and beacons, chosen for its permanence under the most extreme exposure to the weather, is made as follows: Fresh hydraulic cement of any good standard kind, not of the more costly imported kinds, three parts, and clean, fine sand one

part, are mixed well with cold water and immediately applied. This gives a light brownish white that is not so glaring as the common lime and has been found to resist moisture better than any other wash. It adheres to brick or stone or wooden walls or fences very firmly. In its application the walls are first wet with water, by which the adhesion of the wash is made stronger than if applied to a dry surface.

Another good wash is made in this way: Half a bushel of good fresh lime is slacked with boiling water and kept covered from the air during slacking to prevent weakening of the lime by the carbonic acid of the air. It is strained through a fine seive or cloth and seven pounds of salt are added; three pounds of rice flour boiled to a thin paste, half a pound of Spanish white and one pound of broken glue steeped in cold water and then dissolved in hot water, are then added, and when well mixed by stirring, five gallons of hot water are mixed in and the whole again stirred. This is kept a few days closely covered, when it is ready for use. It is applied hot, being kept in a kettle over a fire. This may be colored a light brown by burnt umber or a cream yellow by yellow ochre. A light gray is made by adding a small quantity of lampblack previously mixed with water and thoroughly stirred. One pint of this wash covers a square yard.

### TURKEYS.

WHEN the poults die at about three months of age is when it makes the good farmer or turkey raiser grow sick at heart. And this is the very thing that they sometimes do. And when they begin dying they keep it up so persistently that the whole flock sometimes becomes a thing of the past. Death at this age is usually caused by one of two diseases, either cholera or black head. They both come oftener from using breeding stock that has been cured of the disease or that has been raised in a flock that had the disease. Certainly after your own birds have had these diseases and many birds have died, then another year your birds will be very liable to an attack even though you have bred from no infected birds.

I lay down only two rules as being applicable to such cases: First, never breed from an infected bird or one raised among diseased birds. Second, if you

have had disease do not raise turkeys for one or two years and in the meantime cultivate the ground the former flocks occupied

In this way only can one hope to avoid these diseases. I say avoid, for it is almost a waste of good time to attempt to treat a lot of diseased turkeys. They die too easily when once attacked by anything so serious as black head or cholera. If the disease is noticed at the very start and the affected birds isolated to a remote part of the farm and the proper preventatives used on and with the balance, the disease may often be held in check.

Turkeys do not stand confinement well. At times the young can be kept in a small enclosure for several weeks and all live, while again all of a flock will be lost in less than a fortnight's close confinement. I find it best to give some liberty, even if it is wet and bad and the hens will drag their poults about in the wet. Some may die, but when confined the chances are that all will die. The best that can be done is generally to keep confined in coops and small yards each day until the grass is pretty dry, then drive into the coop again at night.

There is no special mystery about the feed for the turkey poult. I have found by long experience that a healthy poult in a healthy place will grow and thrive on feed suitable for a young chicken, while one not so blessed will die in spite of all the good feed and care that can be given. This proves again the wisdom of rule one as given above.

Boiled eggs crumbled fine in cracker dust, stale bread or cereal meal will make a good first week's feed. Stale bread soaked in milk and squeezed dry is a good feed. A johnny cake made of cereal meal or even plain corn meal baked good and dry and crumbled up is a good feed. Milk curds fed dry or mixed with cracker dust or stale bread is a capital feed. Many farmers make this feed in some form their main turkey feed and are very successful in raising the little poults.

The same precaution to guard against lice is necessary with poults that is required with chicks. A good insect powder to dust hens and poults, an ointment of lard, pine tar, kerosene and sulphur will kill the head lice, and plain kerosene will kill the mites that infest the coops, nests and perches. A good dust bath will go far toward cleaning the mother hen of lice of all kinds. Soon as the poults get well on their feet give them a good range and let them go. It is their nature to go and they seem to gather strength from a constant contact with nature in many respects. Do not overfeed now. Give them a moderate breakfast and turn them out. When they come home at night they will want but a light supper. This will be the rule until they are pretty well grown.—Geo. Enty in "Ohio Poultry Journal."

WHAT TO DO WITH THE OLD BIRDS.

NOW I think a good many will ask, "At what age should a bird be regarded as an old bird?" Opinions differ on this as on most other points, but in the following few lines I give my opinion on the subject. I think it impossible to lay down any hard and fast rule as to when a bird should be regarded as an old bird. Of course, a bird three years old is a bird three years old, and no writing or anything else will alter that. But that is not my meaning of the words "old bird." By that I mean a bird that has got past the stage of life in which it is profitable to keep.

Most individual things, whether they be birds, beasts or what not, differ in some respect, but I think that all birds should be disposed of when from two to three years old, as after that stage they will be found to bring the balance of accounts on the wrong side. Of course, it is an understood thing that in this article birds mean fowls.

Most hens will cease to lay enough eggs to pay for their food and looking after when more than twenty-four or thirty-months old; by this I mean hens that are kept for their egg-producing qualities only. If a person has a rare good specimen of either pure breed, a Palace or some other noted winner, then of course it is advisable to keep her as long as she will lay eggs, as each egg laid by such a bird would be valued at 1s. at least, while that of the hen in general could not be valued at more than 1d. or 1½d., and it would cost no more to keep the one than the other, and if the noted winning hen laid only thirty eggs in a year, and these were sold for 1s. each, after allowing for unfertiles, breakages, etc., one could reckon on getting 20s. or 22s., while it would take the ordinary hen more than twice as long to lay eggs to the same value, even if she was a good layer.

Cocks may be kept until a year older than hens, and some male birds will be as active at five and even six years old as others at two or three. We now have in one of our pens a cock that was hatched in 1893, and this season he was mated to some pullets, and eggs from that pen have proved very fertile; in the early part of January we set twenty seven eggs from them,

hatching twenty-two good strong chicks, there being only two clear (unfertile) eggs.

Now to our main point: what to do with the old birds. There are many ways and means for disposing of these. Hens can be sold for either hatching purposes or to the Jews for eating, whilst the only way to get rid of the old cocks is to either use them yourselves for culinary purposes, or to sell them for such.

I will treat with the former of these ways first, i.e., the selling of the hens for sitting purposes.

In the winter and early spring it is a hard matter to get broody hens, and persons who want to be to the front in the early chicken shows, or those who want early spring chickens, but do not, for reasons best known to themselves, use an incubator, will give almost any price for a broody or clucking hen, and this to my mind is the most profitable outlet for selling them. Of course, there will only be a few that will go broody early in the season, but if these can be sold at from 4s. to 6s. each, they will very largely help the accounts, while those that do not go broody before the middle of February can then be sold to keepers for about 5s. per couple, but if kept till March or after will not make more than half that amount.

If, on the other hand, the hens are required by their owner for hatching purposes, I have found it best to keep them until late summer or early autumn, when those that moult and feather early should be kept another season, as they will lay during the winter, and in nine cases out of ten go broody early, when they can then be sold as advised above, but if they do not moult until late, it is best to sell them even if they will not fetch more than 1s. each, as they will not lay during winter, but will be in full lay about March, when eggs are at their cheapest, and will go broody about April, when it will be too late to either set for yourself or to sell for setting purposes.

Hens not required for either of the above purposes must be sold for killing. The best time to sell them for such is when game is not in season. Now is a very good time, and all old birds that show no signs of moulting now should be sold immediately, or killed and used at home, and if properly cooked a very good and palatable meal can be had off an old fowl, although many people have a great horror of such, but I thin!

that horror has been acquired through the fault of the cooking of the birds which he or she has had the pleasure or displeasure of tasting. The most general method of cooking old birds, whether cocks or hens, is as follows :

After being hung as long as necessary, from three days to a fortnight, according to the weather, it should be boiled very gently for about half an hour, then take it out and let it stand until the next day, when it should be stuffed, etc., for roasting, the same as a chicken ; a very good stuffing is prepared from the following ingredients : 2 oz. of ham or lean bacon,  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. suet, the rind of half a lemon, 1 teaspoonful minced parsley, 1 ditto of minced sweet herbs, 6 oz. of bread crumbs, 2 eggs, and as much salt, pepper, etc., as the cook thinks necessary ; served up with some good gravy.

Another very good way is to boil the fowl for about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or two hours, as the case or rather age might be, then serving up hot with white sauce, parsley and butter, or mushroom sauce, and boiled ham, bacon, tongue or pickled pork ; this makes a very appetising meal, but I think the former mode the best of the two.

No doubt some of you will be thinking that I am a cook as well as a fancier, but I have to thank " the good lady of the house " for the receipts, and she says that if the arbitrators select this essay for their half-guinea, that she will expect half ; however, that be as it may, we shall have to settle that ourselves.

I have only one thing more to say re old birds, and that is, that if any one has an old hen or two that wants to sit now, by all means set them, as autumn hatched chickens are as profitable as the early spring hatched ones, and if hatched in September or the early part of October, will be got strong enough to cater for themselves before the cold weather sets in.—"Fowls."

#### A RECORD BEATER.

**A**S the last form of REVIEW goes to press we have just room enough to squeeze this paragraph in regarding Toronto's great Industrial fair. The entry this year is larger than ever before, about three thousand birds, consisting of old birds 707, chicks 737, pens 556 (birds), turkeys, geese and ducks 190, pets 98, canaries 131, pigeons 570. Barred Rocks take the lead with 29 cockerels and 23 pullets, buff

Rocks have 10 cockerels and 15 pullets. Other large classes are buff Cochins, light Brahmas, Leghorns, Minorcas and Red Caps.

#### PRIZE WINNING PIGEONS FOR SALE.

All my grand stud of birds for sale at prices commensurate with quality, and in lots of a breed or as a whole. Send for printed list.

H. B. DONOVAN,  
Toronto.

This is a genuine clearance sale as I am now too busy to give so many birds the attention they require.



Mr. J. H. Cayford, Box 1,168, Montreal, is our Agent and Correspondent for the Province of Quebec. Any correspondence relating to subscriptions or advertising may be addressed to him.

E. H. Perrin has a hundred-egg Toronto incubator he wishes to sell, also buff 'Dots and a few other odd birds. Look his add up on back cover.

Liverpool Poultry Yards are new claimants for public patronage and from those who have seen them we learn their stock is of the best and strong and healthy. They have not many young birds to sell but have a few extra fine early cockerels in the useful white Wyandotte and black Minorca. Their yards are open for inspection any week day and the owner present to show the stock.

C. J. Daniels' add will catch those who just now or later on may be thinking of the question of artificial incubation. Mr. Jarvis' testimonial as to the value of the Cyphers machine, for which Mr. Daniels is sole agent in Canada, should prove a great factor in their sale. If you want anything in poultry supplies Mr. Daniels can fill the bill.

There is money for a dealer in the Canadian Pheasantries little add this month. Read it.

Jno. F. Hill lets us know that his 1898 matings of black Langshans and white Leghorns have turned out a lot of good birds. He wants to dispose of some at low rates commensurate with quality. See his yearly add.

N. H. Smith offers six hundred head of young stock for sale in barred Rocks, white Leghorns and black Minorcas. He promises to sell good birds and sell them low. He also has Berkshire swine and Italian Bees for sale.

A lady exhibitor and fancier from the reading of Mrs. Shales' ad. can give pointers to a mere male man in a catchy attractive style and true withal. Mrs. Shales has 800 chicks to dispose of owing to a successful season, and those who want buff and white Dots or black Minorcas should correspond with the Victoria Poultry Yard.

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Enquires not of a business nature must be accompanied by a three cent stamp for reply.

**TWO SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR \$1.00.**

If you send us the name of a new subscriber together with \$1.00 we will extend your own subscription for one year as well as send REVIEW to the new name for one year. This makes it but 50 cents each. The only condition we make is that the name of the subscriber be a new one and not a renewal.

This paper is mailed regularly to its subscribers until a definite order to discontinue is received and all arrears are paid in full.

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IS PUBLISHED AT  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada,  
BY H. B. DONOVAN.

Terms—\$1.00 per Year, Payable in Advance  
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Ont., breeders of 15 different varieties of Land and Water Fowl, Toulouse Geese and Rouen Ducks. 1298

*For Sale or Exchange.*

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FOR SALE.—Some choice Andalusian cockerels from imported stock. West Grand River Yards, Robert Kerr, Box 279, Galt, Ont.

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BANTAMS. For sale, trio of Buff Pekins; trio of Black Falled Japanese; also Golden and Silver Sebrights. Going out of the business. T. Knight, Guelph.

SILVER AND GOLDEN SEBRIGHT and Black African Bants. I raised a grand lot and will sell A1 birds at \$3.50 per pair, \$5 trio, cockerels \$2 each. W. H. Grout, Grimsby, Ont.

**Cage Birds, etc.**

ENGLISH BIRDS—Imported, Goldfinches, Linnets, Skylarks, Thrushes, Jays, Starlings, etc. Mocking Birds, Cardinals, Fancy Finches, etc., at Hope's Bird Store, 109 Queen Street West, Toronto.

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A PEN OF BUFF COCHINS wanted. State number, age, price and quality. John Ashworth, Belmont Lodge, Ottawa.

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COLLIE PUPS FOR SALE—From stock imported direct from Scotland, all pedigree, very cheap. Write for particulars. Quinze St. Bernard and Collie Kennels, Mrs. P. Hart, Belleville, Ont. 1098

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FINEST GAMES ON EARTH.—(Circular free. Irish Black Reds, Heathwoods, Irish and Mexican Greys & Cornish, Indian and Roman Ducks. Buy now and save money. C. D. Smith, Fort Plain, N.Y. 693

EXHIBITION GAMES AND GAME Bantams of the highest quality. A few trlos for sale very cheap this month. Young stock for sale next fall that will win at the shows. A. J. Grigg, Jeweler, Clinton, Ont. 199

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FOR SALE.—30 choice S. C. Brown Leghorn cockerels, and 45 fine pullets. These birds are bred from the very best stock. Elliott & Elliott, Ingersoll, Ont.

WHITE LEGHORN AND WHITE WYANDOTTE eggs for sale, \$1.50 per 13, \$2.50 per 26 Leghorns are Rice's strain, Wyandottes are Massie's, also B.B. Red Bantam eggs \$1 per 13. H. M. Dymont, Barrie. 293

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TO MAKE ROOM we will sell 100 beautiful Pheasants by the dozen, at wholesale prices, so low that they may be retailed in pairs at good profits. Canadian Pheasantry, Harb'rou, Ont.

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LONG DISTANCE BELGIAN HOMERS from the very best strains. Satisfaction guaranteed. 2 White quack. H. Rose, 317 Nelson street, London, Ont. 1298

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100 BUFF ROCK CHICKS FOR SALE—\$2 up; also yearling cock, brother of 1st cockerel, Ontario and Toronto winter show, \$5; pair Buff Leghorns, \$1, \$10. Sid Saunders, Box 593, Guelph.

FOR SALE—Standard bred Barred Plymouth Rocks, Sure winners, "March hatch- ed" at Fall Fairs. Nearly 100 to select from, at low figures also Standard Bred Scotch Collie Puppies. H.H. WHILLS, Granby Que. 1198

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SHIPPING LABELS printed on red express paper. "Eggs for hatching" 25 for 10c "Live Fowls," double the size of others, 15 for 1c, free by mail. Use these and bare your eggs and stock handled with care. H. B. Donovan, Toronto. Stamp for samples.

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WHITE WYANDOTTES.—March and April hatched birds at reasonable prices. P. Wellington, Blackwell Station, Ont.

WHITE WYANDOTTES—Some good 1st and 2nd year's cockerels now for sale; also one or two breeding pens, not related. The best of stock at reasonable rates. Chas Massie, Port Hope, Ont. 199

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SILVER WYANDOTTES—For Sale—1 cock \$2, 3 cockerels \$3 each. Eggs \$2 setting. My stock won at Industrial, Western and Ontario Shows. Satisfaction guaranteed. James Arthur, 731 Lorne avenue, London. 1098

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BLACK LANGSHANS, Black Hamburgs, Black Red Games, Buff Rocks and Buff Cockerel Bantams all grand birds bred from my prize winners. \$2 and \$3 per pair. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. W. Potter, Walsh, Ont.

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BIRDS FOR SALE from 20 varieties of Land and Water Fowl, Enquiries promptly answered if stamp is enclosed. W. W. Reid, Ayr, Ont. 1298

FOR SALE.—My entire stock of Buff Cochins, White Langshans, Houdans, Pekin Ducks, old and young. No reserve. Satisfaction guaranteed. W. J. Teale, Guelph, Ont. Box 17.

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FOR SALE.—My entire stock of Brown, Black and Buff Leghorns, Red Caps and Buff Wyandottes, after Oct. 1. Some for sale now. William Wallace, Londesboro, Ont.

BANTAMS, SHOW BIRDS, in Buff and Black Pekins, also white Rocks, money refunded and express paid back, if not satisfactory. C.J. Elsele, Guelph. 1198

W. A. WILSON, Maple City Poultry Yards, breeder of Black Minorcas, White Leghorns, Pekin Ducks. Early hatched birds for sale. Write for prices. Box 381, Chatham, Ont. 1198

BREEDING AND YOUNG STOCK. Buff Rocks and Leghorns, cheap. Buff, White and Black Cockerin and Light Brahma Bantams, bred. Pair imported Whites \$4. Bicycle wanted in exchange. J. H. Callander, Woodstock, Ont. 1098

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# An Incubator that will Hatch

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C. J. DANIELS, Sole Agent for Canada.

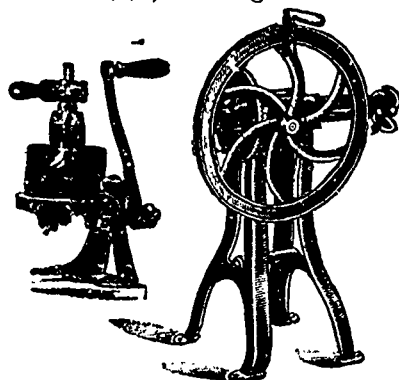
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Poultry Department Ontario  
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Mr. C. J. Daniels, Toronto.

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Manager Poultry Dept., O. A. C.



### ROUP! ROUP! ROUP!

Conkey's cures every time. See what others say about it:

Oshawa, July 14th, 1898

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Dear Sir,—A man here named Billy has a chicken or two with running nostrils. On asking me for a remedy I named Conkey's Roup Cure, and he gave me 50c. for a tube, which please send by return post to my address, and oblige. Conkey's is the best stuff I ever had for roup. The tube I got from you last winter does its work all right, after Spongia and every other remedy I could think of had failed. There is no need for Antitoxine when Conkey's can be had. It is so cheap and so easily administered.

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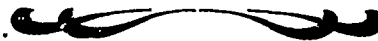
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