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CANADIAN

Poultry Review.

VOL. I.

Devoted to Poultry and Pet Stock.



STRATHROY, ONTARIO, CANADA:

PUBLISHED BY

JAS. FULLERTON.



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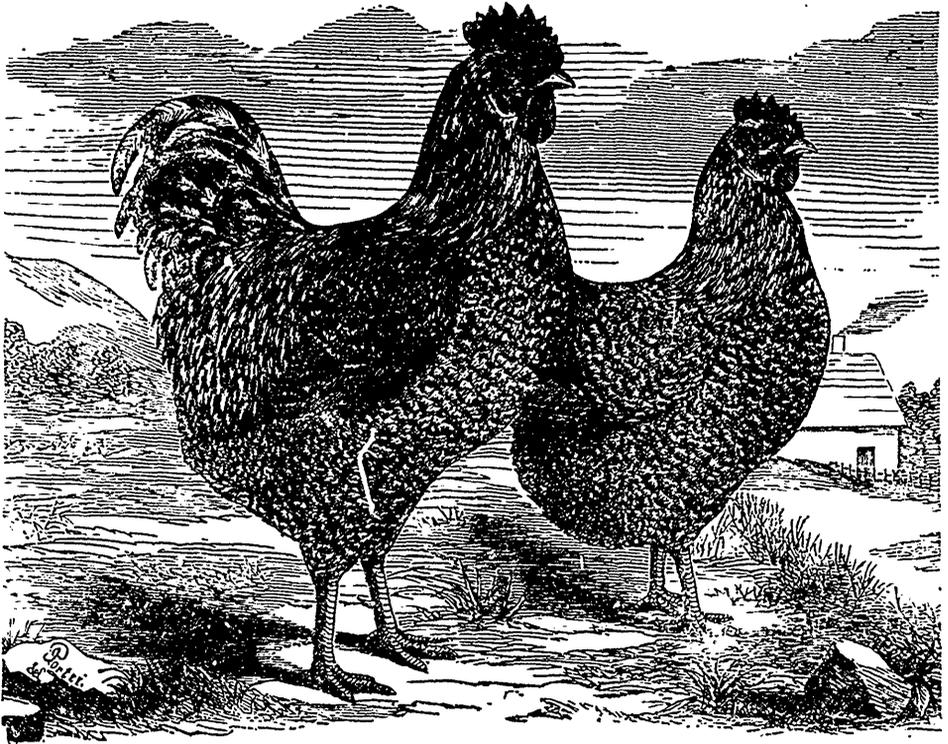
Canadian Poultry Review.

DEVOTED TO POULTRY AND PET STOCK.

Vol. I.

STRATHROY, ONTARIO, DECEMBER, 1877.

No. 1.



PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

This valuable breed of fowls have attracted a great deal of attention of late in the United States, and is now found in many of our Canadian yards, where it is a great favorite. It is an American make-up, and many claim to be its originators.—Some writers maintain that it was produced by a cross of Cochin China cock with black Java hen, others that the progeny of these with the English gray Dorking was used; while others, and we believe nearest to the mark, that it is a cross of the Dominique and black Java, the cock of the former being used, and their single combed get selected for future breeding. On one point, however, all seem to agree, and that is, that they are an excellent fowl. They mature early, are quite hardy, attain great size, are good layers at all seasons, attentive mothers, and splendid on the table. In fact, for all purposes, there are none better.

Great difficulty is experienced in getting the pullets right in color—the majority of them will be too dark, and many perfectly black. This we find to have been the case from the first. The black Java blood asserts itself too plainly. The cockerels generally come much better. We feel satisfied that, in the hands of the experienced breeders of Canada who have taken them up, they will soon show a decided improvement in uniformity of color in the flock; they will certainly not degenerate.

They are thus described in the *American Standard of Excellence*:

DISQUALIFICATIONS.

Birds not matching in the show-pen; feathered legs, or legs other color than yellow; ear-lobes other than red; lopped combs; crooked backs; wry tails; splashes of white in the breasts or backs, or reddish or brassy feathers in the hackles or saddles of cocks, or in the necks of hens.

THE COCK.

HEAD: Of medium size, and carried well up, the plumage bluish-gray, each feather delicately but distinctly penciled across with dark bars: Beak, bright yellow, short, stout at the base, and nicely curved at the point.—Eyes, large, clear and bright.

COMB: Bright red, single, fine, rather small, perfectly upright and straight, with well defined serrations, and free from side-sprigs.

WATTELS AND EAR-LOBES: Wattles, bright red, of medium size, and well rounded: Ear-lobes, bright red, and of medium size.

NECK: Of medium length, well arched, with abundant hackle, which descends nicely upon the shoulders—color of plumage, a bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with dark blue bars, free from splashes of red, white or black feathers.

BACK: Broad, and of medium length, with saddle-feathers abundant, and free from brassy or reddish feathers,—color of plumage, bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with bars of darker blue.

BREAST AND BODY: Breast, broad, deep and full, the plumage bluish-gray, the feathers penciled across with lighter bars than on the neck-hackle, and running nearly straight across the feathers:—Body, large, square and compact, the plumage a bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with bars of deeper blue.

WINGS: of medium size, and well folded against the sides; wing-coverts and points, well covered by the breast and saddle-feathers; the color of the plumage, bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with bars of darker blue.

TAIL: Comparatively small, with rather short feathers, carried somewhat upright; sickle-feathers and tail-coverts, relatively short, and well curved,—color of plumage, bluish-gray, each feather penciled across with bars of darker blue.

LEGS: Thighs, large and strong, and well covered with fluffy feathers, bluish-gray in color, and penciled across with bars of deeper blue:—Shanks, of medium length, stout, bony, well apart, and bright yellow in color.

CARRIAGE: Upright and pleasing.

THE HEN.

HEAD: of medium size, and carried well up; plumage, bluish-gray, each feather delicately but distinctly penciled across with dark bars:—Beak

bright yellow, short, stout and nicely curved:—Eyes, large, clear and bright.

COMB: Bright red, single, small, low, erect, perfectly straight, with small serrations, and free from side-sprigs.

WATTELS AND EAR-LOBES: Wattles, bright red, and well rounded: Ear-lobes, bright red, and of medium size.

NECK: Short and tapering nicely,—color of plumage, bluish-gray, nicely penciled across with dark blue bars, and free from splashes of red, white or black feathers.

BACK: Broad, and of medium length,—color of plumage, bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with bars of darker blue.

BREAST AND BODY: Breast, broad, full and deep, color of plumage, bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with dark bars:—body, large, square, and compact, the plumage throughout a bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with bars of darker blue.

WINGS: Of medium size, and snugly folded against the sides; primaries, secondaries and wing-coverts, bluish gray in color, each feather distinctly penciled across with dark bars, and free from reddish or brassy feathers.

TAIL: Small, comparatively upright, and rather pointed,—color of plumage, bluish-gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with dark bars.

LEGS: Thighs large and strong, and well covered with fluffy feathers; in color, bluish gray, each feather distinctly penciled across with dark bars: Shanks, of medium length, stout, and well apart, and bright yellow in color.

CARRIAGE: upright and pleasing.

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Comparison in Size and Weight, 2 points to the pound.

“DENNIS, darling, what is it your doin’?” “Whist, Biddy, I’m trying an experiment.” “Murther, what is it?” “What is it, do you say? Why, it’s givin’ hot water to the chickens I am, so that they’ll be after layin’ boiled eggs.”

COMMON RABBIT^s.

ROBERTS.

Where mere amusement, the table or profit is the object sought, common rabbits are most satisfactory. They will bear greater exposure to cold, and thrive well on most any kind of food. Too much moist or succulent food, as cabbage leaves and vegetables generally, is not proper for them any more than for the fancy varieties, for it is likely to disorder the bowels and render them too relaxed, particularly if young; bran, oat-meal, oats or split peas should be mixed with them, and a little new or fresh hay given occasionally. The fancy varieties, on the contrary, must be kept warmer; the atmosphere of the place in which they are kept should never be less than temperate or they will degenerate. Wet or damp is particularly injurious to them, and they must be carefully protected from all chills and draughts.

Common rabbits exhibit a variety of colors; of these the brown, the grey, the black, and the black and white are in some respects to be preferred.—The white, with pink or red eyes, are rarely good mothers, and are certainly the most tender in constitution.

In selecting rabbits for breeding, be careful to choose those of the largest and strongest build, and from the most healthy stock. The doe should not be less than seven months old and the buck eight or nine months. A grey or brown doe and a black and white buck, or the buck gray or brown and the doe black and white, generally produce the finest progeny; at any rate, do not pair a buck and doe of a similar color, or from the same or similar stock. In-and-in-breeding, as it is termed, that is, from the same stock or parentage, never succeeds, and where it is repeated every fresh brood becomes weaker and weaker. The greater strangers the buck and the doe are to each other the better and stronger will their progeny be. A few days before a doe is ready to kindle, you may see her nibbling the hay or straw and pulling the down from her breast, to make a soft, warm bed for her expected young. As soon as you observe this, or rather a week before you have reason to look for the young brood, take care to supply her with a little, soft, fresh hay or cut straw, to make her bed with; brushed straw well rubbed together with the hands until no longer brittle, is very good for this purpose.

In a day or two after the doe has kindled take the opportunity when she is feeding to look at her brood and examine if they all appear fairly formed and healthy. Do this quickly and carefully, as some does are jealous of their young being interfered with, and will forsake them, if she observes them to have been touched or moved. If she keeps so much in her sleeping place as to give you no

opportunity to inspect them, endeavor to entice her out by giving her some fresh favorite food, as a cabbage leaf, the top of carrots, or the like, or take her out of the hutch. If you find too many in the nest, (more than four, if good rabbits, or six of the common kind,) and one or more of that number appear weak or puny, take it or them away and the remainder will be all the better for it, as too numerous a litter will weaken the mother and prove too much for her to suckle. If you happen to have another doe with a smaller number of young ones about the same time, you may put the little thing among her brood and she is very likely to suckle and bring it up.

When the doe has kindled, give her a small slice of bread soaked in warm milk, but with no more milk than the bread absorbs, once or twice a day. When suckling her young, the doe should be well supplied with succulent, nutritious food; cabbage leaves, nuts, thistles, lettuce, green corn, dandelion, a little parsley, or the tops of carrots are very good at this time. A little barley meal mixed up with warm milk or water, fresh brewer's grains, or bruised malt made into a warm mush should be given occasionally, but not too much at a time, as it sours and is then injurious. Morning, and early in the evening, are the best times to feed her, and then take care that she has plenty; for a doe, while suckling, requires at least twice as much food as when she has but herself to feed. So soon as her young begin to feed, be sure to supply them with as much as they can eat, at least three times a day.

When about ten or twelve weeks old, the young, if strong and healthy, will not require to be suckled any longer by the doe, and should be removed to another hutch and kept by themselves. By the time they reach the age of four or five months, they must be separated, particularly the bucks from the does; for they are quarrelsome little animals and rarely agree as they approach maturity. Never allow the young ones to be put into a hutch with a buck, as he will worry them terribly, and even kill them. Be sure also to keep them free from rats and other vermin, or the little helpless creatures will soon become victims.

In not less than a week or two after the young are removed from the doe, she may be allowed to take the buck again, unless it be too near the end of the old, or early in the new year, when the cold is too severe for the young brood; in which case, breeding should be postponed until milder weather sets in. The fancy varieties should not be permitted to breed more than three times in a year, or it will exhaust strength, so that the young will be weak and unlikely to live. After the third year has passed, the best thing you can do with either

buck or doe is to feed and fatten it for the table.— Common rabbits may be a year older if strong and healthy.

If a buck is kept, a single hutch, that is, one with but one compartment, with wired door and feeding trough, will do well to keep him in. A similar hutch, if of sufficient size, say not less than two feet in length, will do to put the young progeny in when taken from the doe; but they must not remain together after four or five months old. Indeed as soon as you observe them beginning to fight they must be separated and kept apart.

Rabbits naturally feed on vegetables, and readily eat most of the edible productions of the field or garden. Meadow grass, cut green, milk-thistles, carrot tops, cabbage leaves, clover, tares, hare-parsley, stalks and leaves of chicory, leaves of white beet, parsnips, new hay, and Jerusalem artichokes, are all good for them, and may be given occasionally to vary their food. *Too much* green vegetable food must not be given them, as it is too apt to relax their bowels, but should be served out to them with or after their dry corn food, and at all times must be a day or two old.

JUDGES AND JUDGING.

A. M. HAINES.

As the time of our annual poultry exhibitions draws near, the attention of the executive committees, and also of exhibitors, is drawn to the above subject.

How shall the fowl be judged, and who shall do it? By an experienced judge, or by some trio who stands, book in hand, debating whether it means just what it expresses or something else? Another query follows. Does it require a committee of two or three judges to pass upon each class, or will a smaller number suffice? Is it best to rely on "home talent," or to get judges from another section? Each question begets another, and still another.

Shows, to be successfully repeated, must be so managed as to give good satisfaction to the exhibitors as well as to the visiting public, and one of the most important points, to be observed in producing this result, is this very question of judging. First, the fowls should be judged by an expert, to whose decision there can be anticipated no objection; and, second, the awards should be made on the first day of the exhibition. This last cannot be accomplished, except by the services of experts.—Persons unused to judging cannot get through the required duties in such a limited time. Especially is this the case when two or more are engaged jointly. Each consults and waits the pleasure of the other, and fully one half the time is spent in comparisons, which are, after all, but expressions of individual opinion. The judgment of one expert, based on an intelligent and quick examination of a

fowl, is of more value than the decision of a trio of inexperienced judges after a half hour's examination and comparison with the Standard.

An expert, after satisfying himself that there are no disqualifying points, rarely finds occasion to change the opinion first formed. The amateur judge, on the contrary, is seldom fully satisfied that he has done just right, and too often is heard to acknowledge that perhaps he may have been wrong, and, not being quite familiar with the variety, he relied too much upon the judgment of others.

Societies often make the judges' committee too cumbersome. The local shows rarely need more than one, or, at most, two good judges; and, in nine cases out of ten, when the association has its exhibition so judged, the awards will give far better satisfaction than if there were a separate judge to every class. I call to mind, as I write, a show of the past winter, numbering scarcely two hundred and fifty pens, which, in the opinion of the executive committee, required seven persons to judge it. Again, another of nearly treble the number of coops, which was judged by three persons in less than one half of the time, and with a better acceptance of the awards on the part of the exhibitors. Our larger shows adopted, the past season, the system of placing but one judge on a variety, thus making him alone answerable for his decisions. This is the correct system, and it is to be hoped that the smaller societies will follow the example.

Both large and small associations seem, in a great measure, to have fallen into the idea that the honor of judging at their shows should be a sufficient recompense to the judge, and if they pay his travelling expenses and hotel bills, he is most handsomely rewarded for his time and trouble. No doubt, the honor of hearing your awards criticised and your judgment questioned by some disappointed exhibitor, should be some consolation—perhaps I should say reparation—for a depleted pocket-book, but I fear the "honor" is not of a sufficiently substantial character to satisfy every one. There should be no more reason for not paying a judge for his services, than to expect a lawyer or a doctor to donate his time and experience to his patrons. I know, personally, many good judges who decline to serve, simply because they cannot afford it. Is it not more conducive to the satisfaction of exhibitors and visitors, and also to the permanent success of the association, to employ a few experts and pay them for their services, than to have the awards made by a dozen or more persons, who have no inducement to hasten their labors, and who barely finish their awards in time to go home with the rest? Neither exhibitors nor visitors are satisfied with the withholding of the awards until the concluding days of the show. The

society dependent on voluntary help is not in a position to require the expeditious transaction of the work. What the amount of recompense should be, of course, depends upon the value of the judge's time in his ordinary occupation and the ability of the society to pay. This can only be settled between the contracting parties.—*Bulletin*.

ISOLATED FARMERS,

(We mean those who live at a distance from neighbors) may now get rid of their barn-yard or mongrel fowl-stock to the advantage of the owners. There are thousands of such farmers in the country, who keep good-sized flocks of common fowls, and allow them the run of the farm the whole year, *outside* of the vegetable or kitchen garden—the latter being fenced in, instead of fencing up the fowls.

Upon such farms the conditions are superior to those that the mere fancier's poultry is surrounded with, because the birds have unlimited range, with nothing to do but roam and feed, roost and lay, and get fat. These are the very *best* places in the world to keep fowls in, and to advantage.

But such farmers, in our enlightened time, should turn aside from the played-out old furrow of their ancestors in fowl-keeping, and get rid of the poor stuff that may, nowadays, be so often seen prowling about such farms, inasmuch as it is for the owners' best interests that a change be made for the better.

For a few dollars they may get a good start with any of the choicer varieties now being bred (and advertised in our columns), at various points; and they may take their choice among the sitting breeds, such as the Plymouth Rocks, the Brahmans, the Cochins, the Dorkings, etc. These fowl will multiply very rapidly, and the old sorts may be killed off, and marketed, meanwhile.

Thenceforward they will have little trouble in raising *good* fowls, annually, which will find a sale at better prices. Then the increase of poultry-meat, and the positive increase of eggs, thus procurable—with the same care and cost of feeding—are items not to be forgotten, by the farmer who will get out of the old-fogy system, and try our advice. "There is money in this," gentlemen, and we trust you will not forget it.—*Poultry World*.

If a greater supply of eggs would be preferred, at a sacrifice of flesh, the choice should be made from the non-sitting varieties, such as Leghorns, Hamburgs, Houdans, Spanish, Polands, etc. With these it would be necessary to keep a number of hens of the sitting varieties for hatching purposes.

True affection grows stronger as it grows older. The same may be said of an egg.

HOW TO FATTEN CHICKENS.

It is hopeless to attempt to fatten chickens while they are at liberty. They must be put in a proper coop: and this, like most other poultry appurtenances, need not be expensive. To fatten twelve fowls, a coop must be three feet long, eighteen inches high, and eighteen inches deep, made entirely of bars. No part of it solid—neither top, side nor bottom. Discretion must be used according to the sizes of the chickens put up. They do not want room; indeed, the closer they are the better—provided they can all stand up at the same time. Care must be taken to put up such as have been accustomed to be together, or they will fight. If one is quarrelsome, it is better to remove it at once; as, like other bad examples, it soon finds imitators. A diseased fowl should not be put up.

The food should be ground oats, and may either be put in a trough or on a flat board running along the front of the coop. It may be mixed with water or milk; the latter is better. It should be well slaked, forming a pulp as loose as can be, provided it does not run off the board. They must be well fed three or four times a day—the first time as soon after daybreak as possible or convenient, and then at intervals of four hours. Each meal should be as much and no more than they can eat up clean. When they have done feeding, the board should be wiped, and some gravel may be spread. It causes them to feed and thrive.

After a fortnight of this treatment, you will have good fat fowls. If, however, there are but four or six to be fattened, they must not have so much room as though there were twelve. Nothing is easier than to allow them the proper space; it is only necessary to have two or three pieces of wood to pass between the bars, and form a partition.—This may also serve when fowls are put up at different degrees of fatness. This requires attention, or fowls will not keep fat and healthy. As soon as the fowl is sufficiently fattened it must be killed, otherwise it will still get fat, but it will lose flesh. If fowls are intended for the market, of course they are, or may be, all fattened at once; but if for home consumption, it is better to put them up at such intervals as will suit the time when they are required for the table. When the time arrives for killing, whether they are meant for market or otherwise, they should be fasted, without food or water, for twelve or fifteen hours. This enables them to be kept some time after being killed, even in hot weather.—*London Collyer Gardener*.

"Every heart knows its own misery," she said, as she looked into the nest and saw that those Cochin China eggs, which had cost \$3 per dozen, had hatched out Muscovy ducks.

VENTILATION.

Thorough ventilation is absolutely essential to the health and well-being of all animated nature, though some poultry-breeders do not seem to realize this very important point in the construction of their poultry houses. Many a costly house has been reared for poultry; hundreds of dollars expended, nice ornaments put on the inside and the outside, while no expense is spared to make the house pleasing to the eye. Nice nests are fixed in convenient places, and the plan and design of the whole showing plainly that all the appliances that fowls could wish for have been, *apparently*, supplied. After having admired the beauty of the house and its most excellent arrangement, take a look inside and see if there has been any care to afford thorough ventilation, and, our word for it, you will generally find there has not. The house, when closed, is nearly air-tight, and the fowls soon show the bad effects therefrom. Far better to sacrifice some little in the beauty and warmth of the house (the former not being, however, absolutely necessary), than to deprive the birds of plenty of fresh, pure air, without which they will not thrive or grow well. Pure-bred fowls, when kept in confinement, are oftentimes sufferers from this, for they are housed more closely than are the average farmer's chicks, which have shelter without close confinement.—*Journal and Record.*

IS THE CHEAPEST THE BEST.

It but seldom, if ever, happens that goods or things bought in the regular way, when sold at a very low figure, ever prove as satisfactory as do things which bring their value. We have always regarded the cheapest as anything but the best.—A cheap horse or cow may be bought, and it will not be long before they are found to be very dear bargains indeed. Not much money was expended for them, of course, yet they consume as much, if not more feed, than do good specimens, and do not return a fair equivalent for the food, care and attention.

As it is with the larger animals, so it is with the smaller, as well as with poultry. A would-be purchaser writes to a breeder for his prices, and, ere long, receives them with a full description of the birds. A desire to get a bargain induces him to write to the breeder; he will give him such a price, naming a price much below the real value of the birds. Perhaps the breeder writes he will supply a pair or trio of birds at those figures, and the order is filled. When the birds are received they do not, of course, come up to expectations, and the breeder is condemned as being the only one in fault. It is a very foolish idea to expect first-class breeding or

exhibition birds at the prices paid for culls, and he who expect to get such a bargain will invariably get disappointed, for good stock always commands good and paying prices.—*Journal and Record.*

EGGS PAY WELL.

If the farmer will keep a strict account of the receipts from his poultry—pre-mising he has good stock, even not all pure-bred—he will find that he has realized more from his eggs than from the poultry sold. He may have sold poultry, the amount of cash received for which amounts to much more than that received from eggs sold, yet how many dozens of fresh, nice eggs have been used in the house?

Where a farmer is near enough to markets to enable him to receive the highest retail market prices for the eggs, it pays him far better to keep suitable fowls for their eggs than others for their flesh.—Fresh eggs always command good prices, and especially so during the cold and wintry months.—One great reason for the scarcity of eggs during cold weather is that the fowls are not either well and comfortably housed, and are not fed enough, or on suitable food. If a change was made in this direction there would be far less cause for complaint against the fowls for not shelling out eggs faster. The best Winter food is wheat or wheat screenings, with an occasional feed of whole corn, oat etc., while they should be well supplied with occasional meat scraps, green food, etc. If this be done, no trouble will be had on the egg score.—*Journal and Record.*

FRITZ'S TROUBLES.

Fritz has had more trouble with his neighbor.—This time he determined to appeal to the majesty of the law, and accordingly consulted a legal gentleman.

"How vos dose tings?" he said. "Vell, a valare's got a garden und der odder valar's got some shickens eat um up. Don't you got some law for dot?"

"Some one's chickens have been destroying your garden?" asked the lawyer.

"Straw in mine garden! Nien, it vas vegetables."

"And the chickens committed depredations on them?"

"Ish dot so?" asked Fritz in astonishment.

"And you want to sue him for damages?" continued the lawyer.

"Yaas. Goot for tamages, und der gabbages, und der lettuges."

"Did you notify him to keep his chickens up?"

"Yaas, I nodify him."

"And what did he say?"

"He nodify me to go to hall, und wipe mine shin down off my vest."

"And he refused to comply with your just demand?"

"Hey?"

"He allowed his chickens to run at large,"

"Yaas. Some vos large, und some vos leedle valaves, but dey bos scratch mine garden more as der seven dimes each."

"Well, you want to sue him?"

"Yaas, I want to sue him to make one blank fence up sixteen feet his house all around, wot der dam shickens don't got over."

The lawyer informed him he could not compel the man to build such a fence, and Fritz left in a rage, exclaiming:

Next summer time I raise shickens too, you bate! I raise fightint shickens, by tam! Vipe off your vest down.—*Home and Farm.*

THE CARE OF CANARIES.

A pair of Canaries I give to your care,
Don't blind them with sunshine, or starve them
with air,

Or leave them out late in the cold and the damp,
And then be surprised if they suffer from cramp;
Or open the window in all kind of weathers
Quite near to their cage till they puff out their
feathers.

The birds that are free fly to bush or to grot,
If the wind be too cold or the sun be too hot;
But these pretty captives depend on your aid,
In winter for warmth, and in summer for shade.
When they cherrup, and ceaselessly hop to and fro,
Some want or discomfort they're trying to show;
When they scrape their bills sharply on perch or
at wire,

They're asking for something they greatly desire;
When they set every feather on end in a twinkling,
With musical rustle like water a sprinkling,
In rain or in sunshine, with sharp call-like notes,
They are begging for water to freshen their coats.
Cage, perches, and vessels, keep all very clean,
For fear of small insects—you know what I mean!
They breed in their feathers, and leave them no rest.
In buying them seed, choose the cleanest and best.
I feed my Canaries (excuse me the hint)
On hemp and canary, rape, millet, and lint,
I try them with all till I find out their taste—
The food they don't care for they scatter and waste.
About their bright cages I hang a gay bower
Of shepherd's-purse, chickweed, and groundsel in
flower.

At a root of ripe grass they will pick with much
zest,

For seeds and small pebbles their food to digest.
But all should be ripe, and well seeded, and brown,
Few leaves on the groundsel, but plenty of down.
In summer I hang them out high in the shade
About our hall door by a portico made;
In spring, autumn, winter, a window they share,
Where the blind is drawn down to the afternoon
glare.

This window, if open beneath them, we close,
Lest the cramp should sieze hold of their poor
little toes.

A bath about noontide on every mild day
Will keep your small favorite healthy and gay.

In hot summer sunshine, some calico green,
As a roof to their cage, makes a very good screen.
On winter nights cover from lamplight and cold;
And they'll sing in all weathers, and live to be old.
—*The Animal World.*

OUR ENGLISH SPARROWS.

Written for Canadian Poultry Review.

It is not many years since the chirp of the first English Sparrow was heard on the American continent. To-day there are few towns or cities in the United States or Canada where he is not quite as well known as he is in Liverpool or London. He was first imported for the purpose of ridding the shade trees of the American cities of caterpillars and other destructive insects, and, notwithstanding what has been said against him by many, he certainly has performed his mission well. Many beautiful shade-trees to-day in the parks of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and other American cities owe their very existence to-day to this hardy little bird. Previous to his importation it was no uncommon sight to see the shade-trees on the streets completely covered with webs containing millions of caterpillars, which fed on the leaves, and left the limbs and twigs as bare in July as in December; and as the foliage is quite as necessary to the plant as the roots, the consequence was many died from this cause. The native birds were either not numerous enough, or their insect-feeding nature was not sufficient to destroy these pests, hence the bringing to America of these hardy and useful little birds.

Some of the Americans, including a very prominent naturalist, call him very hard names, and lay some serious charges at his door. He is called quarrelsome and saucy, and his fighting propensities are compared to all those of his countrymen wherever they are found. I would, myself, only take this from that class of Americans who cannot see anything good in anything British: with such the sun rises and sets nowhere but in the United States, and not ever a wee, little bird, brought from England to rid their trees and plants of destructive vermin, can find favor in their eyes; not even though it is beyond a question of doubt they have performed their mission.

The sparrow has been accused of fighting and driving away our summer birds. I believe this statement does not contain one word of truth.—True, Jack will stand up and fight for his real or imaginary rights. If he wants to take possession of a swallow's nest, and appropriate it to his own use, he does it. His first move is to attempt to eject the rightful owner single-handed. If he finds himself, after a hard fight, unable to do that, he calls on his friends, and attack his victim in force,

and overpower him by numbers. This is piracy of the worst kind, and is one of those cases which may be seen amongst humanity in every day life—might overcoming right. But because Jack has a set-to occasionally, English fashion, with his neighbors, I do not believe there are any less summer birds with us than there were before the first English sparrow chirped on the City Hall in New York. I cannot but think these charges against him are imaginary. People think because there are not the same pair of robins hatching under the verandah, and the same pair of bluebirds nesting in the hole in the siding of the old shed, as they have done for several years, oh! those dirty, fighting, quarrelsome little English sparrows have driven them away. Now, if such people would reason a while, they would not be so quick in fastening their charge on them, if they would remember that their favored friends, the robins and bluebirds, have many enemies—cats, hawks, weasels and other animals prey on them, they have to make a long journey from North to South and return annually—in many ways they run risks so numerous that here it is impossible to enumerate them, and because they do not return, as they would do, to the same spot to rear their young, it is not to be wondered at when all the possible causes for their not returning are taken into consideration; and to charge this to the account of the English sparrow is unreasonable and unjust. Might just as well say because in the old country he occasionally wallops a swallow out of his nest, and takes forcible possession, that all the swallows have quit paying their annual visit to the British Islands. It is quite possible he may do some harm, but I am quite convinced he does very much more good, and in our Canadian towns and cities, where he has made his home, he is quite a favorite. In the bright, cold winter mornings, when no other bird is left with us, we are pleased to hear his familiar chirp on the sunny side of the cornice, and, whatever his enemies may say against him, we have so much to say for him that we are pleased to think we shall never again see our streets wanting him. For our own part there are many British birds we would like to acclimatize in our country, but in the latitude we live our winters are too severe. Whilst such lively songsters as the English starling, thrush, lark, linnnet, blackbird and many other beautiful birds we could mention, would do well here during our summer season, it would be impossible for them to survive our long, cold winters. While in Australia and New Zealand nearly all the British birds have become acclimatized, we believe none but the hardy little sparrow can live in our rigorous climate.

+ ROADS.

USE OF PIGEONS IN WAR.

A curious item in the military estimates of the greater military powers of Europe is the sum now set down annually for the providing and maintenance of a certain number of pigeon-breeding establishments and houses. The large German fortresses of Cologne, Metz, Mayence, Stratsburg, and others, are all supplied with a complement of pigeons, and in France great efforts have been and are still being made to ensure that there shall be a good stock of these birds in every garrison town. The idea which has been frequently mooted of utilizing carrier pigeons as the bearers of military despatches was first worked out in practice during the investment of Paris and Metz in the late Franco-German war. So vigilant was the watch kept by the Germans over all the approaches leading into the fortresses that, in fact, no other messengers could enter the beleaguered towns. Pigeons could be trusted, under certain easily fulfilled conditions to return with all speed to their homes; and, consequently, many of them were taken out of Paris in balloons, to be subsequently laden with dispatches, with which they then returned to the capital. At first the messages were tied round the necks of the pigeons; but it was found that when this was done many of the birds returned without their despatches, having probably got rid of them themselves during their flight. The plan was therefore adopted of reducing the despatches, by the aid of photography, to the smallest possible dimensions, and inclosing them in a quill, which was then fastened under one of the larger feathers of the pigeon's wing. By this means not only was the loss of the dispatches avoided, but they were also protected from partial destruction and obliteration by the weather.—*Bull. tin.*

Darwin says that animals have no religious sense, but he probably never observed the calm, reflective manner in which a chicken will stand on one leg and look up to heaven after squeezing through a hole in the fence into the strawberry bed next door.

Trying to do business without advertising is like winking at a pretty girl in the dark; you may know what you are doing, but nobody else does.

It is said that a duck goes under water for divers' reasons, and then goes ashore for sun-dry purposes.

Why have chickens no hereafter? Because they have their necks twirled (next world) in this.

Why is a hen immortal? Because her son never sets.

Farmers gather what they sow, seamstresses sew what they gather.

ARE PRICES OF HIGH-CLASS STOCK UNREASONABLE?

The facilities with which fowls are bred, the large percentage of good birds which fine blood in the parent stock will certainly produce, and the moderate expense of maintaining a single coop of fowls about any homestead, lead amateurs to regard the prices asked for good birds with a certain kind of horror, and many are deterred from purchasing blooded stock by the fear of being chaffed by their neighbors as victims of that disease—"hen fever." Let us examine the question and see if breeders can afford to furnish from such stock either eggs or fowls at prices which would compensate a person adequately when pure blood is not required.

It seems almost needless to discuss the question whether a single coop of fowls can be maintained at a profit on a homestead. In most cases, scarcely one of the real elements of expense attendant upon maintaining a poultry farm can enter into such a calculation. The labor of caring for a single flock running about a house is not worthy of consideration; the rent charge against them certainly should be nothing, for they occupy no space additional to what is required for the homestead in any event; the capital invested is too trifling for estimate, while the scraps from the table of even the poorest cottager, combined with what the fowl will pick up in their rambles, will go far toward reducing the cost of their maintenance. Added to this, we have the fact that no artificial combination of circumstances as yet known to the breeder will compel greater productiveness from his fowls than can be obtained by the cottager with his single flock, comparatively neglected. Fowls, under such circumstances, must pay their owner, even at ordinary market prices for eggs and chickens. This conviction is so strongly impressed upon the public that people conclude that the breeder can afford his eggs and fowl at similar prices with the same profit. Reflection, without argument, will convince any person that this is not so. To breed even a single variety requires separation, which is, practically, confinement. It seems, further, to be established that the conditions of greater productiveness require that only a limited number of fowls shall be confined together, so that to maintain a large flock of birds, even of the same variety, and at the same time get the best results from them, requires that they shall be grouped in limited numbers in separate runs. If this be true, it follows as a corollary that the most economical way to breed good fowls is to have but one variety on a place, and to have but a single flock of those; and, were it practicable for a large number of people to join, each maintaining a flock of a single variety, we might hope to see blooded fowls produced at a moderate ex-

pense. The public want more than this, however. They want a place where several varieties can be seen, where the opportunity of a choice is afforded, without the expense, trouble and wasted time in hunting up localities where the different varieties may be found, and it is the necessity of meeting this want that does now and will continue to enhance the prices of high-class poultry above that of common stock. The breeder requires different strains of the same stock. His outlay is necessarily great, and every element of expense must be carefully considered, before we conclude that the prices demanded for fowls are more than fairly remunerative. The stock of many of our best known breeders has necessarily been imported, which original cost, delivered in New York, far exceeds the popular estimate of the value of these birds, probably in excess of what would be realized at a forced sale. To house several varieties, to provide separate runs, enclosing sufficient area to enable them to thrive, requires an outlay for buildings, for fencing and for real estate, which, added to cost of imported stock, will show any reflective person that establishing a poultry farm for blooded stock requires considerable capital. The labor of feeding and caring for a large number of fowls in separate runs is very great, and has to be charged directly against the fowls, in seeking any estimate of profit, while their food in turn must be almost entirely purchased. They require much watching to see that the varieties are not run together through some mischance, to discover incipient disease and prevent it from spreading when it is of a contagious nature, and to see that they are properly and regularly fed. This watchfulness and care cannot be delegated to any one but a person who takes great interest in the fowls, and, in a large establishment, any relaxation of it would be followed by disaster. We have shown, then, that the breeding of blooded stock requires capital and labor (both of body and brain) and we believe that a well-organized, successful poultry farm requires a *thorough* system in its management. This being the case, when proper charges are made for interest on capital, food and labor, it will be found that the prices of high-class poultry must rule considerably above common stock, even to pay for its keeping; while, to make it remunerative, the breeder requires for his birds the prices which now stagger so many amateurs.

For many years the interest in poultry has been extending gradually, and with the increasing numbers enlisting yearly, there has been no reduction for strictly first-class stock, and good birds will continue to command good prices.—*Bulletin.*

In the journey of this world the man who goes right is not apt to get left.

CARBOLIC ACID IN THE POULTRY YARD.

The use of this as a disinfectant and a destroyer of animal life on fowls is so simple, and entails such a comparatively small amount of labor, that it should not be a stranger to any poultry yard.—In the form of carbolate of lime, it retains its virtues for a long time, application is attended with great convenience, and its cost, about five cents per pound, brings it within the reach of all. We append a few remarks, from Dr. A. M. Dickie, concerning its properties, forms in which prepared, and suggestions as to application :

Carbolic acid is a drug of comparatively recent introduction, but it has rapidly obtained a wide application. It was discovered in 1834, but its properties and uses were not known until 1860. The drug was then investigated simultaneously in England, Germany, France and the United States, and was found to possess remarkable properties as a deodorizer, antiseptic, and an insecticide, besides other important properties useful in surgery. Its properties as a deodorizer, disinfectant and insecticide, or vermin destroyer, render it a highly useful article in the poultry yard, and it was not long in being employed by the knowing poultry keepers. It is generally used in solution in water and is sprinkled about the poultry house and the poultry quarters generally, as a lice-destroyer and disinfectant. It is almost instant death to vermin when it comes in contact with them, even in weak solution. It is also largely used, or ought to be, about the coops of young broods. The odor seems to be sufficient to repel all sorts of small vermin that infest young chicks and their quarters. I used to recommend the addition of a portion of the acid to the lime-wash which is, or should be, freely used in the coops and houses where poultry roost and lay; but I have discontinued this practice and use the acid in solution after the whitewash has been applied and become dry.

There are several forms or preparations of the acid for sale in the shops. The crude, or lower priced forms, are as good for use in the poultry yard as any. Most of the acid in commerce is manufactured at Manchester, England, by Dr. F. C. Calvert, and is known as Calvert's Carbolic Acid. The crudest form, or that known as No. 4. is the one to use for disinfectant and other purposes in the poultry quarters. It is packed and kept in blue glass bottles, each holding a pint. These bottles cost about one dollar each, and one of them is enough for a season's use on ordinary places, but where large numbers are kept and where vermin and ailments are common, more may be used to advantage. The way to use it is to add about an ounce of the acid to a two-gallon pail of water; stir until thoroughly mixed. With a small whisk broom, or

a wisp of straw or hay properly prepared, sprinkle the solution in every crack and corner of the houses, nests, roosts, coops and floors—sling it freely, it can do no harm to the fowls, and will disinfect the place and kill lice thoroughly.

Some poultry keepers put a little of the acid into vials and hang them, uncorked in the poultry house. This is a good plan, but a better one is to saturate an old horse blanket, or a piece of old carpet, with a stronger solution than the above, and then tack it to the inside wall of the poultry house. In hot weather the application should be made at least once a month. In cases where houses are densely occupied at night, oftener will be better, say once a fortnight. If vermin get a start they will breed and multiply by the million, and serve the poultry about as the ten liners serve the potato-vines—they will eat them up. The carbolic acid, though, is as complete an antidote in the one case as Paris green is in the other, and should be as vigorously and systematically applied. Besides its deodorizing and insecticide properties, carbolic acid has many other important uses in the poultry yard.—*Bulletin.*

EGGS.

The nutritive value of eggs, and the cheapness of their production, is scarcely realized by the public. It may seem rather improbable to state that when meat is twenty-five cents a pound, the food value of eggs is about 27½ cents a dozen, yet this seems to be the fact.

A dozen of average-sized eggs may be assumed to weigh a pound and a half. If we calculate the food value of meat and eggs as force producers, *i. e.*, the amount of work the pound oxidized in the body is theoretically capable of producing, we have 990 foot tons for the pound of lean meat, and 1,584 foot tons for the pound of eggs. As flesh producers, a pound of eggs is about equal to a pound of meat, as the following analysis will show :

One pound of eggs : Water, 12 oz., 36 grs. ; albumen, 2 oz., extractive, 139 grs. ; oil of fat, 1 oz., 214 grs. ; ash, 28 grs., will produce on the maximum 2 oz. of dry muscle or flesh.

One pound of beef : Water, 8 oz. ; fibrin and albumen, 1 oz., 122 grs. ; gelatin, 1 oz., 62 grs. ; fat 4 oz., 349 grs. ; mineral, 350 grs.

A hen may be calculated to consume one bushel of corn yearly, and to lay twelve dozen or eighteen pounds of eggs. This is equivalent to saying that 2.1 pounds of corn will produce, when fed to this hen, one pound of eggs. A pound of pork, on the contrary, requires about 5½ pounds of corn for its production. When eggs are twenty-four cents a dozen, and pork is ten cents a pound, we have the bushel of corn fed producing \$2.88 worth of eggs, and but \$1.05 worth of pork.

Judging from these facts, eggs must be economical in their production and in their eating, and especially fitted for the laboring man in replacing meat.—(*Home and Farm.*) E. L. S.

GEESE AND THEIR MANAGEMENT.

Among a majority of our fanciers, the care and management of geese is an unknown art. It is thought to be a very troublesome and expensive business, with no corresponding return for the outlay.

It is a prevailing opinion that the droppings of geese poison and kill the grass; and a very erroneous one it is, as a little observation will prove. The village green—the pasture ground of numerous flocks of geese year after year,—when has it, in the memory of our oldest reader, been plowed up and re-seeded? And still every spring the grass comes up fresh and thick, and after every rain it will freshen up, when, over the fence, some farmer's field of timothy will appear all withered from the drought; while the latter, probably, does not carry one-quarter the stock that is yearly pastured on the commons.

Geese are close feeders, and bite the grass off short to the ground, which gives the pasturage a dead appearance: but remove the geese, and the grass immediately starts up fine and thick, and a most beautiful lawn-like sward is soon apparent.

It will not, however, do to let them run upon grain fields. The close cropping will soon destroy the life of the plants.

In keeping geese, do not allow more than four or five geese to one gander. A house, or pen in the poultry house, or some outbuilding, for this number, should be about eight or ten feet square. Nests should be provided, not less than two feet square, and an abundance of straw in them. Old barrels laid on the side, and blocked to prevent rolling, answers a very good purpose, but do not look as well as a good box prepared specially for them. There should be a box provided for every goose, for they rarely share each other's nest. The eggs should be gathered daily, and kept in a moderately warm room; set on end, either in bran or sawdust. It used to be customary among the farmers' wives, to put the eggs carefully away, packed in cotton batting, until wanted for sitting.

The eggs should be set in March, or early in April; the earlier the better: the young should be well along by the time hot weather commences, as they do not thrive if hatched late in the season.

The time of incubation is from thirty to thirty-five days. The eggs usually do best if set under the goose, although many breeders have very good success with hens. Food and water *must* be kept

within reach of the goose, else she will eat her eggs. Do not disturb her while hatching, but leave the goslings in the nest until twenty-four hours old.

Keep the young out of the water until fully a month old; and during this time feed on small grains of cracked corn. Many breeders feed scalded oat-meal, or Indian-meal the first three or four days, but it does not seem to be essential. They must have a good grass plot or meadow for a run, for the greater part of their food is of grass and vegetable growth. Keep them out of severe rains until they are fledged; and do not allow them to swim until two weeks old; but keep plenty of fresh water (rain or pond water is best) by them to drink. It is best to feed morning and night: many do not feed them at all during the grass season, but if heavy weight and good size are wanted, they must have grain every day.

It is not necessary to keep the gander away from the sitting geese. He frequently will endeavor to share her labors, and when the young are hatched, he proves a most vigilant protector and defender of them against all invaders.

As to varieties, we have a good number to choose from. The Embden or Bremen, the Toulouse, the White and Gray China, and the Wild or Canadian Goose, being the best and most popular kinds.—The Bremen Goose is pure white throughout, with yellow legs and bill, and of very large size; its feathers are consequently of greater value than other varieties. The Toulouse is gray, and rivals the Embden in size. At the English poultry exhibitions the former have been shown weighing fifty-eight pounds four ounces per pair, while the Embden exceeded this, weighing fifty-nine pounds two ounces. These are, probably the heaviest weights on record. The China Goose, both gray and white, are reputed better layers than either of the preceding varieties, but do not attain much over half the weight.

The Wild Goose is a poor layer, and seems to be more profitable when crossed with some other variety. For table qualities, the latter is said by connoisseurs to be unsurpassed; but their poor laying qualities and small size, render them far less profitable than other kinds.

The Embden—which derived their name from the first pair having been procured from the city of that name—were first introduced into the United States about 1820 by Col. Sam'l Jacques, of Boston, Mass. They are as hardy and as easily reared as the other varieties, while their great size and beautiful, swan-like appearance, make them a very favorite variety.—*Bulletin.*

The most effective way for a boy to learn a bee sees—by just putting his finger into the hive.

Canadian Poultry Review.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

FULLERTON & AULD,

—AT—

STRATHROY, ONTARIO, CANADA.

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All communications must be addressed to

FULLERTON & AULD,

Strathroy, Ont., Canada.

SALUTATORY.

The first issue of every new publication generally contains some introductory remarks; and we find it both pleasant and convenient to comply with this time honored custom. The public at large, and more especially those to whom we must look for support, and by whose patronage we hope to be successful, have a right to be taken into our confidence, and informed of our aim and purpose in making another addition to Canadian journals.—We may say, then, that the chief object of the *Canadian Poultry Review* will be to assist in placing the poultry interest among those great factors of production, by which Canada can be made a powerful and prosperous country. We are fully convinced, both from observation and the teachings of experience, that the keeping of poultry, where properly managed, is both pleasant and very profitable. But in order to secure the highest degree of success a knowledge of the necessary conditions, or, in other words, how to do it, is indispensable; and it will be our constant endeavor to convey such information, and give such directions, as will conduce to this end. The *Review* will contain contributions from the most experienced fanciers of the Dominion, carefully selected articles from the leading journals of the day, and such editorial hints as our own knowledge and experience may enable us to give. No effort will be spared to procure and lay before our readers the latest, best, and most reliable information on the breeding and care of poultry and pet stock. Our columns will be open for the discussion of any questions relating to our specialties, without favor or partiality, so long as such discussions are conducted in a gentlemanly manner. By the means thus indicated, and by others which will appear as we go on with our

publication, the *Review* will, we trust, in some degree contribute to place the poultry interest in its true position, as one great source of national wealth, and to awake, both among the agricultural class, and the residents of cities, towns, and villages, an interest in what may be made both a very agreeable and a very remunerative branch of industry.

The *Review* will be printed on small but clear type, in order to give as much reading matter as possible, and will be illustrated with life-like representations of the different breeds of poultry, pigeons, rabbits, etc. As advertising patronage increases, additional pages will be added. We hope to make improvements from time to time as may be warranted by increasing circulation, and would now appeal to all interested in our object, for a patronage of which we are determined to make ourselves worthy.

As a large number of copies both of this and succeeding issues will be circulated among the fanciers both of the United States and Canada, the *Review* will be an excellent medium for announcements, and advertisers would do well to take advantage of this opportunity.

Briefly, then, our aim will be to devote our best energies, and all the means within our power, to make the *Review* contribute to the objects we have thus briefly indicated, while at the same time seeking for such patronage as will make the enterprise so remunerative, as to enable us from year to year to go "onward and upward" in a career of progress and improvement. We believe there is room for such a journal; and, while conscious of many deficiencies, hope, by honesty of purpose and close and constant attention to the wants of our patrons, to fill that place worthily. We invite a trial; we pledge our best energies to give good value for their money to all who favor us with either advertisements or subscriptions.

ONTARIO POULTRY SOCIETY.

This society, since its re-organization in 1874, has been admittedly the leading poultry association of the Dominion. Prominent fanciers from all sections of Canada were instrumental in its organization, and have since taken a lively interest in its success and an active part in its proceedings. The Southern Poultry Society, a body of more recent formation, though started with the same objects in view, is no rival organization, and that such is the case is manifest from the fact, those specially interested in the latter also hold membership, and have been zealous workers for the older society. Both societies have received countenance from government; and, except during a period of short duration, have worked harmoniously together. It is to

be hoped, in the interests of the objects of each that this state of affairs may continue.

By reference to the *Dominion Poultry Gazette* we find that at the first exhibition of the Ontario Poultry Society, in 1875, the sum of \$671.50 was paid in premiums; assistance to the amount of \$200 was received from government. A heavy snow blockade on the railroads at the time of this exhibition militated somewhat against a show that was otherwise decidedly encouraging. In the following year, with the assistance of a grant of \$400 from government, the society paid premiums to the amount of \$977.83.—A handsome increase.

At the annual meeting, held during the show, application was made by the fanciers of Galt to have the next show held in their town. The application was backed by a list of special prizes, representing nearly \$800, to be given on condition that Galt was made the choice of the society.—This liberality could not but be appreciated, and the show for 1877 was held in Galt. Instead of the show being held at the end of February or beginning of March as heretofore, and as arranged at annual meeting, the time was changed to January. This change was severely commented on at the time. However, the premium list was the largest ever offered by the society and called out the finest display ever seen in Canada, and much greater than the officials expected, as the necessity which arose for additional accommodation plainly showed.

The misfortune is that, although nearly a year has passed since the show at Galt, no settlement has been arrived at, nor any financial statement submitted to the members. Such negligence impairs confidence in the society and its management. It will be interesting, to successful exhibitors at least, to learn that the books are now in the hands of the auditors, and that, before January, will be in shape, and the affairs of the last show wound up. Any further reference to this matter would be inopportune in the prospect of a speedy settlement. We trust, in the interests of all concerned, that such will soon be arrived at.

The next show under the auspices of the Society, will be held in the city of London, on the last week in February. A very liberal and equitable prize list has been adopted, and every effort will be made by the executive and fanciers of London and vicinity to make it a success. The City Hall has been secured for the occasion, and as it is centrally located, commodious, and well lighted and heated, it affords great advantages for the purpose. The birds will be shown in pairs. The premium list will be issued at an early date.

Steps are now being taken to have the society incorporated. Such a step will have the effect of placing the society on a more permanent and responsible basis.

SOUTHERN ONTARIO POULTRY SOCIETY.

We understand that this association has amalgamated with the fanciers of Hamilton, and intend holding an exhibition in that city some time during the winter. Wm. Sanderson, Esq., is their secretary. His energy, knowledge of details, and gentlemanly demeanour, will go far to ensure success. This we wish them to the fullest extent.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF ONTARIO POULTRY SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the above-named society was held in the City Hall, London, on Friday afternoon, November 30th, for the purpose of making arrangements for holding the Spring Exhibition, and for general business. There were in attendance, Messrs. J. Plummer, President; Allan Bogue, Vice President; L. G. Jarvis, Secretary-Treasurer; George Murton and J. Gowdie, of Guelph; W. M. Smith Fairfield Plains; Thos. Partridge, Jr., J. H. McMicken, London, and Jas. Fullerton, Strathroy. The prize list was thoroughly revised by the committee, who took great pains with regard to it, in order that poultry men of every section might be accorded a fair field. A number of competent gentlemen were named as judges. It was decided to hold the spring exhibition in the City Hall, London, during the last week in February next.

POULTRY THIEVES.

There are a number of these gentry at work in different parts of Canada. They seem to make a wholesale business of stealing, packing and shipping. Mr. James Loughhead, of Sarnia, a gentleman who has lately commenced to keep fancy poultry, and given very high prices for his birds, had his entire stock stolen. He took the matter in hand, ferreted out the thieves, and had them punished. Mr. W. M. Smith, of Fairfield Plains, has had about a dozen of his very best fowl stolen lately—among the rest some imported birds that he greatly prized. We hope the thieves may be caught and get their deserts. Load your blunderbuss! Let loose your dogs!

The Brooklin Poultry Yards will, for the next year, be run by Thomas & Campbell. Communications addressed to them at Brooklin will receive prompt attention.

CONNECTICUT STATE POULTRY SOCIETY.—We are in receipt of the prize list of this Society. Their exhibition will be held from 9th to 12th of January. \$5,456.50 is offered in premiums. I. Altman, Secretary, Box 377, Hartford Conn.

PIGEON FLYING MATCH.

The first annual flying match of the Canadian Columbarian Society was flown on Saturday, the 20th inst.; distance from Guelph to Toronto. Birds were liberated at 9:10 a. m., but on account of the unfavorableness of the weather, only one bird (Mr. Goodchild's "Bob") arrived home during the specified time, the others arriving at intervals during the day. This being the first match of the kind ever flown in Canada, it came off most successfully, considering the state of the weather.

W. WAY, Sec'y Can. Col. Soc.

Toronto, Oct. 25.

One of our local papers gives the following:—Last week, Mr. Thos. Cowie, of Nichol, missed a young duck and an old one from a flock of sixteen. During the day the old duck returned, and had the appearance of having gone through the mill. The following morning the whole flock was missing, and a vigorous and determined search was instituted. Some distance from the house a baker's dozen of the ducks were found buried in the ground, the head of each being barely visible. At no great distance off a fox was seen, which looked so self-satisfied that it was evident that he had a duck for breakfast. The flock was unearched and taken home, and appeared little worse for the interment. No doubt Reynard intended feeding the flock, and using them as the cravings of nature demanded, and must be extremely disgusted with having thus been deprived of a month's provisions.

FEEDING FOWLS IN WINTER.

We often hear complaints made of the amount of feed consumed by fowls, but generally find in such cases that a great deal is wasted, on account of its not being palatable to the fowls; and very often much more is fed at a time than they can eat up (this should not be done, as after satisfying their wants they will scatter what is left, and make it unfit to eat). The dearest food is not always the best. For the morning feed we have found nothing so good as equal parts of corn and barley ground together, and mixed with same size of wheat bran. Find what your flock will eat up clean at one feed, and on this pour sufficient boiling water to damp it all through—don't make it too wet—mix it thoroughly. Add a little salt always, cayenne pepper occasionally in winter. Boiled potato peelings, and table scraps can be added, and, twice a week, some beef scraps, livers, &c., boiled and chopped up fine. After scalding cover and let stand ten minutes before feeding. A little sulphur added to this once every two weeks will help to keep the fowls healthy and free from lice. It is better not to have too much corn and barley ground

at one time. For noon feed give either wheat screenings, barley, buckwheat, or oats, or each in turn. By covering their floors with clean sand or straw, and scattering the small grain among it you secure exercise for the fowls, and keep them out of mischief. A cabbage, or turnips cut into slices, will be greedily devoured. Gravel, charcoal, and old mortar broken small, should always be within their reach. Clean water should be given twice a day in vessels that they cannot upset. In very cold weather take the chill off it a little. Add Douglass Mixture occasionally—below will be found the receipt; don't let the big names frighten you, it is very cheap and good. Just before dark give them all the grain they can eat. Feed whole corn sparingly; and in cold weather, on no account, feed corn that is not perfectly dry.

DOUGLASS MIXTURE.—Half pound sulphate of iron, one ounce sulphuric acid, two gallons of water.—Give about a teaspoonful in each half pint of drinking water

MAKE YOUR HOUSES WARM.

Those who have poultry houses that are not sufficiently warm for our winters, can very easily make them comfortable by lining them with tarred paper, such as is used for roofing. We know of nothing equal to it for this purpose. It is easily put on, is very warm, and is said to be vermin-proof. It can be procured at any of our towns, at about three and a half cents a pound: Three pounds will cover about five square yards. Get it at once and make your fowls comfortable. They will pay for it in extra yield of eggs before spring.

SAGINAW VALLEY POULTRY ASSOCIATION'S SHOW.—The second annual exhibition of this Society will be held at East Saginaw, from 8th to 12th January. We understand a number of Canadian fanciers intend competing. The prize list is very neat and handy. All entries close January 8th. For entry blanks &c., address Steve. V. Haskell, East Saginaw.

OUR FIRST NUMBER.

On account of the non-arrival of some of our new plant, we have not been able to place the REVIEW in as attractive shape as is our intention. Our next number, which will be out promptly on the 15th of January next, will show a decided improvement. We hope to have it scale 10 points in "condition."

ALL communications should be in our hands by the 5th, and advertisements by the 8th to ensure insertion in the issue of that month.

The REVIEW will be issued on the 15th of each month.

BREEDERS'
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CARDS this size at the extremely low rate of

SIX DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

Every Breeder should secure a place. One change allowed. Payable strictly in advance.



GEORGE SIMPSON.

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Breeder and Importer of

BRAHMAS, COCHINS, DORKINGS,

Plymouth Rocks, Games, Hamburgs, Houdans, Leghorns, Black Spanish, Bantams, Ducks, Geese, and Mammoth Bronze Turkeys. Stock always for sale, and eggs in season. "Write."



J. PEART.

Burlington, - Ont., Canada.

Breeder of Superior Fowls of the following varieties:

BRAHMAS, (Light & Dark,

Cochins, Partridge & White; Polish, White & Spangled; W. Leehorns, B. Hamburgs, White Georgian Games, B.B.R. Bantams, and Aylesbury Ducks. Eggs in season at \$3.00 per 13. Good birds for sale now. Prompt attention to correspondence. Visitors welcome, Sundays excepted.



L. G. JARVIS.

NILESTOWN, - ONTARIO.

Breeder of

LIGHT BRAHMAS

And

Cayuga Ducks.

A few pairs of first-class Cayuga Ducks for sale, at \$6.00 per pair. They are very large and fine.

IMPORTED SHEPHERD DOGS.

Rough and Smooth Coated

SCOTCH COLLIES,

From the best kennels in England.

Took all Prizes in their class, with one exception, at International Show, held at London, Ont., in Sept. last. As workers they cannot be beaten.

JAS. COX,
STRATHROY, ONT.

THIS SIZE,
FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

\$3 for six months.



JAS. FULLERTON,

Strathroy - - Ontario.

Breeder of

Light Brahmans, Plymouth Rocks,

White Leghorns and Black Hamburgs. Some fine W. Leghorn Chicks for sale cheap.



D. C. NOBLE.

Strathroy, - Ontario.

Breeder of

Partridge Cochins, and B. Leghorns.

A few pairs of Brown Leghorns for sale. They are from the most fashionable strains. Will be sold cheap. Write.

Excelsior Poultry Yards.

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POULTRY FOR SALE!

At "Live and let Live Prices."

MUST REDUCE MY STOCK ON ACCOUNT OF WANT OF ROOM.

LOOK HERE!

First-Class White Leghorn Cockerels, \$2.00; Pullets, \$1.00 each.

Black Breasted, Brown Breasted, Reds and Duckwing Game Fowls, all first class pit birds, only \$5.00 per pair; \$6.00 trio.

Imperial Pekin Ducks, of Palmer's Importation of 1875, for \$6.00 per pair; Drakes \$3.00 each—they are pure, of the first water.

In all cases—Satisfaction Guaranteed or money returned.

First come, first served.

SAM. HOLMES.

"Excelsior Mills,"
CHATHAM, ONTARIO.

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We are prepared to execute Fanciers' Printing, of all kinds

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CIRCULARS,
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All work executed under our own personal supervision.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

If desired a proof of every job will be sent before completing it.

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