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# Canadian Poultry Review.

DEVOTED TO POULTRY AND PET STOCK.

Vol. I.

STRATHROY, ONTARIO, JUNE, 1878.

No. 7.



SILVER SPANGLED POLANDS, (BEARDED.)

BY MR. ALLAN BOGUE.

Silver Polands, of which these cuts are good representations, are decidedly great favorites with many fowl fanciers, as is shown by the many pairs that are brought forward at our shows. They are one of the oldest pure bred varieties, having been exhibited extensively in Canada for the past twenty years. Among the gentlemen who first introduced them may be mentioned Squire Carr, of Drummondville, Squire Peters, and Mr. John Bogue of London.

There are two distinct families of this variety, the bearded and the plain. All the specimens first shown were of the latter family. Their bearded cousins were not introduced until several years

later, and the first specimens shown were not considered by fanciers to be as perfect as the plain, but through careful selection and the introduction of fresh blood, very great improvement has been made, so much so that the fancy has changed and the bearded are now decidedly the favorites.

The rules to be observed in breeding Silver Polands are the same as for the Golden. Great care must be taken to preserve the spangling on the feathers distinctly marked, and keep them as free as possible from mousing as this is a very serious fault in the show pen.

Polands should be kept in a very clean place; they should always have a grass run in summer,

and in winter the floor of their house should be well littered with straw. Their drinking fountain should be so constructed that the feathers of the crest cannot touch the water, as if they are allowed to do so the water will freeze on them and pull them down over their eyes, obstructing the sight so that they cannot feed, and eventually pulling out the feathers.

They are abundant layers of medium sized eggs, and, like all the other varieties of Polish, are non-sitters. They mature early, are very hardy, standing our severe winters well, are of quiet disposition, and not apt to roam very far from their quarter. They are good table fowl as far as they go, but are rather too small to take a leading position in this department.

Description in *Standard*.

#### DISQUALIFICATIONS.

Crooked backs; wry tails; legs any other color than blue, which may, however, be lighter in color from age.

#### THE COCK.

**HEAD:**—Large, with a considerable protuberance on the top of the skull, which is concealed by the crest:—Beak, dark horn-color, and rather long,—nostrils large, the crown of which is elevated above the usual curve line of the beak:—Eyes, large, full and bright.

**CREST:**—Very large, thick, flowing, and well fitted on the crown of the head, composed of feathers similar in shape and texture to those of the hackle, and, in color, silvery-white, laced with black,—in adult birds white feathers may appear;—the crest should rise well in front, so as not to obstruct the sight, and fall over upon either side and behind in a regular and even mass.

**COMBS:**—Brilliant red, like the letter V in shape, of small size, and retreating rather backward into the crest; the smaller the better.

**EAR-LOBES AND WATTLES:**—Ear-lobes, white, small, even on the surface, and well rounded: Wattles, bright red, thin, and pendulous, and well rounded on the lower part.

**NECK:**—Of medium length, slightly and neatly

arched, and well hackled,—the hackle silvery-white in color, and the ends of each feather laced with black.

**BACK:**—Straight, wide across the shoulders, and tapering to the tail,—the plumage a rich silvery-white in color, spangled or laced with black, the texture of the feather giving the spangle a rayed appearance.

**BREAST AND BODY:**—Breast, deep, full, round and prominent; a clear silvery-white in color, free

from mousing, each feather ending with a round, rich, black spangle or lacing, the spangle or lacing increasing in size in proportion to the increase in the size of the feather:—Body, general appearance light, comparatively wide across the shoulders, and tapering to the tail,—color of plumage, silvery-white, each feather spangled or laced with black.

**WINGS:**—Ample, and folded smoothly against the sides; primaries, silvery-white, ending with black spots; secondaries, silvery-white, with distinct, crescent-shaped greenish-black spots on the end of each feather; wing-coverts, silvery-white, each feather laced on the edge with black, and ending with a large black spangle or lacing, forming two distinct black bars across the wings.

**TAIL:**—Large, rather erect and well expanded, and, in color, silvery-white, each feather ending with a rich black spot;—sickle-feathers and tail-coverts, abundant, silvery-white, and feather ending with a rich black spot.

**LEGS:**—Thighs, rather long, of medium size, and, in color, silvery-white, each feather spangled or laced with black:—Shanks, long and slender, and blue or slaty-blue in color.

**CARRIAGE:**—Erect and strutting.

#### THE HEN.

**HEAD:**—Round, the protuberance of the skull concealed by the crest:—Beak, dark horn-color, nostrils, large, the crown of which is elevated above the usual curve-line of the beak:—Eyes, large, full and bright.



**CREST** :—Very large, round, close, firm, and even upon the head, and silvery-white in color, each feather laced with black ;—in adult birds, white feathers may appear.

**COMB** :—Brilliant red, two-horned, like the letter V in shape, and the smaller the better.

**EAR-LOBES AND WATTLES** :—Ear-lobes, white, small and even on the surface :—Wattles, bright red, small, thin, and well rounded.

**NECK** :—Long and tapering, the hackle silvery-white, laced with black.

**BACK** :—Straight, and tapering to the tail, the plumage, silvery-white, each feather ending with a distinct black spangle or lacing.

**BREAST AND BODY** :—Breast, full, round and prominent,—color of plumage, a clear silvery-white, free from mousing, each feather ending with a distinct, round, rich, black spangle or lacing, the spangle or lacing increasing in size in proportion to the increase in the size of the feather :—Body, comparatively small, wide across the shoulders, and tapering to the tail,—color of plumage, silvery-white, each feather spangled or laced with black.

**WINGS** :—Ample, and snugly folded against the sides ; primaries, silvery-white, each feather ending in a crescent-shaped black lacing ; wing-bows, silvery-white, each feather ending with a crescent-shaped black spangle or lacing ; wing-coverts, silvery-white, each feather edged with black, and ending with a large black spangle or lacing, forming two distinct bars across the wings.

**TAIL** :—Large, and somewhat expanded,—in color, silvery-white, each feather ending in a large black spangle or lacing.

**LEGS** :—High, rather long and of medium size, —in color, silvery-white, each feather spangled or laced with black :—Shanks, rather long, slender, clean and neat, and in color, blue or slaty-blue.

**CARRIAGE** :—Rather upright and coquettish.

POINTS IN SILVER POISH.

Symmetry	10
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Crest	25
Comb	10
Ear-lobes and Wattles	8
Neck	5
Back	5
Breast and Body	5
Wings	5
Tail	5
Legs	5

100

Crows will pick off young chicks rapidly, if they once get a going in that way.

**Broken Glass for Poultry.**

A correspondent of the *American Cultivator* says : Three months since my husband bought six pullets and a rooster, our first attempt at keeping chickens since leaving a farm twenty years ago. In two weeks the only Brahma we had commenced laying, and continued to do so with intervals of one, two, and sometimes three days, till nine eggs were laid. All of the eggs were exceedingly thin in the shell, so much so that the hen broke some of them by her weight. The seventh egg was soft and at one end as large as a silver sixpence ; the eighth was in the same condition ; the ninth was held in shape only by the skin. On this day the hen became feeble, her feet contracted, her legs were drawn up, her wings spread, and she lay on one side on the coop floor and was unable to roost with the others. She continued in this condition refusing food for four days, and we supposed of course that she would die. We thought a good deal about the case, and as her condition indicated a want of lime, we provided her with it, but she did not seem to care for it.

I had noticed in the gizzard of fowls, on occasions when I had cut too deeply when opening them, not only small stones but often pieces of glass worn down on the corners. As the snow was three feet deep and no gravel in the coop, I fancied our hen had an attack of indigestion, for want of grinders to reduce her food, and I resolved to test the matter by broken glass. This was soon done. I found down cellar some broken panes, and taking the hammer, placed the glass on the coop floor, and reduced a quantity to the size of kernels of corn. I then brought the sick hen to it, and with astonishing avidity she commenced eating it. When she began her craw was empty, and when she stopped it was half full or a little larger than a hen's egg, both of which conditions I ascertained by feeling with the hand. The next day she was better and able at night to roost on the perch, and in ten days began to lay again, and has laid every day since without one interval.

Every day or two I take an old bottle or broken plate, old flower pots or anything in the glass-ware or crockery line I can find and pound them up fine for the fowls, and it is almost incredible the amount they have disposed of. We often hear it stated, that poultry in large quantities is not profitable. Perhaps if all the broken crockery of the neighborhood were reduced to an eatable shape, a different state of things would exist.

Have a tight roof to your chicken coop. Cold rains are destructive. Shut the chicks in when it rains and keep them out of the dewy grass.

### Ladies vs. Fancy Poultry.

In our cities, where men are engaged in sedentary pursuits, and find it necessary for their well-being, to pass as many hours in the open air as possible, the care of poultry and pigeons to such cannot be too strongly recommended. A very little space in the back yard will suffice for a henery or pigeon-loft, and the care of these pets will keep many at home. I, myself, am conversant with several cases in which the wives of fanciers are strenuously opposed to any illusion to fancy poultry and pigeons, and their reason is that their occupation takes all their husband's time and attention, that the burden of their conversation with their friends is on this subject almost to the exclusion of all other, having heard nothing talked of but chicken since first the h-n fever took in their locality.

Now would say to these ladies and to all others situated like them, is it not much better that your husband's spare time be devoted to the care of the useful and beautiful among the feathered tribe, than that with dog and gun they forage the woods destroying those which the Creator never made for man's cruel sport? the dog and gun when not thus employed to be the constant terror of the household? Or shall they with rod and line wander through the fields day after day, following a sport equally exciting? Or would you have them keep horses, from which, to be sure, yourself with them would have much pleasure, but at a great expense and care, their conversation being "all horse?" Or would it be more suited to your inclinations, if their incomes did not admit of an indulgence in horse-flesh, that their superfluous time should be spent in the club or billiard rooms? There are many ways in which men spend their time, to which the culture of poultry and pigeons are preferable. Far be it from me to say that any husbands could find pleasure in a pursuit which should take them away from their homes and families, but I would in all kindness say to each fancier's wife, do not ridicule such a harmless recreation, but rather fall in with these views, thankful to see a few leisure hours occupied in so healthful a manner.

That the poultry and pigeon fancy is one of the most fascinating and useful of all the recreations which are followed by gentlemen is a fact. The expense of indulging in it may be adapted to the most meager income, or it may tax the resources of the moderately affluent, and it should be the last of all the pastimes, with which the wives of our fanciers should find fault. If they understood the situation better, they would be slow to denounce it.—*Downs, in Fancier's Journal.*

### Oil of Sassafras.

John E. Robbins, in a Southern paper says: "My plan, which I think is used by no breeder; has never failed me in completely ridding my fowls of every insect, and has demonstrated to me its infallibility. It is simply the use of oil of sassafras mixed with sweet oil, and apply a small quantity to different parts of the body of the fowl, selecting those points where the vermin would be most apt to hide.

"In applying the preparation I fill with it a small oil-can, so that I can force out as much or as little of the oil as I wish. A very small bit can be made to go a great ways, for one drop can be rubbed over two or three inches of space, and is not more troublesome to apply than the various insect powders. I use sweet oil because of its curative powers, but any kind of grease, no matter what, will do to mix with the oil of sassafras. The oil of sassafras is the eradicator, the other oil merely the vehicle. I believe common sassafras tea would be wonderfully efficacious.

"Make it in a large pot, then after allowing it to cool, dip the fowls in bodily. In one second the lice will be dead, and in ten seconds the fowls will be perfectly dry, if placed in the sunshine. It is hard to form an idea of the magical effect produced by the oil of sassafras. I have never tried the remedy in greater attenuation than that mentioned, (one to five or six), but I believe that it would be equally good if composed of one ounce of oil of sassafras to ten or twelve of any other oil or grease."

### Mesmerizing Poultry.

The *Scientific American* describes a method of putting any rooster in a state of catalepsy. Select a dark-colored table with a smooth top; place it so a narrow streak of sunlight will fall across the surface. Then set the rooster on the table, and hold his head down so that his beak comes in contact with the wood. Now, with a piece of chalk and in the sunlight draw a line straight from the bird's beak. Move the chalk very slowly, and by the time the line is a couple of feet in length the rooster will fall into a cataleptic or trance-like condition; and although the hands are removed from his body he will remain perfectly rigid for a minute or two. It is said that a black line on a white surface will produce the same effect. Hens may be similarly treated, but it takes much longer to get them into the trance state, it being necessary to hold the head down several minutes before they come under the influence.

France has 40,000,000 hens with only 5,000,000 women to throw things at them.



Lop-Eared Rabbits.

The lop-eared breed of rabbits is, and has been for some time past, the favorite one in this country; and in the writer's estimation, deservedly so. To breed them to a high standard of excellence, and to keep all their many points of merit up to that standard through successive generations, requires skill and patience on the part of the breeder, as well as a complete knowledge of their habits and how to keep them in health and fecundity, and the treatment required in case of sickness. In breeding, great care should be taken in the selection of the parent stock; and defect as to ear-points, carriage, markings or size, that occurs in one of the parents, should be fully counter-balanced in the other.

It very seldom occurs that it is desirable to breed two broken colors together, but sometimes of necessity you are forced to do so; and it may happen that when stock has been bred self on a broken color, for a long time, it is really advantageous to so breed them, but this is very seldom, and the only safe plan for a tyro is to breed a self on a broken, *vice versa*. Of course no harm can accrue from breeding from two selfs, provided you wish to risk the almost certainty of obtaining nothing but self-colored progeny.

The great fault with most of the stock in this country, at the present date, is that they have been bred in and in, and have been put to use so young, that they have been greatly reduced in size. The weight to be desired in a lop-eared doe is in the neighborhood of 10 lbs., and 11 or 12 lbs. in a buck; but this weight must not consist of fat. You never want a breeding doe to be fat. The weight should be made up in the frame of the animal. A doe in good breeding condition that weighs 10 lbs., should when properly fattened, turn the scale at the 14 lb. notch; and a buck that weighs 12 lbs. when in use, should come very near to 15 lbs. when fatted. I say this ought so to be; but it is not, however; the usual weight being 8 or 9 lbs for a buck, and for a doe, 7 or 8 lbs. However, size is but a secondary consideration, although an important one.

The first and most important feature is, of course, that which gives name to the breed, viz: 'Earage'

and in this, even, length is not the only desired quality. A first-class, breeding doe should have her ears measure nineteen or twenty inches in length and five in width. They should be soft, thin, and flexible; should hang as if folded in two with the edges close to the corner of the eye. All these points should be taken into consideration, either in judging or buying.

If I were to judge, and allowed to use my own discretion, I should award the first premium to the rabbit fulfilling all these qualities, and whose ears measured but 19½ or 20 inches, in preference to one whose ears measured 21 inches, but failed as regards width, carriage, or texture, other things being equal.

The disposition of color is a very important and essential consideration, no matter how long or fine a rabbit's ears are; if it is poorly marked it cannot hope to gain a prize for general excellence. In a broken color, no matter what the color is, the main or body color should spread evenly and richly over the back, hips, and loins, extending as far up towards the head as the shoulders; here it should be broken by an irregular line of white dotted with the main color, forming the fancied resemblance to the links of a chain, and it consequently has been given the latter name. This is a great beauty, and to have the chain nicely and distinctly marked will add much to the value of the specimen. This chain should extend downward and backward, forming an edging of white, while the animal is in repose, between the main color and the floor, and should extend to a point about three fourths of the way between the fore and hind leg. The hind legs, from the second joint to the toe, should be pure white; the belly and breast should be white, also, covering the under side of the jaw, with a narrow strip reaching almost, but not quite, to the bridge of the nose, about one-eighth of the way between the nostril and forehead, leaving a dark patch on both sides of the upper lip, and on the end of the nose, very like the extended wings of the butterfly, and consequently called the 'butterfly smut.'

There should be a narrow blaze of white on the forehead; this, with the fore legs and under side of the tail, completes the list of points which should be of the virgin color; more than this destroys the coloring of the animal, by giving a speckled appearance to its coat, and spoils the beauty of the shadings and gives a too uniform sameness to our pet.

In a self-color the only requirement is that the color should extend the same all over the subject, without any shadings whatever, and have throughout a beautiful gloss, which, in the blacks and dark colors, shines like the finest silk. In light fawns and yellows, it is almost impossible to prevent a

little lighter shading on the belly than on the back, but the nearer a specimen approaches the same even color all over, the nearer it is to perfection.

The next point to be considered is carriage.

This must be considered while the animal is in two different positions. The first is while standing, the animal being full of life and energy. The second, while lying down, the muscles being relaxed, and the whole system in repose.

In the first position, the rabbit should be upright, the legs spread well apart, the back curved, the eye full and protruding, and the whole ensemble of the animal being one of life and vigor.

The second position is exactly the reverse; the head should be low, resting upon a rich dewlap, which forms an elegant cushion for it; this in turn rests upon the fore paws, which are extended in front. The ears drop perpendicularly down to the floor, lying in rich folds upon it. The back is arched, sloping gradually to the neck, the hips are drawn close to the body, the hind part of the back extending a trifle above them; this portion of the back should be full two inches above the head.

The body of a rabbit should be well elongated, so as to give a graceful and symmetrical curve to the body between the highest portion of the back and the head, when the animal is in repose, and should not have a too precipitous fall. This is the writer's ideal of a lop-eared rabbit, and it is his constant endeavor to try and improve on the present animal, until it can be made to conform to his present ideal. That there is at present great room for improvement, there is no doubt. There is one thing, however, that should never be lost sight of, and that is, breeding in-and-in to any great extent will ruin the strain; and so we must sometimes sacrifice color for the sake of retaining prolific breeders—we must retard our fancy to maintain utility.

Looking forward to the day when this fancy, which is now in its infancy, shall become as general here as it is in England, I expect to see more perfect specimens at our own exhibitions than can be obtained abroad. The only pre-requisite is patience and a willingness to await results. This requires but as many months with our pets as it does years with larger cattle.—*W. L. B. in Fanciers' Monthly.*

A rabbit cat is a resident of Hartford. Its parents, brothers and sisters of various ages all preserve the peculiarities—tail short, ears more than usual length, hind legs decidedly rabbitly in appearance; gait, a hop; manner of feeding, sometimes the nibble of the rabbit, sometimes the gnaw of a cat. Is reported an excellent ratter.

## Human Nature.

### A TRUE INCIDENT.

Two little children five years old,  
Marie the gentle, Charlie the bold;  
Sweet and bright and quaintly wise,  
Angels both in their mother's eyes.

But you, if you follow my verse, shall see,  
That they were as human as human can be,  
And had not yet learned the maturer art  
Of hiding the "self" in the human heart.

One day they found in their romp and play,  
Two little rabbits soft and grey—  
Soft and grey, and just of a size,  
As like each other as your two eyes.

All day long the children made love  
To their dear little pets—their treasure-trove;  
They kissed and hugged them until the night  
Brought to the conies a glad respite.

Too much fondling doesn't agree  
With the rabbit nature, as we shall see,  
For ere the light of another day  
Had chased the shadows of night away

One little pet had gone to the shades,  
Or, let us hope, to perennial glades  
Brighter and softer than any below—  
A heaven where good little rabbits go.

The living and dead lay side by side,  
And still alike as before they died;  
And it chanced that the children came singly to  
view

The pets they had dreamed of all the night  
through.

First came Charlie, and, with sad surprise,  
Beheld the dead with streaming eyes;  
How'er, consolingly, he said,  
"Poor little Marie—*Her rabbit's dead!*"

Later came Marie, and stood aghast;  
She kissed and caressed it, but at last  
Found voice to say, while her young heart bled,  
"I'm so sorry for Charlie—*His rabbit's dead.*"

CHEAP AND CERTAIN RAT POISON.—Take old corks, cut them up, fry them for a little while in grease, if you have fowls put the corks under the floors of your barns and outhouses, or in places your fowls do not frequent. Mr. Rat will finish the corks and the corks will finish Mr. Rat.

Priscilla says that when a hen crawls under the fence, she goes straight for the flower-beds, and scratches like the destruction. Well, the hen would have done the same thing if she had flown over the fence.

15,608,340.

JOHN SALISBURY, JR., NYACK, N. Y.

Large figures they surely are; still, they only denote the number of dozen of eggs which have passed through the regular market channels of the city of New York during the first four months of the present year—or from the first of January to the first of May; and even the above figures do not denote more than about two-thirds the number used in the city. I base this last assertion upon the estimate of two of the principal egg dealers, who assure me that fully one-third the number used are carried in by private hands, or are consigned directly to the consumers, and thus no accurate account can be gained of them. No doubt your readers say that the supply of eggs during the past spring has been unusually large. This we are ready to grant. And that the price has been uniformly lower than it has been for thirty years; which is all true. But let us turn back and look at the receipts for the same period last year. This we find to be 208,239 barrels, averaging 73 dozen each, or a total of 15,200,447 dozen eggs. To this we must add one-third as the amount taken in through private means, and we find that New York city alone used, during the first four months of 1877, 20,268,596 dozen eggs, which were worth, at an average at wholesale, or first-hand price, 25½ cents per dozen, or a total of \$5,668,491.98. The number of eggs used during the same period of 1878, amounts, after adding one-third for the number received through other channels, to 20,811,098 dozen eggs, which at an average price of 17 cents per dozen amount to the handsome sum of \$3,537,886.66. Now, the farmer may still sneer at the insignificance of hens, but let him sit down and figure out the comparative value of beef sold or used during the same period, and he will, I think, sneer no more.

I have taken the trouble recently to hunt up some statistics bearing on the subject, perhaps goaded on by the question of a neighbor, who coolly asked me recently how I could content myself raising chickens—intimating that it was too small a business for a man. To this I retorted that it is in the aggregate the largest business in the United States. I am indebted to Mr. I. K. Felch for a small table of figures, compiled from the last census (1870), which I regret is the last census we have, for I have good reason to believe that since 1873 the poultry interest of the United States has nearly doubled. Many a family began to raise poultry during the hard times, in order to have meat within their means; and strange to say, the greater part of the improved stock that I have sold during the past three years has been purchased by the middle classes. I am informed by many of

the best breeders that their experience is the same. It is, as I stated above, considered by farmers too small a business. Let us see:

By the table, we find that the corn crop of the United States was 761,000,000 bushels, the wheat crop was 288,000,000 bushels, and the value of all the beef, mutton and pork slaughtered, at an average price of \$14 per ton in the New York markets, was \$384,000,000. You will no doubt scarcely believe that the amount of poultry and eggs sold through the markets exceeds either of these large products, and that you will have to add the entire product of beef, mutton and pork to the product of milk, butter and cheese together, before you approach it! Mr. Felch puts the question somewhat in this shape: Compute the 9,000,000 of families in the United States as using but two dozen of eggs per week on an average, at 25 cents per dozen, which was the average wholesale price at that time (1870), and add \$20 worth of poultry per year, and we have the round sum of \$45,000,000.

To this must be added those eggs used by the thousands of hotels, bakeries and restaurants, those used for chemical and manufacturing purposes, and the many dozens exported [which is no small amount), and you will swell the cash value to over \$600,000,000. And yet this is a business that many a farmer sneers at! When our farmers wake up to the fact that there is no stock that will pay them the same percentage on the outlay of labor and capital, as thoroughbred poultry, they will believe these figures; possibly not until then.

Poultry, to pay certainly, needs care and attention as everything else. What intelligent farmer would for an instant think of wintering his best cows under an apple tree, or in an open hovel? This is not practicable, neither is it to raise poultry as six-tenths of our farmers are doing it. Cattle must have good warm stables, plenty of provender of the most suitable kinds, and regular care, if they are to be profitable, and even then they can not be made to pay two hundred per cent. Poultry will pay two hundred and fifty to three hundred per cent. if you will but give it the same attention and study, with proper housing after a right selection of stock. Decide first as to whether you desire to raise poultry for market or for eggs only. This should depend very materially on the market nearest at hand. In either case select the the variety of fowls best adapted to your purpose. Poultry is now bred so that the person who sets out to raise eggs does not want the same varieties that are best adapted for the production of dressed poultry. There are some few breeds that in a great measure combine both, but in combining both do not excel in either. It is so with all kinds of farm stock, the cow giving the largest yield of



milk is not the best for a farmer who aims to produce butter, nor are horses most suitable for the livery stable or road work the kind wanted by a teamster.

I will at some future time endeavor to give a synopsis of some of the leading varieties of fowls and the purposes for which they are best adapted.

### Be aware "Hash."

*Editor of Canadian Poultry Review.*

DEAR SIR:—For the want of something better, I thought I would give you a little "hash" for your June number. You know "hash" is generally composed of a little of everything, and not much of anything; of such is the "hash" composed that I send you.

First, let me congratulate you on the appearance of your journal, especially the May number which has just reached me. There is no doubt in my mind but that it is the most reliable journal of the kind in Canada; and I do hope that the Fanciers in the Dominion will do as should do, support it in preference to supporting foreign journals. What I mean by that is, if they only subscribe for one journal let it be the CANADIAN POULTRY REVIEW. And I am glad to see in your advertising columns the names of so many good, careful and reliable breeders; parties that I have for the last twelve years met at nearly every exhibition, and with whom I have enjoyed many pleasant hours. But there is one thing more I should like to see, and that is the names of more of them at the bottom of good sound articles of their experience. There is plenty of them well able, and could give useful information; and should do so, and by so doing help you make the journal second to none in America.

But this is not the kind of hash I was going to give you. I find chickens in Delaware are all subject to the *Gapes*; something, as long as I have bred poultry in Canada, I never saw before. I have had several cases of it in my small flock of chicks, two of them dying before I knew what ailed them, the others I saved by running a small feather down their wind pipes, turning it around once or twice before withdrawing it, which will loosen the small worms which are the cause of the trouble. I brought out five from one chick, some of them a quarter of an inch long. Now, Mr. Editor, what I want to know is: What causes worms in chickens' wind pipes?

Talk about early spring chicks for showing in the Fall. If there was only a class for mongerels in our chicken shows in Canada I could send up some hatched first of January, now nearly full grown. You can find them around any farm house. They hatch them here every month in the year.

I feel so lost down here without my usual stock of chicks to feed and look after, that I think it will not be long before I stock up, and then, Mr. Editor, look out for Thomas dropping down among you some show day, with a basket of early hatched chicks.

**BEES.**—If you have any bee men among your readers, which I presume you have, they should locate down here. There is not a month in the year that bees do not fly out to the fields and woods in search of honey and pollen; I do not doubt but that they find more or less any month in the year. Bees at this date, (May 20) have, in many yards, cast their second swarms, and are working in surplus drawers for their owners.

**DOGS.**—Here is where you will find dogs of all kinds, from the large, fierce bloodhound, that a few years ago was used for hunting down the poor darkeys, to the small beagle, now used for hunting the small grey rabbit, of which there are plenty to be found in all unoccupied lands. During December, January and February it is nothing uncommon to see from thirty to fifty fine large fox hounds in full chase after some unfortunate fox. They often take him straight through the country, through fields and orchards, followed by as many men both black and white, some on horses, some on mules and some on foot. The poor fox at last gets into some hollow log and is taken alive and kept for another days sport, as they call it. Of course this kind of sport is only allowed when there are no crops on the ground.

**FISH.**—This country beats the world for fish. Salt water trout, a fish very much like our Canada speckled trout, only larger, can, almost any time during the spring and early summer, be bought for from fifty down to ten cents per bushel; other kinds equally low in their season. But enough hash. Should you, Mr. Editor, or any of your readers ever stroll south as far as Delaware, I hope you or they will stop off at Dover, the Capital of the State, and call on

THOMAS.

### Belgian Pigeons—their Rearing, Training, and Management.

The attachment of these birds to the place of their birth being one of their distinctive characteristics, it is desirable that a proper home should be provided for them. Their natural habits and constitution are in several respects peculiar, and without a knowledge of these it is impossible to rear, train and manage them successfully. In the first place, then, a home they must have. Of these many kinds are used. the stately old manorial dove house, the triangular locker, fastened on the outside walls, the circular one elevated on the top

of a po:—all of which are unsuitable for the rearing of Belgian pigeons, apart from their being exposed to strong winds, pelting rains, drifting snows, and every variation of weather.

In constructing and arranging a suitable home for these birds, a shed on the ground, with a wire, lath or lattice work run, to allow them access to fresh air and sunshine at pleasure, may be made use of; the gable or upper part of a stable or barn also make an excellent pigeon house. A trap or platform should be erected outside for them to alight on, from which they enter their cots either through a tipping or dropping hole, or bolting wire, the latter being made to swing upward when the bird presses against the wires, and dropping to its place again when the bird has entered; egress being stopped by the wires resting against a ledge below, thus preventing the bolting wires being forced outward. Tipping holes are openings four inches square, in the top of the trap, through which pigeons can easily enter, and out, of which they cannot fly, their extended wings preventing them flying through so small an opening. The pigeons quickly learn the use of these contrivances, and once learnt will habitually make use of them.

An adequate amount of light and an unlimited supply of fresh air and clean water are necessary for the health of these pigeons, which are particularly hardy, vigorous and healthy, and if their cots are kept clean, they are never out of health.

The internal fittings of the loft should consist of perching places and nesting boxes. The latter should be large enough to contain two nests. The reason for this being that this variety of pigeon is so productive and such excellent nurses, that they generally lay a second pair of eggs before the nestlings hatched from the previous eggs are able to shift for themselves, so that the same nesting box has to serve as a nursery for the young ones, and also a nest for laying and hatching another brood in. These boxes should be two feet long, about eighteen inches broad, and not less than eight inches high, and divided into two compartments by a partition of nine inches; thus enabling the hen to sit undisturbed on the second lot of eggs, and the cock to have access to and feed the young ones. The nestlings must not be able to see the mother, or when the cock is away they will get out of the nest before they are able to get back again in an attempt to reach the hen, whilst the latter would be constantly worried and unsettled, and the eggs spoiled.

The nests made by pigeons scarcely deserve the name, consisting merely of a few twigs and straw, and if it is accessible, a few sprigs of lavender, the scent of which they are particularly fond. Time of incubation is from seventeen to nineteen days, according to the warmth of the cot and season.

The young should not be handled before they are ten days old, when they ought to be gently changed into a new nest and the old one removed.

NO ICE.

(To be continued.)

### The Fancier.

The Fancier, like the Poet, is born, not made. No man can be a successful fancier unless he has a real love for animals, a love and attachment which is entirely removed from their intrinsic or money value. He must be a man to whom the offer of money for the choice of his stock has no influence. He who breeds animals for gain alone is not a Fancier; he is a Trader, and might and would just as leave be engaged in any other calling where the money getting was his object.

It requires many qualities, and good ones too, in the one man, to make a successful fancier. In the first place, he must have an innate love for animals; he must be industrious, persevering, and possess a good keen eye to readily detect the good and bad points in the animal he is breeding. He must have a good, clear judgment of his own, quite independent of others, and whatever animal he is breeding he must post himself thoroughly in the standard of perfection of that animal, and know how best to proceed to produce it. Without these qualifications, no matter whether it is fancy poultry or the blood horse that he wishes to breed to perfection, he will surely never succeed. Some men will see a pen of very nice fancy poultry, and on the spur of the moment, take a notion to go into breeding them. They commence by buying good stock or bad, more of them the latter (for want of knowledge of what is good and what is bad,) they start off at a gallop to breed poultry to the recognized standard; for a few days or weeks, day and night, nothing but poultry can they converse about. But wait; by and by they find it is not all pleasure to them attending to their newly acquired pets, the feeding them, cleaning their houses, &c., &c., is more trouble than they calculated on, and they throw up the business just as suddenly as they went into it. The breeding of any domestic animal, with the view of bringing it up to the highest possible standard, if properly pursued, is a noble vocation and one that to follow successfully requires perseverance and industry, beyond what is required in almost any other calling.

Many Fanciers fancy too much, that is, they breed too many kinds. It is quite enough for one to study the points in one breed and produce it. Anyhow, I would say that two kinds are ample for all the time anyone can bestow on them, and he who breeds one and only one kind will invariable

succeed better with it than he who breeds more; let the kind he breeds be that which he likes best; let him put all his energies into bringing that to the highest possible state of perfection, and if he succeeds he will derive much more satisfaction from it than from producing a dozen mediocre animals. Whatever animal the fancier makes up his mind to breed, let him be sure he starts right, get nothing but the very best stock to start with; never mind if he pays twice or three times as much for it as for that which is not so good. Never mind the cost, start with the best; let it be his aim from the first to breed stock inferior to none, and starting with this determination, everything else being equal, he will succeed. He must always remember that one good specimen that is near perfection is worth to the fancy a hundred ordinary ones. His judgment must be sound when he looks at the specimens; he must be able to take in their good points and their bad ones at once without any doubt or hesitation; he must not be biased in favor of his own, in other words, he must look on his own just as he would on other peoples, and be equally exacting for the sustaining of his standard. His judgment must be thorough and independent, never in the least to be influenced by that of others. It is the lack of the last most essential quality that is the stumbling block of nearly all fanciers. They rely too much on the judgment of other people. This is often manifested at shows. Take a pen of poultry at a show; they are passed by hundreds of people, no one in particular paying any more attention to that coop than to any other, and the pair or trio could be bought for a few shillings; but just as soon as 1st prize is tacked on the pen they take a great leap up in value, and everybody is admiring them, including the owner himself, who should have thought just as much of them before the distinguished honor was awarded them; but he did not, which goes to show (if the judges' award was correct) that he was not posted on his own stock.

It is always supposed that the prizes are awarded to the best animals, but sometimes, unfortunately, they are not, and to the thorough practiced fancier the award of the judges should have no influence whatever, neither will it if he is as good a judge as they are; if he delights in the fancy and goes about it as I have set forth, it will not have. Never let him pay any more for a pen of birds because 1st prize is awarded them, nor think less of a bird because it received no award at all unless he is convinced by his own independent judgment that they are correctly placed. A fancier must first know how to produce it, and next know when he has produced it, and all this entirely unaided by anyone but himself.

This same rule applies to breeding of one and

all domestic animals, no matter whether it be a Homing Pigeon or a Shorthorn Bull, a Leicester Sheep or a Derby winner, the principle here laid down is essentially the same, and to be successful in any one of them the qualifications here expressed is equally essential; to possess them is to succeed, not to possess them means never coming to the front.

× ROADS.

### Gapes.

The season for this disease is at hand. Its results are so certainly fatal, that it is dreaded by the fancier and breeder. Still it is so easily prevented, that there is no good excuse for allowing it to make its appearance.

It is now ten or more years since actual necessity compelled me to find some cure or preventive, and after two years experiment, I compounded the ointment so well known to readers of Wright's Illustrated Book of Poultry. My success was so thorough that in two years I entirely eradicated the disease from yards where for four or five years, the average loss had been from seventy-five to ninety per cent. of the hatch. There has not, to my knowledge, been a case in these yards since that time.

Notwithstanding the theories as to the origin of the disease, all that is positively known of it is the cause and the result. The cause of the gaping and gasping for breath, from which the disease takes its name, is an accumulation of small red worms in the windpipe; the result is usually death.

Whether the insects found on the young chicks have any connection with the worm or not, has never been proven, but certain it is, that if the chicks are kept free from vermin and insects of all kinds, they do not have the gapes.

The theory of such relationship, advanced by myself some years ago, has been ridiculed by high and low authorities, but no better one has been advanced, the results of the preventive treatment are the same, and, thus far, there has been no other mode of successful prevention devised.

The application consists of 1 oz. mercurial ointment, 1 oz. pure lard,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. crude petroleum. I formerly used sulphur also, but found it unnecessary. Mix thoroughly and apply in a half melted state to the head of the newly hatched chicken; one or two drops will suffice. Renew the application when three weeks old. This is also a sure remedy for lice on the old fowls, if applied in the same manner to the head and under the wings.

As a cure, only three remedies of all I have ever heard of have been efficacious, and of these only one is certain: that is, holding the chick over the fumes of carbolic acid. Put a few crystals of acid

on a hot shovel, on an iron spoon over the fire or a lamp, and let the chicken inhale the fumes, but the greatest care must be exercised, for a few seconds too much will kill the chicken.

The next is to place the chicks in a box or barrel, tie a piece of coarse muslin over it on which place some fine air-slacked lime, whip the cloth with a switch; the dust filling the barrel causes the chicks to sneeze and expel the worms. This remedy is not always certain, but by renewed applications, might be the cause of saving the largest portion of the affected chickens.

The third remedy is the removal of the worms by means of a feather or twisted horse hair. In some hands this remedy is fairly successful; in others about three-fourths die under the treatment. It rarely happens that one operation is successful, some of the worms remaining and necessitating another.

Last season I saw camphor mentioned as a cure placing it in the drinking water, the odor from it dislodged the worms and gave relief. It may be successful and is worth a trial.—*A. M. Habsted, in Poultry Bulletin.*

### COMMUNICATIONS.

*Editor of Canadian Poultry Review,*

Sir.—Before the season for holding poultry shows again comes round, I would like through the columns of your paper to suggest to the poultry breeders, and officers of the different societies, the desirability of petitioning the Local Legislature to acknowledge and support our organization, with the view of having a thoroughly Provincial Society established, "instead of so many that put forward a claim to that designation." My impression is that the Legislature would be glad to adapt some such measure, and I feel sure it would be to the interest of all concerned in the poultry business to have the whole Government grant given to one society. This would enable the officers to offer sufficient premiums as would induce the breeders to make a much larger display than heretofore, and would always enable the Society to pay all demands in full at the proper time; this alone would be a great inducement to breeders to bring out their stock for competition, for with few exceptions, I am sorry to say, the exhibitors have not been able to get the prize money to which they were entitled, owing to miscalculations on the part of the Executive Committees and other unforeseen occurrences. These frequent disappointments in not receiving the amounts awarded have caused a feeling of distrust among exhibitors, which would be effectually withdrawn if a society such as I have suggested were formed, and

a good reliable board of officers appointed to manage the affairs. And let the society be on the same footing as the Agriculture, Arts and other Associations receiving aid from the Government. Annual reports would then have to be sent to the department, showing the cost of management, &c; this would be a check against any extravagant expenditure, or misappropriation of the funds. And let the show be held either in one place, or alternately wherever sufficient accommodation could be found for it, and it should be distinctly understood that the Society should not be charged with any expense of coops or building to hold the show in. By adapting these suggestions I feel confident that in future a better feeling will manifest itself throughout the Province, and that the breeders will one and all co-operate in carrying it out successfully. Trusting some one may enlarge upon these few remarks, I remain

Your truly

A FRIEND.

### The Montreal Poultry, Dog, and Pet Stock Society.

It gives us pleasure to chronicle the formation of this society, which took place on May 17th. We are indebted to the Treasurer, Mr. Joseph Tees, for the list of officers:—Mr. Thomas Costen, President; Dr. Andrea's, 1st Vice do.; E. Alloway, 2nd do.; J. Scriver, 3rd do.; Robert K. Lovel, Secretary; Joseph Tees, Treasurer, with the following Executive Committee: Thomas Irwin, Jas. Price, Charles Boon, James M. Farlane, S. Argants Nelson and Wilson.

The officers elect are mostly thorough business men, having the entire confidence of the fraternity, and many of them old and enthusiastic fanciers. We predict for the Montreal Poultry, Dog and Pet Stock Society a prosperous career.

MAMMOTH RUSSIAN SUNFLOWER SEEDS are extensively advertised in poultry papers as food for fowls. The *Poultry Journal* says:—"Beware of the Mammoth Russian Sunflower; it is a mammoth fraud in the general emptiness of the seed husks and this extraneous oiliness." We have no doubt but that, from the great amount of oil the sunflower seeds contain, they will assist in giving gloss to the plumage, but the old kind, so common as to be often treated as weeds, will be found the most suitable for the purpose. Comparison with the Mammoth Russian will convince any one of this.

Permit all your hens, so inclined, sit, and hatch one brood in the year if possible. It is better for the fowls, and you will get just as many eggs from them in twelve months, as if you bothered your brains "to break them up."

# Canadian Poultry Review.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

JAS. FULLERTON,

—AT—

STRATHROY, ONTARIO, CANADA.

TERMS.—\$1.00 per year, payable in advance.

## ADVERTISING RATES.

Advertisements will be inserted at the rate of 10 cents per line each insertion, 1 inch being about ten lines.

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Breeder's Illustrated Directory, larger size, 1 year, \$6, half year \$4; smaller size, 1 year \$5, half year \$3.

All communications must be in our hands by the 6th and advertisements by the 9th to insure insertion in issue of that month.

Address,

JAS. FULLERTON,

Strathroy, Ont., Canada.

## Announcement.

The undersigned having purchased the interest of Mr. Auld in this journal is now sole proprietor. No change will, however, take place, in the management of the REVIEW, nor in the general principles on which it has been conducted. It will be the publisher's aim to make it all that it should be as an advocate of its own specialities, and an aid to the development of the important and growing poultry interest of the Dominion. A continuance of the hearty support already given, (and for which the deepest gratitude is due) will enable the publisher to persevere in his work, to devote his best energies to its prosecution, and to make such improvements as may be called for by its progress, and the measure of patronage bestowed. Contributions we earnestly solicited from experienced fanciers, as on these will greatly depend the interest and success of the REVIEW. Items of poultry intelligence, and even short practical hints, will at all times be welcome. No effort will be spared to make our journal acceptable to its reader, and give full value for their money to all who patronize the enterprise with subscriptions or advertisements.

JAMES FULLERTON.

Good chances will be found in our exchange column

**FLEDGING.**—When the weather is bad and the chicks appear to be suffering much the food may be seasoned with pepper, with the addition of tincture of iron to the water. Warm milk should also be given them to drink.

## About Journalism.

Every profession has its code, and journalism is no exception. It is true, it may be difficult to interpret the ethics of journalism in such a manner as to secure universal recognition; but that there are certain fixed principles is beyond all question. We may not be able to lay down the abstract rules of our profession, with the nicety of a moral dogma, or a scientific deduction; but we can immediately understand and detect the violation of these rules by an erring or unworthy brother. We have not the power to punish such transgressions, as if they were crimes against the laws of our country; but the culprit is clearly amenable for trial by the public opinion of the fraternity, and their contempt and censure are by no means a light punishment. On the other hand the journalist who, in the midst of difficulties, trials and discouragements, and in spite of temptations and opposition nobly fulfills his mission and maintains his integrity, is quite as worthy of honor and distinction as the warrior or the statesman.

Now, while we do not intend to set up an inflexible standard, there are some articles in the unwritten journalistic code to which we would briefly call attention. It will be conceded by all that *journalists should treat each other with the same courtesy and consideration with which gentlemen treat each other in the walks of private life.* Personalities and degrading epithets are a disgrace to the profession. They should also treat their subscribers and patrons with that perfect honesty and fair play which they expect in return. When they have a speciality they should devote themselves to that speciality, and to the utmost of their power give their readers good value for their money. It is manifestly unjust to their advertising patrons to obtain orders on the strength of bogus statements of circulation, and we fear that in this respect there are many transgressors. At the same time there is another evil which we have noticed in two or three of our poultry exchanges. The proprietors are largely interested not only in poultry and pet stock but in many articles connected with their keeping and management. They insert advertisements for fanciers, and at the same time insert their own advertisements; all this we believe to be proper and journalistic. But they go further, and make their own editorial columns, and even their communications and contributed articles a medium for puffing their own stock, and articles. We ask is this respectable journalism according to the recognized code? Is it fair-play to those who patronize their advertising columns? It may be answered that they have a right to adopt this course, if they think proper. The legal right, we admit, but not the sanction of the journalistic

code. Those who pursue such a system need not expect for themselves anything better than the contempt and censure of the profession. We are happy to say that those who adopt this method of securing their own purpose to the detriment of their patrons' interest are very few in number. We are glad to say that nearly all our exchanges are pervaded by the true, manly, journalistic spirit, scorning dishonorable tactics, honestly carrying out their professions, and treating both subscribers, advertisers and contemporaries with fair-play, courtesy, and a spirit of enterprising devotion to the specialities they advocate. We hope the time is not distant, when by the reformation of the erring, all will be entitled to the same praise; and we trust, feebly it may be and far behind, yet with all earnestness and sincerity, to follow in the wake of those who have made journalism a credit to their country, and a blessing and benefit to mankind.

### Hen Houses.

As we have received a number of letters from subscribers asking for our ideas as to the best manner of constructing hen houses, we will give them, hoping that they may contain some hints which may be found of benefit to these about to build. On account of the cheapness of lumber in this country, most of the hen houses will be built of this material, therefore our hints will be confined to this class. As the style of building must be in accordance with its surrounding, we will offer nothing on that subject.

**THE WALLS.**—It is merely waste of lumber making the walls, at the highest part, more than eight feet; when this height little difficulty will be experienced in getting at all parts to whitewash or otherwise clean them; anything over that height will be found only so much more space to keep in order without any benefit whatever. The best foundation is one of brick or stone, but suitable posts, well set into the ground, six feet apart, will do very well. Sills, 4 x 4 scantling; for rest of frame 2 x 4 will be sufficient. Side up with inch boards and batten, nailing firmly on sill, plate and in centre. The inside should also be closely covered with inch boards, and either lathed and plastered or covered throughout with tarred paper; the former will be found most expensive, but will last much longer, and require the least repairs. The roof must be well shingled. Small windows should be made in the gables, as near the roof as possible, for ventilators, and hinged so that they can be opened and closed at will.

**FLOORS.**—Great difference of opinion is entertained by breeders as to what constitutes the best floor for the hen house. Taking all things into consideration, a wooden one will be found best.

It is easily cleaned, and when covered with a few inches of sand, has all the advantages of an earthen floor without its drawbacks.

**PARTITIONS.**—These should be made of lattice, in sections, and movable, so that they can be taken down with ease to be cleaned. Two feet high of the bottoms should be covered with light material to prevent the birds fighting through. The lattice work should be as light as possible.

**ROOSTS.**—2 x 4 scantling dressed, and rounded slightly on the upper side, makes a good roost. Bore  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch holes into the floor joists, and into these set rods the length you wish your roosts to be in height; bore corresponding holes about three quarters through roost pieces and fit on ends of rods. Cross pieces can be welded on the rods, about six inches from the top to sustain a shelf to contain the droppings. This shelf can be bored through so as to fit on rods also. Roosts should never be connected with the walls. To prevent the fowls pushing each other off, pieces of boards may be nailed on the ends of the roosts. The advantages of this plan are, in being easily kept free from vermin, and facility with which the droppings can be removed. Roosts should never be placed very high; 18 inches to two feet for Asiatics, and three feet for the smaller varieties. Place them below the windows and in places free from draughts.

**NESTS.**—All things considered, movable nests will be found best; to keep them in good condition they require to be easy of access; when stationary it is very difficult to keep them free from vermin, especially if used for hatching purposes. Our idea of a good nest was given in a former issue.

**SIZE OF PENS.**—Eight feet square will give good accommodation in winter to a breeding pen of 7 or 8 fowls; in summer, when only used by them as laying and roosting places, a few more may be added, but it is always better not to crowd.

If possible secure a southern aspect for pens and yards. Each pen should have a window; if a single sash, make it to slide, it being more out of the way if so arranged than hinged and less liable to get broken.

In building the hen house, one object should never be lost sight of: all parts should be easy of access to whitewash or otherwise clean. Take precautions against lice now; an ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure, in this case.

Our readers will be pleased to again hear from our old friend Thomas. We hope to be able to serve up his "hash" often, knowing it will be relished by all.

A small quantity of pure bone meal in soft food will assert the development of bone and prevent leg weakness; Asiatics especially will be greatly benefitted by it. Give Douglas' mixture in water also.

## Breeders' Illustrated Directory.

CARDS this size at the extremely low rate of  
**FIVE DOLLARS per Ann.**  
\$3 for six months.

Larger Size, \$6.00 per annum; or, \$4 00 for six months.

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



### PICTON C. BROWN,

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### B. Hamburgs, W. Leghorns,

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### Plymouth Rocks,

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My Stock is all warranted in every sense, and I take great care in boxing for shipment.

EGGS, \$2.00 per 13; \$3.00 for 26.



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### TIME FOWLS!

No other kind kept. Eggs, \$5 per sitting. Stock unexcelled in style and plumage. 4-1



### L. G. JARVIS,

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



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I will spare 12 Sittings at \$5.00 each.  
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