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THE CANADIAN

Poultry Chronicle.

Vol. 1.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1870.

No. 6.

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TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

To such of our subscribers as have not yet forwarded their subscriptions we send in this number a statement of their account. They would oblige us by an early remittance.

PARE OPPORTUNITY FOR obtaining first class poultry. Through the liberality of a few amateurs we are in a position to make the following offer to our friends who will procure subscribers to this journal. For 10 subscribers, one pair of Gold Spangled Hamburgs, or one pair fold Pencilled Hamburgs, or one pair of Dark Brahmas. All of the above are guaranteed to be first class birds in every respect. Address Box 25 P. O., Toronto.

A PEDIGREE-BOOK FOR POUL-TRY.

No doubt some of our readers will smile at the heading of our article. Poultry with a registered pedigree would be a novelty, yet we see no reason why the novelty should not exist; other live stock have their Pedigree-Book, and why not poultry too? Could anything be more reasonable than-when a noted breeder has, after much trouble, attention, and frequently considerable expense, established a new breed of fowls. or a new and distinctive point or colour in any of the already established breeds, or become noted as a prize-taker or breeder of prize-taking fowls-have a register kept, and a record of such for the benefit of purchasers of his stock, which could be transmitted with fowls wherever sent. What an amount of discussion would have been saved, and perhaps knowledge gained, had a record of the origin of the Cochin, the Brahma, the Shanghai, and others of the Asiatic breeds been kept; and the same might be said of all the other varieties of fowls which we now possess. Our best poultry writers admit that all our breeds of domestic fowls are made, and their ancestry traced to but one common origin; and, if such be the case now, what may be said of the future? Will any poultry breeder worthy the name have the hardihood to assert that, with our present and fast-increasing knowledge of the feathered tribe, no new breeds will be produced, no new varieties established? We think not.

Then, as to the establishing new but distinctive points or colours, breeding true to any particular feather or marking not now recognized, or the breeding out of any such where objectionable, are all subjects requiring great care and attention, and a thorough practical knowledge of poultry breeding; and the fancier who succeeds in establishing any of these things is deserving of having it recorded in a substantial and permanent way—and withal one that may subsequently prove remunerative.

We know that in England much attention has already been bestowed on the subject of breeding to particular points and feather, and that many breeders have been eminently successful, chief among whom may be placed Sir John Sebright. Mr. Wright tells us that in the Dark Brahma class there are three distinct shades of colour and markings, having as many different breeders aiming to perpetuate them; and we must bear in mind, too, that it is only recently that the Dark Brahmas were able even to obtain a separate class at exhibitions. Yet such is the favour in which they are now held, that no exhibition is considered complete without them. Why not then have a record kept of such breeders? Again, we have recently heard of the "Brown Cochin" a variety of the Partridge Cochin. Who established this new sub-variety? Let us have it recorded for the benefit of the present and future generations of the Cochin class. Of the Hamburgh class we have at present five recognized varieties, and doubtless more will yet be established, claiming equal merit with their elder brethren; indeed already there are claimants whose pretensions are of no mean sort. Did space permit we might go on enumerating many others which our transatlantic poultry brethren have by care and attention raised to a high degree of merit, the record of which demands a conspicuous place in the history of poultry breeding.

And what shall we say of our cisatlantic brethren? Have they not established new breeds and improved on the old ones? Does not our American climate necessitate a different treatment of poultry to that adopted in Europe, and considerably so when compared with England? And does it not even demand, what we now have, many varieties which are wholly unknown in Europe? With whom did they originate. or by what cross or series of crosses pro-Satisfactory answers to these questions can only be given by having a living record of their breeders, and one on which reliance can be placed.

In a recent number of the Field, Mr. Tegetmeierdrewattention to a new breed of fowls presented to him by a friend in the United States, called "White Leghorns," and in a recent number of this journal a breeder of this class gives an accurate description of them and claims for them a high place among the already established breeds. Who, then, was the originator of "White Leghorns?" Not the gentleman who presented them to Mr. Tegetmeier, as we are not aware that he laid claim to that particular honour. Nor have any of the writers whom we have met with claimed them as his own. If the breed, then, is a good one and deserving of being perpetuated, let it be known how it was produced, and from what kind of stock birds. Of this breed also there are several varieties-what are the distinguishing points? Nor is this the only variety to which special attention may be directed. Are there not at least twenty others to which classes at American exhibitions are awarded, whose names are not even known among poultry breeders in England? Is their origin to remain buried in obscurity as it now apparently is? Surely not.

The advantage, too, of a pedigree-book to prize winners cannot be too highly estimated. In it they would have a sure record kept of their prize-winning birds, which would materially enhance their value, and one too on which purchasers could rely. The eggs and chickens of such fowls then would be eagerly sought after, and purchasers in procuring them would know that they were not being This would prevent imposed upon. much of the disappointment which arises out of the present system of egg and chicken selling, and in many instances bar the door effectually against breeders who sell to ignorant purchasers for pure-bred stock nothing but mongrels.

Let us have a pedigree-book then—one in which all noted breeders will be able to register their stock, or their claim to any new variety they may have originated and established, or to the perfecting of any new point or colour or marking, or the breeding out of any ebjectionable one; and in which, too, prize winners at noted exhibitions may be able to register their birds as such. This is what we want and what we ought to have—who will take the initiative?

CARBOLIC ACID AND POULTRY.

Of the many discoveries which science has given to the present age, no one article has so rapidly grown into favour as Carbolic Acid—a product of the distillation of coal tar for the production of naptha, benzole, &c. Its chemical properties are numerous: it is alike an antiseptic and disinfectant, and, too, whenever and wherever brought into contact with them, is certain death to all kinds It is a poison, but only moderately so to the human system; yet from some peculiarity of its nature, is intensely destructive to insect life. And to this point in connection with poultry and poultry-houses we desire to direct the attention of our readers.

All amateurs and poultry breeders are but too well aware that parasites are the pests of poultry houses, more especially in towns and cities, where poultry are kept within confined limits. Without, as the owner thinks, any real cause, the fowls begin to droop and look sickly, and, after a little, one by one die off! He then becomes alarmed; examines them, and finds them covered with parasites; he looks into his fowl house and examines the cracks and chinks in the boards, and finds them filled with insects, living insects. He is astonished; he cannot account for it; and then the question arises in his mind: "How can I get rid of them?" Scores of times within the last few months has this. question been asked of us, and our answer invariably has been, Use Carbolic

But how to use it is a matter of im-There can be no doubt about portance. its efficacy, but it becomes every one to exercise care in handling it. The Acid is sold by all druggists in its crystalline and liquid form. In crystals, it dissolves in 20 times its weight of water; that is, one ounce of the crystals requires 20 ounces of water to dissolve them. Thus dissolved, it is entirely too strong for any ordinary use. Dr. Emerson gives recipes for preparing this powder for disinfecting and other purposes. white-wash for walls, for protection against insects, bugs, &c. he says: "Put 3 ounces of carbolic acid into quarts of lime water or white-wash" Whitewash the walls of the poultry house well with this wash, and no more living parasites will be seen—their death is inevitable. A weak solution may be made to wash fowls in: one part of the acid to sixty parts of warm water; let it cool, then dip the fowls in it until the feathers become thoroughly wet and the solution reaches all parts of the body. Afterwards place the fowls on clean dry straw, where the sun will reach them until they are dry.

Another form in which it is recommended to use it, is a soap. These soaps are for sale by various manufacturers, and have a high reputation for cleansing animals and the cure of skin diseases. A mode of making this soap is as follows:—Dissolve 8 pounds common bar soap in hot water, add 2 to 4 ounces of carbolic acid, according to the desired strength. Allow to cool as usual in making hard soap. As these preparations may be bought ready prepared, and as carbolic acid is by no means a safe article to keep about the house, we would advise persons to buy rather than attempt to make them, except in the case of whitewash, when they must get the pure article and dilute it.

POULTRY MANAGEMENT IN WINTER.

Now that winter has fairly commenced, a few words on the management and care c fowls during the cold weather may not be undesirable.

All fanciers ought to bear in mind that during this season much of the natural food of fowls is securely bound up by frost or covered with snow. What in other portions of the year fowls with an ordinary run could readily pick up for themselves, must now be supplied.

If the stock is not very numerous, the scraps from the kitchen table may be sufficient for their wants; if not, procure from the butcher a piece of coaise meat, -a bullock's liver,-two or three times a week, and cut it up fine, and give it to them; or in suitable weather pin it securely to the ground with a skewer through the centre, and in the middle of their yard, and remark how greedily they will devour it. Green food also should be supplied, and not sparingly; a head of cabbage, not chopped up fine, but either whole or cut into squares according to the number of fowls in the yard, ought to form a portion of their daily repast.

If eggs be the chief object in keeping fowls, then every morning a slight breakfast of soft food ought to be given, and during very cold weather a stimulant mixed with it. Care must, however, be taken not to supply too much, else the birds may become over fat, and thus defeat the object in view; hard food ought to be given during the remainder of the day; this should consist of grain of different kinds; it is not well to keep poultry continually confined to one kind of grain. If Indian corn is used, it ought to be very sparingly; it is a fattening, not an egg-producing diet. Fresh water ought to be supplied daily, and during severe weather the ice should be frequently broken.

A good plan to keep the ice from fastening to the sides of the vessel, is to grease them well, which prevents it.

No poultry house should be without a covered run, with a glass window in front to admit the sun and light. During severe weather the birds should not be suffered to go out of it, especially if they are of the Hamburgh, or Spanish varieties, or of any of those whose combare likely from their size to become readily susceptible to frost; they are sure to get frozen, and their usefulness as Exhibition birds destroyed.

Their yard should always be kept clear of snow, and in one corner should be a small heap of fine gravel, or broken mortar, or in the absence of both, and perhaps better still, some pounded oys-This is absolutely necessary ter shells. to the formation of shells for the eggs. A few loads of fresh manure from the stable scattered over the yard afford excellent pastime for the fowls during a few hours in the middle of the day. Their keen sharp eyes will detect many tit-bits which will be greedily devoured; besides, it affords them much exercise in their favorite pastime, scratching.

EXPORTING FOWLS TO AMERICA.

We are induced to say a few words to English breeders on the above subject. There seems to be considerable misconception as to how poultry should be forwarded to this country. Some are of the opinion that a special messenger should be sent in charge of the fowls, to feed and tend them on their voyage: and instances of this have come within our knowledge; others seem to think if the coops with the birds are placed on board a vessel bound for Quebec or New York, that is quite sufficient. instance has come to our knowledge, of a breeder who, having received a Post Office order for the price his birds were advertised for, actually returned it to the sender, stating that he was wholly unaware of how fowls could be shipped to America.

Poultry ought always to be forwarded from Liverpool in a mail steam-ship, and, unless otherwise specially ordered, given in charge of the express agent on board, who will feed and tend them on the way, and also supply the food consumed by the birds. The breeder should take a receipt from the agent stating the number of coops of fowls shipped, and birds in each coop, and the person to whom consigned. This receipt should be enclosed to the purchaser, with the seller's letter of advice, and relieves the latter of further responsibility.

In cases where the express charges are not paid in advance, but on delivery, the purchaser would do well to arrange with the Canadian or American express agent for their payment on the arrival of the fowls, before ordering them, and procure from him a letter to the English express agent, guaranteeing payment of all charges. This letter should be enclosed to the seller, with the order for the fowls, and by the latter handed to the English express agent at the railroad station where they are shipped. This

greatly facilitates matters, and in all such cases ought never to be omitted.

We have also a word to say about the coops in which fowls are shipped. They ought not to be unnecessarily large or heavy, neither ought they to be too small. In a recent case we saw 12 birds packed into one coop so closely that they had scarcely room to stand; the resuit was, one bird died on the way, a second the night after its arrival, and the remainder took some weeks to recover the effects of the journey.

It would be to the interest of parties in England who are favored with orders from this country, to be more careful how they forward birds; carelessness in this respect often prevents the repetition of an order.

THE ROUEN DUCK.

Of all the varieties of the duck tribe. the Rouens are the most profitable. They are more lethargic, and consequently more easily fed, than any others. Their eggs are large, and they lay great numbers of them. They should never be less than three ounces in weight, and three-and-half is the usual weight. The colour of the egg is a blue green, the shell being considerably thicker than in the eggs of the Aylesbury breed. The flesh is of the highest possible flavour, and in first-rate specimens is abundant in quantity. Young drakes of only nine or ten weeks old, when killed, weigh twelve pounds the pair, and in some instances even more. They do not consume more food than other varieties. They are as hardy as any of the other kinds, and rarely evince any disposition to wander from the neighborhood of the homestead, and appear to care less for exercise on the water than any other variety.

In colour, the plumage should closely approximate to that of the common wild duck. The eyes, however, are deeply sunk in the head, and these ducks es-

pecially have, even when young, the appearance of old birds, the abdominal protuberance being, as in the Toulouse geese, developed at a very early age. This enlargement of the lower part of the body in over fat specimens causes it to rest upon the ground, not unfrequently to the destruction of the feathers.

As to the origin of the breed, there can be little doubt that it has been bred from the Mallard. The markings found also in the wild species are considered as the criteria of perfection by poultry fanciers and judges in the present day. We give the exact points required in the exhibition pen, as laid down in the "Standard of Excellence."

General Shape and Color-The Drake.

Bill-Long, broad, and rather wider at the tip than at the base; when viewed sideways, nearly straight from the crown of the head to the tip of the bill; the longer the better. Colour, greenish yellow, without any other colour except the black bean at the tip. Head-Long and fine; rich lustrous green. Eye-Dark hazel. Neck-Long, slender, and neatly curved; colour, the same lustrous green as the head, with a distinct white ring on the lower part, not quite meeting at the back. Breast—Broad and deep; the front part very rich purplish brown, or claret colour; free from gray feathers, the claret colour extending as far as possible towards the legs. Back-Long; higher part ashy grey mixed with green, becoming a rich, lustrous green on the lower part and rump. Shoulder Cocerts-Grev, finely streaked with waving brown lines. Wings-Greyish brown, mixed with green, with a broad ribbon mark of rich purple, with metallic reflections of blue and green, and edged with white; the two colours quite distinct. Flight Feathers ---Dark, dusky brown, quite free from white. Underpart of Body and Sides—Beautiful grey, becoming lighter grey near the vent, and ending in solid black under the tail. Tail—Feathers hard and stiff; dark ashy brown, the outer web in old birds edged with white. Tail Corerts-Curled feathers,

hard and well curled; black, with very rich purple reflections, Legs and Feet—Orange, with a tinge of brown.

The Duck.

Bill-Broad, long, and somewhat flat: brownish orange, with a dark blotch on the upper part. Head-Long and fine; deep brown, with two light pale brown stripes on each side from the bill past the eye. Neck-Long, slender, and neatly curved : light brown, pencilled with darker brown, and quite free from the least appearance of Breast, Underpart of Body, a white ring. and Sides-Greyish brown, each feather marked distinctly with a rich, dark brown pencilling. Back-Long; light brown, richly marked with green. Wings-Greyish brown, mixed with green, with a broad ribbon mark of rich purple edged with white, the two colours distinct. Feathers-Brown, perfectly free from white. Tail Coverts-Brown; beautifully pencilled with broad, distinct pencilling of dark greenish brown. Tail-Light brown, with distinct broad, wavy pencilling of dark greenish brown. Legs-Orange, or brown and orange.

Points in Rouen Ducks.

Shape and colour of bill, 3. Size, 4. Colour of plumage, 3. Symmetry, 3. Condition, 2. Total, 15.

Disqualifications.

Bills, clear yellow, dark green, blue or lead colour; any white in the flight feathers of cither sex; birds so fat as to be down behind.

The foregoing description is so full and accurate, that no breeder, after a careful reading of it, but will be able to choose out the properly marked birds from his flock, either for exhibition or breeding purposes. The drake should be of a commanding appearance, and nothing can exceed his beauty when possessing the above colours in perfection. We trust to see this variety of duck bred much more extensively in Canada than at present. The cost of feeding is no greater than that of other ducks, and the return received, both in eggs and flesh, far exceeds that of the common duck we so frequently meet with.

POULTRY IMPORTATIONS.

It is gratifying to observe the increased desire daily springing up among fanciers for a better description of fowls for breeding purposes than those which we now possess, and that it is not confined to a few amateurs, but gradually extending over the country. We have, of course, now to look to England for stock birds for this purpose, and no doubt will have to do so for some time to come; it is, therefore, a source of much satisfaction to find we have among us breeders who view the matter from this stand-point, and are determined to import the best specimens obtainable for this purpose. Since our last issue we note several other importations, among which may be mentioned that of Mr. John Forsyth, of fifteen Dark Brahmas, eighteen Buff and Partridge Cochins, and five Rouen Ducks, all of which are excellent specimens; Mr. Howard, a further importation of twelve Buff Cochins; and Mr. Phillips also imported several birds. Several orders sent are yet unfilled.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HINTS TO POULTRY AMATEURS.

Sir,—I have quite a number of friends who have become somewhat interested in Poultry, so much so as to desire to keep some, and to whom a few hints from one who has gone through the mill and gained a little experience at some expense and loss of time and patience, may not be altogether useless.

The first thing for a young beginner to do is to decide on the varieties to keep. I should advise not more than two breeds, as I believe that the fewer the varieties kept, the greater degree of excellency is the more likely to be attained. The sorts I should recommend would be Brahmas, Dark or Light, as they lay well in the winter, make good mothers, and no trouble in raising their chicks; the other should be either of the varieties of the Hamburghs, as non-sitters and great egg-producers. The eggs of the latter could be hatched under the Brahmas.

One word to him in making his selections; get the best cock of one strain. and hens of another. Having made his selection, the next thing is to provide a suitable place for them during winter The house should not be and summer. too large, say four feet square for each variety; if opening on to a covered shed with a glass front facing the south to protect from winter storms, so much the better. I would not recommend artificial heat; give them straw to nestle down in and keep their feet warm, with ashes or sand and gravel to bask in. The perches should all be of the same height, say three feet from the ground, and not too narrow, as that often causes malformation of the breast. The Brahmas do not require any perches, give them straw to sleep in, taking care to shake it up well every morning and renew it when foul. Nest boxes might be placed in such a position as to insure their being free from droppings as the hens having to pass over it get their feet dirtied and foul their nest and eggs. The house should be well lighted and ventilated and free from drafts; this is a very important point.

Poultry, if properly fed, can be kept in a small space, and however small the fancier's yard may be, it need not deter him from keeping a few favorites. he has a small grass plot, so much the better. If his run is confined, I would recommend giving a little animal food ofice a week-once in the day, say the morning, they should be fed with a mixture of commeal, barleymeal, shorts or middlings, well scalded, and in very cold weather put a littleginger or ground pepper with it as a stimulant. The evening meal should be either corn, wheat, buckwheat or barley. I find my birds prefer the three first. They should have fresh water once a day. A lump of camphor occasionally in the water will not do any harm. I think if amateurs will follow out the above

hints, it will insure them not only fresh eggs most of the year, but they may expect to have some fine birds to astonish their less fortunate neighbours with.

If you think the above will be of any value to any of your readers, you are welcome to it, as I am anxious to see the fancy increase and the Chronicle circulate, which, I believe, is the means of doing a great deal of good, and is just what is wanted as a medium of communication between poultry fanciers.

An Old Amateur and Breeder. November 15th, 1870.

INSECTIVOROUS BIRDS-INSECT FOOD FOR POULTRY.

SIR,—In connection with you journal, I wish to raise a discussion upon the best means to be adopted for destruction of certain descriptions of insect life, injurious to vegetation, and for utilizing other varieties of insects, so as to convert a present waste into a source of wealth.

Our fruit trees are subject to a variety of enemies, of which many of them form the food of birds. To meet this difficulty I have commenced a series of experiments, by the importation of European birds. For instance, the common house sparrow is now acclimatized at Quebec, and I hope to derive much assistance from him in my orchard, which he will frequent at a season of the year when our insect enemies are at great disadvantage, and when his services will be superior to most of our orchard hands.

I also find there are certain varieties of domestic poultry invaluable as destroyers of grasshoppers, crickets, etc., such as the Guinea Fowl, the Aylesbury Duck, the Dorking; the two former may be allowed the run of the garden, and appear to me to be almost a necessity in a crop of vegetables.

I noticed this summer, when my cattle took refuge from the flies in the pond, the ducks immediately got a good feed of flies by hunting about amongst their legs, actually defending the udder from all attacks. This mutual arrangement was constantly renewed, and evidently of a nature beneficial to me.

The common House-fly, of which we have many varieties, is a wonderful breeder. He can be made to produce an enormous quantity of chick-food of the best description, and as he is being turned to good account in Germany, why should we not discuss him here?

The following receipt has been given me, viz.:-Make nine holes or pits, eight by four, and three deep. The holes to be tight, built either of brick or wood. On bottom place in layers, one inch of barley straw, ditto then chicken, pig, pigeon or other dung, one inch and a half of brewers' grains, one inch of bog earth, and so continue until the receiver is full. In this compost the flies will lay their eggs, and in nine days the maggets are fit for use. The verminere has to be kept sheltered. Feed three times a day. This kind of food may be prepared for winter use, as the maggots will turn into crysalids, when they will keep as good as wheat. above receipt is calculated to feed about three thousand chickens.

Pheasants, in fact any kind of bird flesh can be reared, and is reared in the Pheasantries of Europe, and I see no reason why we should not be able to succeed at least as well in this climate.

From the above, you will perceive my ideas run upon the practical and the useful. The fashion in the dress of our domestic birds keeps changing, and exposes us to so much trouble and expense in buying new breeds of poultry, that a farmer has little desire to become an amateur. But show the farmer that he can produce meat out of insects, which will sell at the price of the best beef, and he must listen to you, especially when you add that their manure is equal to guano. The points for discussion I want to raise are:—

1st. Can we not destroy large quantities of insect life by birds?

2nd. Can we not create insect food for pushing growth in our young poultry?

3rd. What are the varieties of domestie or wild birds, the best to meet the attacks of certain insects?

SILLERY.

Quebec, 1st November, 1870.

EXHIBITION PENS.

SIR,—In your October number, received to-day, you mention my name in connection with exhibition pens, which, I perceive, are those originally prepared for the (Ontario Poultry) Society. I think those designed by me just before I left Toronto are preferable, although the principle is the same. The last, when constructed, vary a little, but on the whole they will be found more economical and useful to societies.

F. C. HASSARD. Curragh Camp, Kildare, Ireland, \\
12th October, 1870.

POULTRY SOCIETIES.

Connecticut State Poultry So-CIETY.—The second annual exhibition. under the auspices of the above society, was held on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd November, at Hartford, and was largely attended. The display of poultry and pigeons was exceedingly good, and did not fail to attract the attention of the amateur and fancier. The game class was well represented, the President of the so_ ciety, S. J. Bestor, Esq., carrying off a lion's share of the prizes; in other classes also he was very successful. In the Dark Brahma class, Mr. Geo. E. Cleeton took first prize, and for his exhibition coop was awarded similar Amongst the names of the exhibitors and prize-takers we recognize the names of many well-known fanciers from other states, thus showing that the interest in the exhibition was of a general character.

The opening address was delivered by Ex-Governor Marshal Jewell, from which we make the following extract: "I have been surprised, as a member of the State Board of Agriculture, to find how little attention has been paid in Connecticut to poultry raising, as shown in our fairs, although almost every other branch of stock raising has received careful attention and skilful experiments, till we have settled down to the best breeds. The amount of poultry consumed in this state is enormous. Most of it has come from the west, and it will be much better if we can produce it here; and, as the raising of poultry is not only a profitable but an agreeable enterprise, I trust there will be a constantly growing interest in it. Good poultry pleases the eye and tickles the palate at the same time; and, as handsome fowls are attractive to look upon, the business of raising them appeals largely to the taste."

These remarks would equally apply to the members of the Board of our Provincial Agricultural Association, and might be studied by them with profit.

NORTHERN NEW YORK POUL-TRY ASSOCIATION.

An association under the above name has just been formed at Plattsburgh, N. Y., adopted a Constitution, By-Laws and Exhibition Rules, and elected the following Officers:—

President, B. M. Beckwith; Vice-Presidents, S. W. Gregory, Benj. Tilley, Anthony B. Ross, W. A. Hawks, D. B. Ballard, H. M. Harris; Executive Committee, Henry C. Sandburn, Henry P. Gregory, John R. Trudo; Secretary and Treasurer, Robert Bailey.

The Secretary states that "it is the intention of the Association to hold a Fair at this place (Plattsburgh) in January next; and in order to make it a success and firmly establish the society, it is necessary to interest all breeders of Poultry in the enterprise;" and solicits the co-operation and interest of all fanciers in furtherance of this object. We wish our Plattsburgh brethren every prosperity, and trust their intended Exhibition will in every way be a success.

DELAWARE STATE POULTRY SOCIETY.

The love of the feathered tribe is fast increasing. Another society under the above name has just been formed at The Wilmington. Secretary says: "Knowing your desire to become acquainted with any item of interest connected with poultry, I write to inform you that we have established a Poultry Society in this State, under the name of the "Delaware State Poultry Society," and are making arrangements to hold an Exhibition in this city (Wilmington) from 10th to 14th January, 1871. Our circulars, pamphlets, premium lists, &c. will be issued in due time. The following are the names of our officers:

President, W. H. Churchman; Vice-President, R. M. Griffith; Treasurer, N. R. Benson; Recording Secretary, W. D. Bush; Corresponding Secretary, A. R. Tatnall; Executive Committee, S. D. Jennison, Thos. Mayne, H. Morrison, J. Bowers, and the officers of the Society." He further adds that they have every hope of the success of their Society.

We are glad to hear this, and we see no reason why the State of Delaware should not have a highly successful society.

PRACTICAL HINTS.

Tonic for Poultry. - The Journal d'Agriculture Pratique contains the following prescription, recommended by Mr. Mills, an apothecary of considerable note in Bourges, France, as an invaluable tonic for debilitated birds, especially in the mortality which is apt to prevail among young turkeys when "shooting the red." says: "Take Cassia bark in fine powder, three parts; ginger, ten parts; gentian, one part; anise seed, one part; carbonate of iron, five parts. Mix thoroughly by sifting. A teaspoonful of the powder should be mingled with the dough, for twenty turkeys, each morning and evening. It is of the greatest importance to begin the treatment a fortnight before the appearance of the red, and to continue it two or three weeks after."

CHANGE IN COLOUR OF FOWLS.—In the Sporting Manazine for 1870 is an illustra-

tion from a painting by Ward, of a Game Cock, the property of Thomas Crook, Esq., of Lytherton, near Chippenham (England), which changed its colour from blackbreasted red to white, commencing in his third or fourth year, and continuing to do so every year.

MEAT Biscuits FOR POULTRY.—A writer says, meat biscuits broken small and mixed with sand or fine gravel, and for the laying stock some old mortar added, suit my poultry; a handful mixed with the pollard or other soft food, is a useful corrective condiment, doubly so on clay soil.

HEN ASSUMING THE COCK'S PLUMAGE.—I have now in my possession a game bantam which is to all appearance, as respects plumage, a cock, but which I know to be a hen. She is now over six years old, and until about a year ago (her last moult) she laid eggs, and had up to that time the ordinary plumage of a game bantam hen. Is this an unprecedented case? She does not crow.—W. P. L. [Numerous instances are on record of barren hens assuming the plumage of the cock.—Ed. Field Newspaper.

Theatment of a Wen on a Pigeon,— A Fancier asks in the *Field* if any pigeon fancier can give a remedy for the cure of a wen over the thigh of a pigeon, and states he has a very valuable bird in that state. The answer is, that there is no cure except the skilful removal of the wen by operation.

DISEASE AMONG GEESE IN SURREY (England) .- A fatal disease has broken out among the flocks of geese around Mitcham, Carshalton, and districts, and many of the geese-breeders and poultry-higglers are heavy losers from the epidemic. was at first conjectured that the geese had caten some poisonous insect which destroyed them; but as the young geese died off in various quarters, it was ascertained that disease broke out among them simultancously, and several whole lags of earlyhatched goslings have fallen a prey to this poultry disease. Many geese breeders, who had lags ready to go into the corn stubbles for fatting, have sustained serious losses by this species of rinderpest.

VALUE OF FANCY POULTRY.—Mr. L. Wright, in the Journal of Horticulture, says, "Many still speak of the poultry fancy as a mere hobby, while in point of fact it has become a very serious business. Carried on by many of the highest, fairest, and most honorable in the land; and the mere amount of money invested in it, if cal-ulated, would make every reader of this journal stare."

SELECTING EGGS TO PRODUCE COCK OR HEN CHICKENS .- The following is from the same journal: "We have tried the egg question by ourselves, and with the 'learned' in such matter. We always failed. said the great success of 'Francis' Moore, Physician, with his 'Vox Stellarum,' or 'Loyal Almanack,' arose from the fact that when once he was walking up and down the room in a brown study, and his clerks were compiling the almanack for the following year, the subordinate who had charge of the month of June, asked him every time he passed, 'Weather, sir, for the 3rd of June?' Francis Moore bore it as long as he could. He showed his temper. It took no effect; and as he passed the desk, he heard for the two hundred and eighty-first time: 'Weather, sir, for the 3rd of June?" We object to print the first part of the speech, but the end was, ' --- you, sir, frost and snow.' It did freeze, and there was snow on that day. He was a made man. A chance made him; and the same may be said of the fortunate person who warranted thirteen eggs to produce twelve pullets and a Fortune favours the bold. him to try again. A friend of ours, by no means distinguished as a shot, went as an amateur to a rifle corps target, and on being asked to take a shot, made a careless bull's eve at 600 yards. He was wise. He merely remarked it was an easy range, and went away. We know a man who deals in eggs in the season. He told us he received a postage stamp for five shillings, and a request that he would forward eggs warranted to produce a cock and three hens, common pheasants.

POUTER PIGEONS.

We abstract the following remarks on the Pouter Pigeon, from the letter of "Carrier," in the Field newspaper. To breed high class pigeons good requires considerable experience, to be gained by time and attention alone. There is no royal road to this knowledge. The amateur must bring his own reasoning to bear, and note patiently the differences in birds he meets with, and the young ones they throw. By this means he will learn what birds to match together to produce a required result, and what kinds of the same breed to avoid matching together.

The legs of a Pouter Pigeon should be as long as they can be bred with. Seven inches is a great length; not one bird in a hundred of the whole of the pouters living measure it, nor one in a thousand 71 inches, if properly mea-The right way to measure is this: Take a narrow tape measure, previously ascertained to be correct; lay it on the leg of the bird, and place the edge of a knife on the measure, fairly in the centre of the top joint of the bird's thigh, not the body joint; straighten the leg, and press the knife down to hold the measure tight. Measure from the edge of the knife to the extremity of the toe nail of the centre toe. The measure must not be pressed down on to the leg so as to follow its shape, but pulled straight out. There is no fixed standard of length for a good pouter cock. Twenty inches is a good length, above the average; but many exceed it. A longer pigeon would always have the point given in its favour in competition.

The writer then further quotes from an article from the Birmingham Columbarian Society on the points of pouter pigeons, as follows: "Blue pouters should be of a clean bright colour, a "Blue pouters shade darker upon the head, neck, and tail and elswhere; the sides of the wings, breast, and back should be blue, descending from the neck, and terminating in a distinct blue from thigh to thigh; the wing coverts, as in nearly all blue pigeons, should be crossed with two black bars. There is also a black band nearly at the edge of the tail. On the sides of the wings, and near to the shoulder, should be a few white feathers; these are called the rose, and when good and distinct are a great set

off to a pouter. An important feature also in the markings of a pouter is a clear white and well defined crescent on the front of the crop or globe." He then remarks, "No mortal man but a pigeon fancier, who knew what the points of a blue pouter should be, could make head or tail of such gibberish as this; and he would see immediately that three of the points in the markings of a blue pouter were omitted, viz., that the bird should have the ten flight feathers of each wing, or as it is termed, 'white flighted with ten on a side,' and should be 'clean rumped,' that is, supposing a string was passed round the body of the bird just above the thighs, and another one below it at the junction of the tail with the body, every feather between these two strings, and all the feathers on the legs to the tips of the toes, should be white; and the junction of the white and blue feathers at the strings should be as even and regular as the line of the string itself."

But absurd as this must appear to those who know better, it is capped by the following, wherein they say, "yellows, reds, and blacks, with their respective colours, should be marked in a similar manner as blues." When I read this I exclaimed with Dominic Sampson: "Pro-digious!" So we are to have, I suppose, black pouters with bars, and yellow and red pouters with self-coloured (that is, yellow and red) tails! No wonder that the great bulk of the pouters have degenerated into the badly marked, mongrel wretches seen in such numbers, if such loose notions of what they should be are disseminated.

I defy any man living, "Carrier" goes on to say, to point out to me how the points of plumage of any English pigeon can be improved and made to look more beautiful by any change from the present well known standards; more especially pouters, which are one of the most truly marked varieties, and when so are faultless. Size in this bird, which is made so much of at present, is absolutely a point to show off another plamage, and of course, when most perfeetly doing this, is fulfilling its proper duty; yet now the major is made subservient to the minor point. Given large size, fine shape, and true plumage marking in a pouter, and what can beat it? But all are essentials to make up perfection, and no one should be sacrificed to another.

THE SETTER DOG.

Like the Pointer, the head of the Setter should be broad at the top between the eyes; the muzzle, though, must be longer and more tapering, and not over thick. Towards the eyes he must have a deepish indenture, and on the top of his skull a highish bony ridge. His ears should be long, pendulous, and slightly rounded; the eyes rather dark and full; his nose moist and large. Some breeds and breeders affect black noses and palates. Body like the Pointer, only deeper and broader, if anything; feet small, close, and thickly clothed with hair between the toes, ball and toe tufts they are termed; tail long, fine and tapering, thickly feathered with long, soft, wavy hair; stern and legs down to the feet also feathered. His body and feet also should be clothed with long, soft, silky hair, wavy but no curl in it. This last smells badly of water spaniel. Colours. black and white, red and white, black These last are considered the and tan. finest bred ones. Roan also is good. The Irish Setter is red, red and white, white and yellow spotted. The nose, lips and palate always black. He is also rather more bony and muscular than the English breed, and ten times as headstrong and enduring. He requires constant and severe work, under most rigid discipline, to keep in anything like decent subjection.

The Russian Setter is as distinct from either of the above varieties as bulldog from greyhound. It is covered more profusely with long, thick, curly, soft and silky hair, well on to the top of the head and over the eyes. He is also more bony and muscular, with a much shorter and broader head. What he wants in dash and ranging propensities he makes up for in inward assiduity, extreme carefulness, and extraordinary scenting powers. The cross between this and either of the other setters is much valued by some breeders.

SPANIELS.

Of Spaniels there are several varieties, but of these the Suffolk Cocker is the only one deserving a notice. All the others are too noisy, too heedless, and too quick on their legs. It is almost impossible to keep any one of them steady, and, therefore, in this country, at least, they are totally useless, since you would not see them from the beginning to the end of the day. Yaff! yaff!

half a mile off, all the time putting up the birds, and you unable to stop them. The Suffolk Cocker, on the contrary, is extremely doelle, can be easily broken and kept in order. They are extremely valuable: a brace of pure bred and well broken ones bring in England a high price.

SPANIEL AND COCKER.

in appearance, these dogs are much like a raseed setter. The head and muzzle is much the same length and size; ears rather more rounded, but not so long; body deep, broad and long; hair long and stiffish; legs and feet remarkably short, amounting almost to a deformity, and extraordinarily strong; tail short and bushy; it is usually curtailed a couple of joints. The purest colors are liver and white, fawn and white, and vellow and white. These dogs are slow and sure, remarkably close hunters, and obedient; just the things for cock-shooting here. much cannot be said in their favor. They are also taught to retrieve.

POULTRY EXHIBITIONS.

WEST RIDING OF YORK AND VAUGHAN TOWNSHIP SOCIETIES EXHIBITION.

POULTRY.

The annual exhibition was held at the T washipof Burwick on Tuesday, the 10th, and Wednesday, the 11th of October, and was largely attended.

Spanish—1st, John Jackson; 2nd, Sam. Lines.

DORKINGS—1st, M. Garnett; 2nd, do. POLANDS—1st, John Jackson; 2nd J. Featherstone.

GAME—1st, J. Featherstone; 2nd, Sam. Wood.

Brahmas—1st, John Jackson; 2nd, J. Featherstone.

BEST LOT OF POULTRY IN ONE PEN OWNED BY EXHIBITOR-M. Garrett.

TURKEYS-1st, George Weldrick; 2nd, M. Garrett.

AYLESBURY DUCKS-1st, S. Wood; 2nd, S. Wadsworth.

Common Ducks—1st, John Jackson; 2nd, Sam Lines.

GEESE-1st, John Jackson; 2nd, do.

FITZROY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society held its annual show on the 4th of October, 1870, at the Township Hall.

There was a large attendance, notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather. A coop of Golden Polands, Brahma Pootra and Spanish Fowls were exhibited by J. Elliott, Esq., and were much and deservedly admired.

THE ANNUAL FAIR of the East Riding of York and the Markham Agricultural Societies was held at Markham on the 13th and 14th of October, and was in every way a marked success. There were over 10,000 people present on Friday. The following is the Poultry

PRIZE LIST:

Gensel + 1st, Wm. Forfar; 2nd, -- Lehman.

TURKEYS.—1st, Wm. Hutchinson; 2nd, Joseph Stotts.

DUCKS—Aylesbury.—1st, 2nd and 3rd, J. P. Wheeler.—Any breed.—1st, Wm. Forfar; 2nd, John Millar.

DORKINGS.—1st. John Milroy; 2nd, Joseph Stotts.

SPANISH.—1st, James D. Stotts; 2nd, David Crosby.

Polands.—1st, John Sanderson; 2nd, Jos. Break.

GAME.—1st, John Webber; 2nd, M. Hemmingway.

Hamnurghs.—1st, John Sanderson; 2nd, George Weldrick.

BEST PEN OF POULTRY.—Geo. Weldrick.

EXTRA PRIZE.—Guinea Fowl.—1st, J. D. Stotts; 2nd, J. Behman.

JUDGES.—Jno. Mills, Wm. Rolph and K. Beelby.

THE ANNUAL FALL SHOW of the Township of Etobicoke Agricultural Society was held on the 20th October, at the village of Islington. In poultry there was a large number of entries, and the display of fowls, geese and ducks was a very good one.

PRIZE LIST:

GEESE.—1st, John Jackson, Chinguacousey; 2nd, John Moore, Islington.

DUCKS.—1st, Geo. White, Etobicoke; 2nd, John Jackson, Chinguacousey.

FOWLS, ANY VARIETY.—John Jackson, Chinguacousey; 2nd, John Moore, Islington.

TURKEYS.—1st, John Moore, Islington; 2nd, Thos. Smith, Islington.

OUR LETTER BOX.

CARBOLIC ACID. - (Cleveland Correspondent) writes:-"I use carbolic acid, say about one drachm (troy weight) of the erystals, dissolved in alcohol. Add this to a pail of water, and if your fowls are rery bad, dip them in it; if not, syringe this water all over the house and in the yard. on the perches and on the boxes. Wherever it touches a "parasite" it kills him. dipping the fowl, care should be used not to let it get into the eyes or mouth, and the bird should be placed where it can dry without taking cold. The remedy is harmless to the fowl, but certain death to insects."

INSECT VERMIN-GRASSHOPPERS.-(A Subscriber) says: "About 200 head of poultry keep my farm clear of insect vermin; in summer they nearly feed themselves, and in winter they lay enough eggs to pay for their food. I have heard great complaints this summer about the ravages of grasshoppers. I think Guinea fowls and Aylesbury ducks an effectual cure."

MAL-FORMED Eggs.—(E. W.S.) says: "I keep Brahmas and Cochins in a medium sized yard, which sometimes lay singular eggs. Occasionally a Brahma will lay a very large egg or two, and then a small one, which, when broken, contains nothing but yolk. Lately one of the Cochins laid three or four eggs, having a hole at the large end, out of which protruded part of the inner skin, about one inch long, but which soon dried up and disappeared. There is no want of lime in the run, besides they have a small heap of gravel in the corner of the yard. Will you kindly tell me the reason and what I must do to stop it? (Disease of the egg organs is without doubt the sole cause. We have known of large fowls, such as our correspondent mentions. being similarly affected. The only cure we know of is change of food and feed sparingly for some time. Overfeeding tends to produce the disease. If the fowls were allowed a good grass run it would greatly benefit them.-ED.)

AYLESBURY DUCKS' BILLS .- (X. Y.Z.) The colour of the bills of the Aylesbury Ducks at the late Provincial Exhibition

was not perfect in any case. Some of them were quite yellow. It is quite true that in some localities the water has a greater effect on their bills than in others. For instance, water which runs off black muck or peat, water in stagnant pends which receive stable or yard manure, and dirty water of every kind, are injurious to the colour of the bills. Nothing is so good as a clear running stream. Access to meadows or grass lands at daybreak when the grass is covered with cold dew or white frost, and the mixture of small pebbles or stones with the only water they have (where it is supplied artificially), are all beneficial to the colour. Gravel stones are very bad to mix with water.

Worms in Dogs,-(C. King, Jr.) We make the following extract from the Sportsman's Vade Meeum. B. Cowhage, half a drachm; tin filings, very fine, four drachms. Make into four or six ounce balls, according to size of dog. One daily, and a few hours afterwards a purge of salts or aloes. Powdered glass, as much as will lie on a quarter dollar, in lard. Repeat once or twice, alternate days. Finish off without or two drachms socotrine aloes, rolled up in tissue paper. Mind, the glass must be ground into the finest of powder, else it will injure the coats of the stomach.

Advertisements.

MPORTANT SALE OF POUL-TRY .- The undersigned having determined

1 TRY.—The undersigned having determined on giving up poultry-breeding, offers for Sale the following excellent stock:—
Game, Black-breasted Red, Light Brahmas, Dark Brahmas, Grey Dorkings, Golden Polands, White Polands, Black Polands, Black Polands, Silver Peauds, White Cochins, Buff Cochins, Golden Hamburghs, Silver Hamburghs, Black Hamburghs Crève Cœurs, Silver Pheasants, Chinese Geese, Temen Geese, Toulouse Geese, Large English Geese, Aylesbury Ducks, Rouen Ducks, Bronze-Turkeys and Lop-Eared Rabbits.

A rare opportunity is now offered to parties de-

A rare opportunity is now offered to parties desirous of procuring fresh blood for their yards, or

establishing new ones.

The specimens for sale are all of the choicest and best kinds. JOSEPH LAMB, London, Ontario. London, 1st December, 1870.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE, a few Houdan, Light Brahma, and Grey Dorking Cockerells, fine and full bred birds. WM, H. DOEL.

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m every department to the practical wants of the Farmer and his Family. In Extent of Correspondence - in Practical Suggestions-in Agricultural News-it is believed to gestions—a Agricultural seems—it is beneved to be without an equal, and it should be placed in the hands of every farmer, fruit-grower and breeder in the country. For them, as well as for their wives and children, the interest and value of its contents

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Annex, previous to the conson 1870, will receive the paper weekly, from receipt of remittance to January 188, 1871, without charge.

Any person wishing to try the paper before subscribing will be supplied with copies regularly from date of application to Jan 181, 1871, for the nominal price of 25 cents. Single numbers, as

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FOR SALE.

A few pairs of pure White-legged "Earl Derby" Game Fowls, second to none in the United States in purity, uniformity of marking, or GAMENESS.

Also, a few Black-breasted Red Games from a choice strain.

Single Cocks for breeding or for the pit, at reasonable prices.

C. P. WILLARD.

Box 1016.

Elmira, N. Y.

FOR SALE, VERY LOW, ONE pair Buff Cochins, one Buff Cock, one year old; one pair Partridge Cochins, three Partridge Cockerels, one pair Dark Brahmas, three Light Brahma Cockerels with pea combs, two pair Black Spanish, one pair Golden Polands, one pair Grey Dorkings. Nearly all of the above named fowls are from imported birds.

Address H. M. THOMAS, Brooklin, Ont.

TIME NEW GUIDE, READY

January 1871, on Poultry, Pigeons, and Rab-bits, naming standard points of excellence in every variety and sub-variety, together with practical hints as to their management in health or disease, whether for exhibition or domestic pur-poses, and other information, making it the most psics, and one ise work ever published at any price. Price, including free postage, 16 cents. To be had of the author, flavid P. Gooding, "The Pouliry Agency," Colchester, England.

M.R. W. F. ENTWISLE, WEST-few years one of the largest and most successful breeders and exhibitors of Game Bandams, can sayply from his own yards first class. Hens of Black breasted Red, Brown-breasted Red, Duckwing, and Pile Game Bantams, at \$25 the pen of Cockerel and two pullets, delivered to Express Co, in Liver-

As W. F. E. personally superintends the selec-tion and despatch of all his birds, he can ensure satisfaction to all purchasers.

IENRY TOMLINSON'S BUFF COCHINShave been awarded Prizes amounting to over £300 and numerous valuable Silver Cups at all the great shows in England. H. T. does not now exhibit; but birds sold from this yard have won many prizes and Silver Cups the last few months. A very line lot of this year's chickens now ready to send out in well matched pens, very large, perfectly clear, delicate Buff, superior quality, now fit to show and win anywhere. Old birds of great merit. A few grand show birds.

A few Partridge and White Cochins, old or young

superb birds. rb birds. Prices on application, HENRY TOMLINSON,

Mosely, Birmingham, England.

LAME BANTAMS READY FOR TRANSPORT.—Mr. Frank Steel, Stump Cross, Halifax, Yorkshire, England, Winner of Prizes at all the leading shows in the County, besides numerous silver cups and pieces of plate has now for sale about one hundred birds of this year's hatching, of the following varieties: Black and Brown Red Duckwing, and Pile Game, at 30s. a pen, consisting of a cock and two hens. Also, a few large game birds of all varieties, at 2s each bird.

F. S. begs to say that as a breeder he is well known, having supplied birds to funciers in every part of England.

N. B .- A rare opportunity is now offered to American fanciers to procure first-class poultry,

A EO. E. RICE, DEALER IN All kinds of Foreign and Domestic Birds, Fowls, Pigeons, Dogs, &c., Singing Canaries, Mock-ing Birds, Thrushes, Parrots, and Cardinals; also, Canadas Repress and Mon-Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Squirrels, Ferrets and Mon-keys, Gold Fish, Seed Cages, Fish Globes, and Tanks. FANCY FOWIS always on hand. 52 Court Tanks. FANCY FOWLS always on hand, 52 Street, Boston, Mass. (Scollard's Buildings).

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OLIVER QUIBELL'S choice Hondans and Crève Cœur, winners Y • choice Houdans and Crève Cour, winners of the principal prizes in French Classes at the loding English shows. He has superior poultry always for sale. W. OLIVER QUIBELL, Newark. Notts, England.

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Sale, a few pairs or trios, pure bred, Dark mahs, Patridge Cochin, and Buff Cochin fowls, Bramans, Patridge Cochin, and Buff Cochin fowis, imported this fall from one of the best breeders in l. Also, a few fine Light Brahma cocks, J. FORSYTH, Box 1135, Toronto P. O. England.

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FRICAN GEESE (COLORED). Wanted, in the fall, a trio of African Geese; must be large, and show the distinctive markings of their variety. Apply to Thos. McLean, Box 25, P. O., Toronto.

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Apply to Thomas McLean, Box 25 P.O., Toronto.

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