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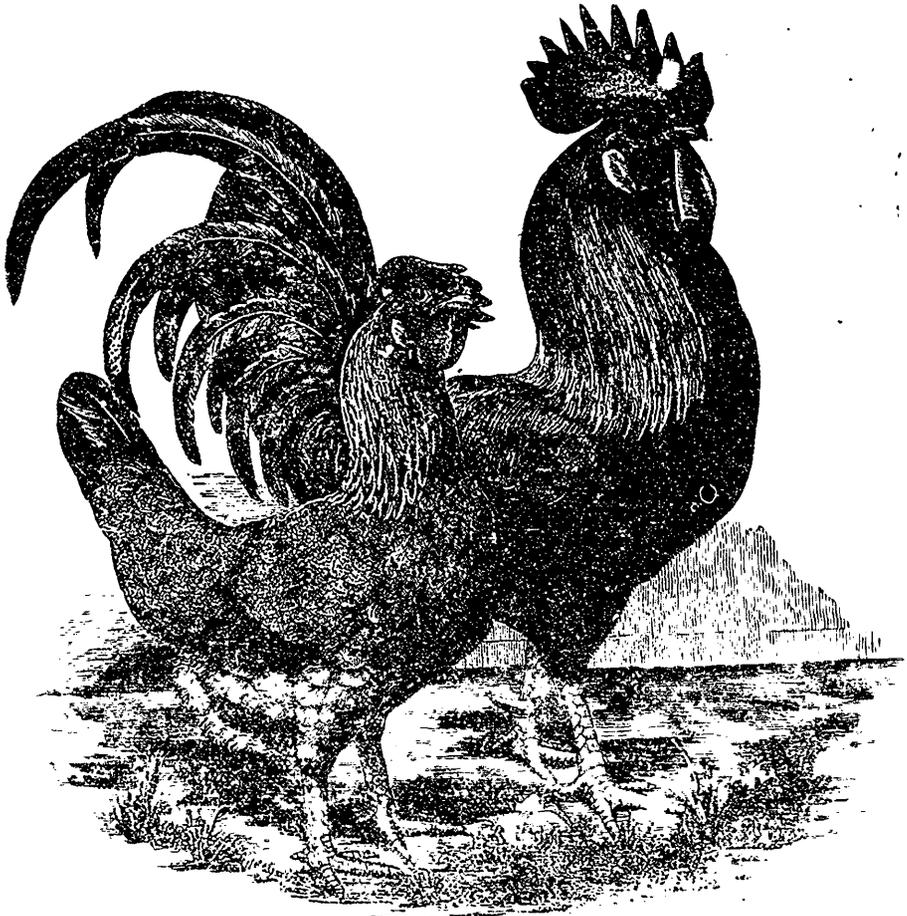
Canadian Poultry Review.

DEVOTED TO POULTRY AND PET STOCK.

Vol. I.

STRATHROY, ONTARIO, JANUARY, 1878.

No. 2.



BROWN LEGHORNS.

It is only within the last few years that Brown Leghorns have found a place at our poultry exhibitions, but they are now generally on hand in force, and of good quality, although not yet bred up to that state of perfection to which the Whites have been brought. We often hear it claimed that the Brown Leghorns are, as a class, the heaviest, but this we have not seen verified. They are, undoubtedly, great layers. The mature and com-

mence to lay early, are easily reared, and not subject to disease. If not comfortably housed in winter their large combs and wattles are apt to get frozen, thus detracting from their beauty, as a Leghorn cock without his comb is but a common looking bird. When well kept, and enjoying a good run they are very profitable, and attractive in appearance. They are excellent foragers, and if allowed their liberty on the farm, will require

very little care during the summer months, and if well housed and attended to in winter will give a good account of themselves. They are non-sitters.

The first account we have of Brown Leghorns being exhibited on this continent was in 1865 or 1866, by Mr. S. J. McIntosh, of Worcester, Mass. We give some extracts from the *Poultry Bulletin* bearing on their early history in America:

"The Leghorns (all varieties) came originally from the northern shores of the Mediterranean Sea, in the country round about Leghorn, Italy.—Hence the name.

"But the Leghorns, as we know them, are such an improvement, in all respects, upon the original importation, resulting from the careful breeding of American fanciers, that they are justly entitled to the appellation given them by our English friends, of "American Breeds."

"The first Brown Leghorns we ever owned were bought of Mr. McIntosh in 1867. A Mr. Wheeler, of Mystic River, Conn., claims to have received an importation of this variety some ten or more years earlier than this. Mr. Wheeler's claims are well authenticated, and there is not much doubt that he is entitled to the credit of being the first breeder of Brown Leghorns in this country. We have some letters, containing very strong evidence of the truth of Mr. Wheeler's claims, but have mislaid them, therefore cannot give them in connection with this, as we would like to have done.

The birds of this variety which we received from Italy three years ago, were very handsome in plumage, and good in ear-lobe, but the result of their breeding was conclusive proof that the birds are not carefully bred in their native home.

Visitors to that land say that all varieties, White Black, Brown and Dominique, are occasionally seen in the same yard, and all, apparently, of the same stock and parentage. By careful breeding and selection, this intermixture of blood has been purified, and the bad points pretty well weeded out."

The American *Standard of Excellence* describes Brown Leghorns as follows:—

DISQUALIFICATIONS.

Combs, twisted, or falling over to either side, in cocks, or pricked or duplicate in hens; red earlobes; crooked backs; wry tails; legs other than yellow; white, or partially white feathers in cockerels; black, white, or partially white feathers in hens.

THE COCK.

HEAD: Short and deep, and, in color, a dark, reddish-bay, shading into a lighter hue on the neck: **Beak,** yellow, with a dark stripe down the upper mandible:—**Eyes,** red, full and bright:—**Face,** bright red, free from wrinkles or folds.

COMB:—Bright red, of medium size, firmly fixed

on the head, single, straight, deeply serrated, (having but five or six points), extending well over the back of the head, and free from twists, side-sprigs or excrescences.

EAR-LOBES AND WATTLES.—Ear-lobes, white or creamy-white, fitting close to the head, and rather pendant, smooth and thin, and free from folds or wrinkles; **Wattles,** bright red, long, thin and pendulous.

NECK:—Long, well arched and well hackled, the hackles being a rich golden-bay, striped with black.

BACK:—Of medium length and width, very dark red, approaching black on the lower part, each feather striped with golden-bay.

BREAST AND BODY:—**Breast,** black, full, round and carried well forward; **Body,** rather broad, but heaviest forward, the underpart black.

WINGS:—Large and well folded; bows, dark red, each feather striped with golden-bay; primaries, black, each feather edged with golden brown; secondaries, black, the outside web broadly edged with brown; coverts, a metallic or greenish-black, forming a well defined bar across the wings.

TAIL:—Upright, large and full; sickle-feathers, large and well curved; color, metallic or greenish black; coverts, rich black, with a greenish reflection.

LEGS:—Thighs, of medium length, and black in color: **Shanks,** long, and, in color, bright yellow: **Feet,** yellow, with a delicate dark stripe down each toe, the smaller the better.

CARRIAGE:—Upright and proud.

THE HEN.

HEAD:—Of medium size, dark brown, approaching bay, the feathers shading off to yellow behind the comb, striped with black;—**Beak,** rather long and stout, in color, yellow, with a dark stripe down the centre:—**Eyes,** red, full and bright:—**Face,** red, and free from wrinkles or folds.

COMB: Red, of medium size, single, drooping to one side, evenly serrated, and free from side-sprigs.

EAR-LOBES AND WATTLES: Ear-lobes, white or creamy white, fitting close to the head, and rather pendant, smooth and thin, and free from folds or wrinkles:—**Wattles,** bright red, thin and well rounded.

NECK: Long and graceful; color, yellowish-brown, each feather striped with black.

BACK: Dark-brown, each feather penciled with a lighter brown.

BREAST AND BODY: **Breast,** full and round; in color, a dark salmon-brown, shading off light under the body: **Body,** deep and plump, and broader in front than in rear—color, brown.

WINGS: Large and well folded; primaries a dull black, the outer edge slightly penciled with light

brown; secondaries a dull black, the outer web finely penciled with light brown; coverts, dark brown, finely penciled with light brown.

TAIL: Upright, long and full; color, a dull black, unevenly penciled with light brown outside; inside a dull black.

LEGS: Thighs, slender and of medium length; in color, ashy-brown.—Shanks, long, and bright yellow in color.—Feet, yellow, with a delicate dark stripe down each toe, the smaller the better.

CARRIAGE: Not so upright as that of the cock.

POINTS IN BROWN LEGHORNS.

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Wings,	5
Tail,	5
Legs,	5

100

Selecting Fowls for Breeding, etc.

Fowl-raisers who select for sales from their flocks the best birds they find in their runs in the fall months, cannot be expected to sell these extra fine samples at what are usually accepted as "low prices." Everybody wants "A 1 chickens," or the "very best," or only "such as will win in close competition." But buyers are too prone to couple with their demands, when they are searching for fresh breeding-stock, or desire a trio or two of first-class chicks, the stipulation that they must not only be prime of their sort, but the seller must "name his very lowest prices, these hard times," etc.

Now, if buyers insist upon cheap prices, they will generally get cheap birds. If the purchaser will think this matter over a little, he can readily satisfy himself that no breeder can cull his flock thoroughly, and who selects for breeders, or for exhibition, the choicest few he has, out of hundreds he starts in the spring, can afford to part with such first-class specimens at "cheap figures."

If he be a careful breeder and chooser of his birds in the fall, he may pick out of his flock one bird in six or eight that he will call "A 1" in points, quality and truthful color. He may find one other bird in eight, not quite so fine, but "good enough." Here is one pair of *prime* chicks in eight, (and this is more than a fair average),

which he can recommend as "his best." This is twenty-five per cent of his flock that he can sell for right *good* ones. The other seventy-five in one hundred birds must go to market for what they are worth to kill and eat.

Now, it may strike the novice or amateur strangely that such a result as this follows the breeding of "first-class" fine stock. Yet this is the experience of all who have tried to produce the highest class of fancy poultry; and this result is what keeps up the price of the very choicest individual specimens, or trios, of the leading popular breeds of fowls.

Where the buyer is content to receive and experiment with second or third best, or with such as will score seventy-five or eighty points by the *Standard*, instead of scaling ninety-two to ninety-five points—he may bargain for a lower price.—But the conscientious, honorable breeder, who carries, from early spring to exhibition-time the next winter, his chosen twenty-five or thirty well-formed, pure-colored, full-sized, choicely-marked chickens, that he has selected from a hundred or more he has hatched and reared in a sea on, cannot afford to sell them—nor does he ever need to do this—at "low price," since the time has never come, yet, when these fine samples, placed in the show-rooms, will not win the prizes offered for the best of their kind, but such birds will promptly command even higher figures, as a rule, when they come to be publicly seen.—*Poultry World*.

Keeping Poultry on a Large Scale.

When one begins to entertain thoughts of poultry on a large scale, and pictures in his imagination a large fowl house, with four hundred birds perched at night in long rows close together, only waiting for the morning to seek their nests, lay eggs and cackle, all healthy, bright and productive, he is on dangerous ground. He must not use the rule of three in this wise: "If twenty hens in a snug, warm house, receiving odd bits of meat, potato and fat, beside regular feed of grain, will produce twenty dollars profit in a year, how much will four hundred hens produce in a large hen house? This problem has been wrought out and believed in as the unerring result of mathematics, but in the end, after expensive experiments, produced, almost uniformly, dissatisfaction and loss. But how can a man keep four hundred hens profitably? I answer: Just as twenty men keep twenty hens each in a village, each man keeping a few separately, each flock of fowls having a snug, warm place in Winter, and a variety of food, "odds and ends," such as every housekeeping establishment furnishes. If four hundred hens are kept together in one building the result is sterility, egg-

eating, feather-eating, and the prevalence of some fatal type of disease, as roup or cholera. This has been the general experience of those who have made the experiment. If a man wishes to keep four hundred hens let him make a "hen village." Build it on dry soil, placing the buildings eight rods apart, have them tight, but not necessarily expensive, treat each family of fowls just as any man who is successful treats his small flock, giving them the same feed of grain, flesh, fish, fat, vegetables and shells.—*our National Record.*

The Chicken Business in France.

A French paper publishes some interesting statistics about the profits of chicken raising in that country. There are 40,000,000 hens, valued at \$20,000,000. This is the main capital of the business. One-fifth are marketed yearly for the table; bringing \$4,000,000. The annual production of chickens is 80,000,000. These are worth in the city markets, \$1,000,000; and \$2,000,000 are added for the "extra value of capons and fattened hens." The production of eggs is estimated at \$48,000,000; and the total value of eggs, chickens, capons, and hens sold every year in the market, is reckoned at \$80,000,000. This is equal to \$2.22 cents a year to every man, woman, and child in France. At 25,000,000 of bushels, as the average wheat crop of California, worth \$1 per bushel, it would require three crops and a half of our wheat staple to equal in value one year's production of eggs and chickens in France. From these facts the reader may learn why the French were able to respond with such alacrity to the demand of that nation on its people for a lone of \$800,000,000 two years ago.—They are frugal and have learned the high art of turning trifles to great account. No country in the world presents equal opportunities with California for immense profits in this same business of producing eggs and chickens for the city and town markets. They always command a very high price and sell for cash on the nail. The popular objection to it is that it is a small business; but the man makes the trade respectable, and not the trade the man. Diocletian, the gardner, was quite as respectable as Diocletian the Emperor.—*Fanciers' Journal.*

Good Management.

If poultry farming is ever to pay it must be conducted like every other kind of wholesale business, and every possible thing must be thought of by which returns may be increased or expenses may be saved. It is by reducing everything to well-ordered system, in which everything necessary is done at the smallest possible expense—or to put

it in a plain way of your own, in which capital is freely employed to save expenditure of revenue—that the Leviathan establishments which are the pride of civilized nations have been built up and yield the large revenue which they do to their princely owners; but the difference is this, that while the perfect system in these giant manufactories has been slowly matured, and is the perfected product of long experience, in poultry farming on a large scale we have no successful experience to fall back upon. Such experiments as have been made were failures; and it is therefore all the more necessary to supplement such a want by the most anxious thought and care regarding all details which can bear upon the result.—*The Illustrated Book of Poultry.*

To "Make Hens Lay" in Winter.

In the first place take care that you procure the right breeds, for layers. All domesticated fowls will lay, more or less; but few of our modern varieties lay in mid-winter, we have observed. And this occurs for more reasons than one.

In the second place look to it that you supply yourself with pullets (if you have any on hand, or conclude to purchase the previous spring's stock-birds) such as were got out of the shells early enough to mature fairly before the cold weather sets in. Otherwise you will certainly be disappointed in their laying qualities, the first winter.

Thirdly, feed the hens with the right sort of food to induce them to lay, or to keep up their supply of maturing eggs. Don't attempt to make them subsist upon dry heating whole corn alone, fed once or twice a day, or even "kept before them all the time," as some poulterers do. Thus you will get no eggs in winter out of fowls of any age.

But, at all times, after the pullets get their first season's full growth, and shed their early plumage, give them a warm feed in the morning, wheat, barley, meat-scrap, as much as they will eat and no more, and keep crushed bone, oyster shells and clean gravel by them all the time. You will then help them to commence laying in mid-winter.—*American Poultry Yard.*

Roots and Vegetables for Fowls.

If poultry keepers would believe how valuable and succulent a provision for fowl stock ruta-bagas, beets, potatoes, and carrots are, when cooked, either boiled or steamed, and mixed with the warm feed given the birds, this excellent style of root feeding would be far more generally practised, and to the certain improvement of the ordinary condition of the birds. We cannot enter into a scientific analysis of vegetable food, nor is this necessary. But all experience with the above mention-

ed roots, as we recommend their use, has proved highly satisfactory whenever and wherever the experiment has been tried with our knowledge.

With cattle, with cows, with sheep, or with swine, this course has for years been followed among our most economical live-stock breeders, to grand advantage. The benefit to poultry is similar. And we advise all who have never tried the plan we now suggest, to give their attention to this subject, and so save money in feeding their fowls, while they render either their old or their young stock in every way more comfortable, thrifty, and more healthy, than by the means which are ordinarily employed.—*The American Poultry Yard.*

The Wonders of Incubation.

The hen has scarcely set on the eggs twelve hours before some linaments of the head and body of the chicken appear. The heart may be seen to beat at the second day; it has at that time somewhat the form of a hoeseshoe, but no blood yet appears. At the end of two days two vessels of blood are to be distinguished, the pulsation of which is visible; one of these is the left ventricle, and the other the root of the great artery. At the fiftieth hour one auricle of the heart appears, resembling a noose folded down upon itself. The beating of the heart is first observed in the auricle, and afterwards in the ventricle. At the end of seventy hours, the wings are distinguishable; and on the head two bubbles are seen for the brain, one for the bill, and two for the fore and hind part of the head. Towards the end of the fourth day, the auricles already visible, draw nearer to the heart than before. The liver appears towards the fifth day. At the end of seven hours more, the lungs and stomach become visible: and four hours afterwards, the intestines, and loins, and the upper jaw. At the one hundred and forty-fourth hour, two ventricles are visible, and two drops of blood instead of the single one which was seen before.—The seventh day the brain begins to have some consistency. At the one hundred and nineteenth hour of incubation, the bill opens, and the flesh appears in the breast. In four hours more the breast bone is seen. In six hours after this, the ribs appear, forming from the back, and the bill is very visible, as well as the gall-bladder. The bill becomes green at the end of two hundred and thirty-six hours; and if the chicken be taken out of its covering, it evidently moves itself. At the two hundredth hour, the eyes appear. At the two hundred and eighty-eighth, the ribs are perfect. At the three hundred and thirty-first, the spleen draws near the stomach, and the lungs to the chest. At the end of three hundred and fifty five hours,

the bill frequently opens and shuts; and at the end of the eighteenth day, the first cry of the chicken is heard. It afterwards gets more strength and grows continually, till at length it is enabled to set itself free from its confinement.—*Poultry World.*

The Peacock.

Nobody ever passed by a farm-yard where this domesticated bird is spreading his plumage, without admiration. Nor can we pass him by in our own description of the feathered tribes, without loss.

There are four species of the peacock. Two are found in Asia, one in Africa, and one in China.—Our domestic peacock come originally from Asia. All these species are of large size and of great external beauty.

The crested peacock measures about five feet, including body and tail. The body is only a foot and a half long, while the tail is three feet and a half—"more sail than ballast!" Common prudence would require that this animal should keep near the harbor in stormy weather! Its head is very small, but plumed and crested; the neck is long and small, tapering most gracefully from the breast upward; the wings are short and rounded, with the sixth quill the longest; the tail is composed of eighteen feathers, long and rounded, which in the male is concealed by the greatly lengthened coverts. This beautiful bird is elegant in form, graceful in movement, and clothed in a plumage resplendent with tints of green, golden, bronze and blue. Its long tail coverts, which it often spreads like a fan, are brilliant beyond description, with their metallic hues, white shafts, velvet black centre, and bright terminal eye spots. Who has not seen the peacock display itself in public or private parks. And the wild species are said to be even more beautiful than the domesticated.

Griffith says of these birds: "We find in their incomparable robe all that glitters in the rainbow, and sparkles in the rivers, the azure tints of the heavens and the emerald of the fields." Some are more or less variegated, and occasionally one is found entirely white.

The peacock weighs about the same as a turkey. His flight is low and heavy. The female lays from twelve to twenty eggs once a year and no more. But we find illustrated in the peacock the old proverb; "That all good things are not given to one." He is beautiful beyond comparison in plumage, but horrid in song. A dismal and even shocking scream is all he can utter. His legs are black and homely. He is a voracious eater, devouring plants, seeds, and insects without distinc-

tion. In the neighborhood of gardens and planted fields, the peacock is an intolerable nuisance. So disgusting are his habits and bad his conduct that he finds but one companion (the turkey) in the farm-yard.

We can trace the history of the peacock back as far as the days of Solomon. He was imported from the East, in order to gratify the taste of that monarch, for the beautiful in nature. In the days of luxury and extravagance among the Romans, the peacock was held in the highest estimation as an article of food. He was so popular among kings and princes that he became a royal bird. There was a time when, in Greece, a pair of peacocks cost more than a hundred dollars in our money. It is said that when Alexander the Great was in India, he was so struck with the beauty of this bird that he laid a heavy penalty upon those who should in any way injure him.

Like the votary of fashion and folly who seeks her chief enjoyment in the public streets or giddy throng, the peacock is fond of display and admiration. But let us remember he wears more s'ars in his spangled train, than he carries brains in his head.—*Vermont Farmer*

Chicken Cholera.

During the past few years, this subject has been one of paramount interest to poultry-raisers and fanciers, both on account of the extent of its prevalence, and the great fatality usually attending its ravages. The poultry journals and poultry columns of agricultural papers have been filled with communications from enthusiastic investigators of its nature, cause and cure. Some writers, after giving the subject a thorough investigation, arrive at the conclusion that errors of diet produce the whole trouble. Another attributes it to the presence of lice; others, diving deeper into the mysteries of creation, find a sufficient cause in a weakened constitution, and the result of too fine breeding, or injudicious crossing.

Along with accounts of the disease come cures and specifics innumerable, some valuable, some otherwise.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and written, the disease continues to rage, threatening in some localities to extinguish the entire poultry interest; as human endurance is liable to give out, when year after year you are compelled to witness the taking off of scores of your finest birds, just as they approach maturity.

If anything has a tendency to make a young fancier wish he had never been born, it is to enter his yards and find half a dozen or more of his choicest specimens with their necks drawn up, feathers reversed, and other evidences of the

enemy's presence. The majority of us have been there.

After reading what can be gathered on the subject, and from a number of years actual experience in dealing with it, the writer is of the opinion that about all of our exact knowledge of this subject can be summed up in a very few words, as follows: chicken cholera is an acute, contagious and infectious disease; and when once developed in a subject, not amenable to treatment of any kind, but preventable.

Without reviewing the controversy as to the nature of contagion in general, let us accept the views of the latest and ablest investigators and writers on the subjects of infection and contagion, and the *rationale* of the process of prevention becomes simple enough. During the last ten years there has been a singular unanimity of opinion among these men, that all contagious and infectious diseases is caused by the growth and multiplication of a lower form of life within or upon a higher form. In other words, the germ theory of disease has been generally adopted, and there is little doubt but that it is the correct one. Therefore, to prevent the disease in question, agents destructive to the lower forms of life would be indicated, both by the use of proper food and its being rightly used.

For internal use, good results have been obtained with something like the following:

Take Carbon (charcoal),	- - -	1 lb.
Sulphate of Iron (copperas)	- - -	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Sulphur,	- - -	1 lb.
Salicylic Acid,	- - -	1 drachm.

Mix and grind to a fine powder. *Dose*, a tablespoonfull to twelve fowls.

If the disease threatens to exist in the vicinity, give in the food, in moist screenings by preference, about twice per week. If it has made its appearance among your fowls, remove the diseased ones at once, and give every day. (In most instances, it would be better to kill and bury out of sight as soon as possible.) Continue this course until they cease to get sick.

For use about the premises, nothing is equal to carbolic acid. The author prefers the crude article, such as can be purchased at about 75 cents per gallon. About one gill of this is added to one gallon of water, in a common pail, and the mixture should be sprayed over the entire interior of the poultry-house, after every cleansing, using care to apply it thoroughly beneath, as well as on top of the perches. If there are any portions of the yard or run more frequented than others, apply it there, also. In fact, make it an object to saturate the atmosphere of your premises with the drug, thus forestalling any germ that may happen that way. As a spray-producer, a wisp broom, or an old

kalsomine brush, answers every purpose, and a few trials will enable any person to make the application without protection for the clothing, even. During the past season the above method checked the spread of the disease at three distinct outbreaks, in a pen of one hundred and twenty-five, with a loss, all told, of nine.

It will be observed that the above recommendations have been in the way of prevention alone; but, can nothing be done to cure the disease after it has been developed in a subject? The medical profession has been engaged in a search as old as civilization itself, for cures or specifics for cholera, typhoid fever, small pox, measles, and a host of other contagious diseases, so far without success. When they find a cure for these, it may be worth our while to look for one for chicken cholera.—Until then let us give our attention to prevention. *S. L. Keeler, in Poultry World.*

Knowledge of Birds.

Written for Canadian Poultry Review.

It has often astonished me to think how ignorant the great bulk of our people are about the feathered tribe. Few of them know or care very little about them. They see no more in one of our most beautiful birds than they do in a toad; and as for their habits, they never give it one moment's consideration. They know the proper names of but few of our commonest birds. The Robin, Bluebird, Blackbird, and a few others they know, but many are called by their wrong names, and scores of our lovely summer visitants they know no names for at all. I have heard people say, Oh, we have pretty birds, but we have no songsters! A greater mistake never was made.—Certainly we have no bird to equal that of the Queen of Songsters, the Nightingale, and several other British birds, but we have the common brown Thrush, the Catbird, Grosbeak, and many warblers whose song is very sweet. The summer visitors we have would surprise those who take so little interest in them, could I tell them the number. Some of the little warblers are very beautiful, and have a very sweet song. They are of all imaginable shades and colors. Many of them are never seen but by those who are fond of rambling in woods and thickets, watching and studying their habits. To those whose tastes are in an ornithological direction a tramp through our woods and forests in early summer, listening to their feathered friends, is a delight those who do not participate in have no conception of. I have often been walking with friends, when the note of a strange bird would strike my ear, and on stopping to find the bird that produced it, have been surprised to learn that none but myself heard it clearly; show-

ing that they had no taste and no ear for bird music. Utter carelessness about the feathered tribe seems to be born in them, and grows up with them from infancy.

How seldom will you see boys here seeking birds' nests; and, with the exception of the Robin's, and Bluebird's and one or two others, you may show them a nest and they cannot tell what kind of bird it belongs to. How different this is in the old country. There bird-nesting in the season is the boys' greatest delight, and nearly all of them know, immediately they see a nest, the name of the bird it belongs to. Not that I would encourage the robbing of the poor birds' nests as I have seen it done there, but I would, if I could, encourage our people, old and young, to take more interest in the feathered tribe.

One of our sweetest songsters is the Rosebreasted Grosbeak. His color is black and white, mottled, with a large spot on its breast, of the most brilliant scarlet. His note is sweet, soft, and lively. He is a bird of retiring habits; is seldom seen but in thick, bushy places, and by none but those who often frequent such places as he chooses to pour forth his liveliest strains. Perhaps next to him in song is the Catbird. Many only know him by his disagreeable cat-call, but he can pour forth a volume of music that would surprise those who heard him for the first time. Our common brown Thrush, although his song is more of a rapid chatter, still is very pleasing. The small Wood Thrush is very much like the English Song Thrush, but some smaller. His note is very plaintive, and is always poured out from some thick, bushy place where he loves to frequent. The birds of the warbler tribe are so numerous, and their song so varied that it would be impossible to give even a very short description of them here. We may say, there is no better field for the ornithologist in the world than Ontario. The birds are beautiful both in song and color, and the number is almost without end; and for all this I may safely say, there is no country where the people are more ignorant of their names and habits.

+ ROADS.

The periods of gestation are the same in the horse and the ass, or eleven months each; camel twelve months; elephant two years; lion five months; buffalo twelve months; cow nine months; sheep five months; dog nine weeks; cat eight weeks; sow sixteen weeks. The goose sets thirty days; swans forty-two; hens twenty-one; ducks thirty; pen-hens and turkeys twenty-eight; canaries fourteen; pigeons fourteen; and parrots forty days.

Subscribe for the Review this month.

Preparing Capons.

In the vicinity of large towns in France, millions of fat capons are sent to market every year. The process is as follows: When the fowls are shut up for fattening, they are fed almost entirely on crushed millet, or barley, or a mixture of the two, kneaded into a tough dough, to which a little butter or lard is added. Their drink is usually milk slightly sweetened with sugar—sour milk with sugar is sometimes substituted. By means of this nourishing diet the fowls acquire a delicate, white meat, and become fat in an incredibly short time—often in ten days. Fat poultry is never sent alive to market. Capons are bled at the throat, hanging head down until all the blood has escaped. The feathers are picked off with great care to avoid injury to the skin, and after the fowls have been washed clean, they are well rubbed with wheat bran to whiten the skin. The killing is done at night, the birds are hung up and a few raw truffles put in the body. In the morning these are removed, having given a delicate flavor to the flesh.—*J. H. Morrison, in Poultry World.*

The Pigeon.

Of all animals that have undergone changes from domestication, the pigeon probably shows more varieties than any other, there being upwards of one hundred and fifty varieties. It is surprising to think that in these beautiful little creatures, feathered and formed with so much diversity, colors and forms are lying dormant that they once possessed in their original wild state, after being bred for many hundreds of years, as in the White Fantail. This fact seems at variance with the theory of selection forming a new species, as the pigeon has been domesticated as long perhaps, as any animal, yet, whenever any of the various breeds are crossed, no matter what their color, the second or third cross produces blue colored birds; sometimes they revert to the original Blue Rock (Columbia Livia) in form as well as color. I have seen blue birds from the second cross between White Fantails and Short-Faced Tumblers. Mr. Charles Darwin states, in "The Origin of Species," that he "crossed some White Fantails, which bred very true, with some Black Barb (and it so happens that blue varieties of Barbs are so rare that I have never heard of an instance in England), and the mongrels were black, brown and mottled. I also crossed a Barb with a Spot (which is a white bird with a red tail, and red spot on the forehead, and which notoriously breed very true); the mongrels were dusky and mottled. I then crossed one of the mongrel Barb-Fantails with a mongrel Barb-Spot, and they produced a bird of as beautiful a blue color, with the white croup (rump), double

black wing-bars, and barred and white-edged tail-feathers, as any wild Rock Pigeon!"

After such proofs as these there can be no doubt of their origin. If, as Darwin suspects, they were domesticated many ages ago while man was in his half savage state, does it not appear that no length of time will make a new species, when, in a few months, crosses will undo what centuries have been doing under the care of man, entirely obliterating the beautiful changes he has gained by selection, for many centuries? These fancy varieties of the dove can be traced to the earliest periods we have any account of in history. It is much more remarkable in those breeds or varieties where blue is unknown, as the Barb or the Short-Faced Tumbler, the latter throwing out almost every other shade of color known in pigeons. Different kinds of pigeons show various degrees of tameness, probably the tamest is the Pouter; the Tumbler is very tame, and many of the Toys also. As a confirming proof of the origin of our domestic pigeons, we would naturally look for a return of habits, as well as form and color. This is seen in numerous places where the blue house dove (as it is called) builds its nest in buildings, on any ledge that it can get in a safe place, finds its own living in all large cities, and in the country if not disturbed; these are mongrel pigeons from domesticated breeds that have lost their homes, mated and taken to a wild life, often joining the flocks of Wild Rock Pigeons, we are told by naturalists. The Blue Antwerp is the wildest of all pigeons that I have kept, and his form and color is nearest to the Blue Rock. We would naturally look for habits of wild pigeons in such a breed, and we have it in his wonderful homing instincts. It is very likely that this remarkable character is but a little improvement upon his own natural abilities; training may help it, but he performs remarkable feats of this kind in his natural state. Bred among the fast recesses of rocky coasts and islands, as in the North of Scotland and northern islands, he has a long, dreary, daily journey to cultivated fields, from which he gets his supply of grain, returning at night. Nor is this all; any one who has seen such places would wonder how they can find their way to such desolate abodes, particularly as the weather there is subject to very heavy fogs and mists. The Wild Rock Pigeon is not the only bird. See the little Petrel that flies hundreds of miles out on mid-ocean, and finds its pathless way back to certain islands with unerring certainty.—HENRY HALES, in *Poultry Bulletin.*

At the recent Crystal Palace Poultry Show, Mr. Pope purchased the first prize black-red game cockerel at £100 10s. The bird was originally the property of Mr. Pene, and he was determined to secure it again.



Pouters.

Of all varieties of the pigeon tribe the Pouter is the largest, and most striking on account of its peculiarities of shape. It is a great favorite with fanciers. The following description is taken from W. B. Tegetmeier's *Pigeons: Their Structure, Habits, and Varieties*:

We find the earliest history of the Pouter in Moore's "Columbarian;" and as his book is exceedingly scarce, it is desirable to preserve his description, more especially as it has been taken as the basis of almost all the English works that have been since published on the subject,—the "Treatise," and Girton more especially. The modern fancier cannot fail to be struck with the fact that the standard of properties, as laid down by Moore, is in the main identical with that of the present day. Many other breeds have felt the influence of fashion, but the Pouter of Moore's time and that of last Glasgow show, are almost, if not quite, identical.

Writing of this breed, which Moore terms "The English Pouter," he states:—

"This pigeon, which was first bred in England, and is therefore called the English Pouter, is originally a mixed breed between a Horseman and a Cropper, experience teaches us, it will add a wonderful beauty to this bird, and raise in it the five following properties:—1. Length of Body; 2. Length of Legs; 3. Neatness of Crop; 4. Slenderness of Girt; 5. Beauty in Feather.

"1. As to the length of body, the longer they are from the apex of the beak to the end of the tail, the more the pigeon is esteemed: I have seen one that measured this way near twenty inches, although seventeen or eighteen is reckoned a very good length.

"2. The length of the leg is the next thing to be examined in a Pouter, *i.e.*, from the upper joint of the thigh in sight, to the end of the toe-nail;

and in this property some pigeons have been very considerable, wanting a mere trifle of seven inches, yet the bird that produces six and a half, or three quarters must be allowed to be a very good one.

"3. The next property to be considered is the crop, which ought to be large and round, especially towards the beak, filling behind the neck, so as to cover the shoulders and tie neatly off at the shoulders, and form a perfect globe.

"The smaller the girt the better, because by this means a contrast of beautiful shape is given to the whole bird.

"5. The last thing that is generally allowed as a property in a Pouter is the feather, and indeed its plumage affords a very great variety. The Piers are most universally esteemed, and under these may be ranked the Blue-pied, the Black-pied the Red-pied, and the Yellow-pied, each of which advance in their worth according as they answer best the foregoing properties; for instance, if the Blue-pied and Black-pied are equal in the measure of the other properties, the Black-pied will be reckoned the best pigeon, on the account of the feather, and the Yellow-pied, if equal, better than any.

"Before we leave this head of feathers, we must take notice how a Pouter ought to be pied: and, in the first place, the chop ought to be white, girt round with a shining green, intermixed with the color with which he is pied. By the chop is meant the front part of the crop, and this white ought by no means to go behind the neck, for then it is said to be ring-headed. He ought to have a bib or round patch, of the same color with which he is pied, coming down from under his chop, and falling upon the chap, which makes it the shape of a half-moon; but if this bib be wanting he is said to be swallow-throated.

"His head, neck, and back ought to be of one uniform color, and the tail the same; and if the pigeon be Blue-pied, he ought to have two bars or streaks of black across the lower part of both wings; but if these happen to be of a brown color, he is said to be kite-barré, which is not so valuable.

"The shoulder or pinion of the wing ought to be mottled with white, lying round in the shape of a rose; this is called a rose-pinion, and is reckoned the best, though but very few arise to be complete in this property; but if the pinion runs with a large patch of white to the outer edge of the wing, he is said to be lawn sleeved.

"His thighs ought to be clean white, though sometimes the joints of the knees will be edged round with another color, but let it fall here, or any other part of the thigh, he is foul-thighed.

"The nine flight-feathers of the wing ought to be white, otherwise he is said to be foul-flighted,

and if only the external feather of the wing be of the color of the body, it is called sword-flighted or sworded.

"Besides the five properties before mentioned, there is another, which, though not generally allowed, will be found to be one of the best—I mean the carriage; under which I comprise the following heads:—

"The crop ought to be so far filled with wind as to show its full extent, without bulging or being slack-winded, which are both esteemed very great faults. The Pigeon that bulges fills his crop so full of wind, that it is thereby strained in such a manner that he is ready to fall backwards, because he can't readily discharge the confined air, which renders him uneasy and unwieldy, and many a good bird has, by this means, either fallen into the street, or become a prey of those fatal enemies of the Fancy, the cats. The other extreme is being slack-winded, so that he shows little or no crop, and appears not much better than an ill-shaped Runt.

"The second beauty in their carriage is their playing upright, with a fine tail, well spread like a fan, without scraping the ground therewith, or tucking it between their legs; neither should they set up the feathers on their rump when they play, which is called rumping.

"The last beauty of carriage in a Pouter is to stand close with his legs, without straddling, and keep the shoulders of his wing tight down to his body, and when he moves, to trip beautifully with his feet, almost on his toes, without jumping, which is the quality of an Uploper.

"A Pouter that would answer all these properties might be said to be perfect; but as absolute perfection is incompatible with anything in this world, that Pigeon that makes the nearest advances towards them is certainly the best. Some have answered them so well, that I have known eight guineas refused for a single pigeon of this breed."

This quotation from Moore disposes of the history of the bird, as far as regards English treatises, for more than a hundred years: for, as before stated, the works subsequently published in this country were but slightly varied copies from this writer.

THE CANADIAN COLUMBIAN SOCIETY held their monthly exhibition last Friday, when the following classes were shown:—Antwerps, Dragoons, and Homing Pigeons. This being their annual meeting, the following gentlemen were elected for the ensuing year:—W. H. Doel, Chester, President; J. B. Johnston, 1st Vice-President; James Goldie, Guelph, 2nd Vice-President; W. Likens, Secretary; Jas. McGrath, Treasurer. Executive Committee, T. Adams, C. Goodchild, W. Way, J. McDonald, D. Davis. Toronto, Jan. 11th, 1878.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Editor Poultry Review.

In the January number of the *Poultry Gazette* I find an article headed, "Ontario Poultry Society," in which the late President, Mr. Daniel Allen, attempts to show the financial position of the Society for 1877, after a silence of nearly twelve months—for it is nearly that time since the last exhibition was held in Galt, and this is the first time the exhibitors have heard anything about the affairs; and even now no one but the late President and Secretary can understand them. And for that reason I would ask Mr. Allen, through the columns of your journal, to state what he means by the Society losing \$450, "for which the late officers were not accountable."

Again he says: "The affairs of the Society will not be much worse than last year." It is true, that, at the end of 1876 there was a balance due me, as late Treasurer, of \$100; but this sum the Society was not called upon to pay, for the fanciers of Guelph held a local exhibition in 1877, which was so successful that *they*, after paying all liabilities of their own, had a sufficient balance to clear off the debt of the parent Society. This was well known to be their intention at the time, and the show was got up principally for that purpose.

Mr. Allen then goes on to say, that those to whom premiums were awarded will have to wait till after the next show for seventy-five per cent. of their money—thus leading the public to infer that twenty-five per cent. has been paid. This we have no reliable authority for, as some, we know, have not received one cent of prize money, either specials or regular prizes.

I will not encroach on your space further at present, but shall wait for Mr. Allen's explanations before referring to the subject again.

Yours, &c.,

GEO. MURTON.

GUELPH, Jan. 9th, 1878.

Meeting of Canadian Poultry Association.

A Meeting of the Canadian Poultry Association was held at the Dominion Hotel, Hamilton, on Wednesday evening, December 19th. It was convened for the purpose of conferring with a number of gentlemen who arrived from Brantford—members of the Southern Ontario Poultry Association—and the object was the taking of preliminary steps for the holding of a poultry show under their joint auspices, at Hamilton, some time next year.

The gentlemen present were: Messrs. G. T. Simpson, C. Edmondson, W. Sanderson, of Brantford; Wm. M. Smith, of Fairfield Plains; James Main, of Trafalgar; R. Evans, R. McKay, J. Willi-

Canadian Poultry Review.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

FULLERTON & AULD,

—AT—

STRATHROY, ONTARIO, CANADA.

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

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

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

Address,

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Strathroy, Ont., Canada.

The Outlook.

We think the prospects for a lively winter in the poultry business was never better in Canada than at present. The different Associations are engaged in making preparations for their coming shows, and the officers are very sanguine of success beyond that of any past year. We have not yet had an opportunity of judging the quantity of birds that are likely to appear except those seen at the Provincial Exhibition in London, but have no doubt, with the very favorable weather we have had up to the present time, that they will be superior to other years.

First on the list comes the show of the Canadian Poultry Association at Hamilton, held January 29th and three following days. As we have devoted considerable space to this Society in other columns, we will say nothing further here than that they offer a good, square prize list, and have prospects of an excellent show.

Next in order comes the Midland Central Poultry Society. Their prize list is not so large as the others, but their show will be good, as quite a number of prominent Fanciers are located in that neighborhood and are connected with the Society. They have a splendid field to improve, and we may look forward to having, not many years hence, a very large show there, and a list equal to any of the others. This show will be held from the 5th to the 7th of February.

The Show of the Ontario Poultry Society will, as we stated in our last issue, be held about the last week in February. The officials are now engaged in securing special premiums, and are meeting with great success. As one of the promi-

nent fanciers wrote us a few days ago, "they are coming down handsomely." And in a letter from the Secretary to-day he informs us that "The Fanciers from all parts are responding liberally and signifying their intention of doing all in their power to make the show a success." We expected a good deal from London, and don't think we will be disappointed.

A meeting of the Executive Committee will be held next week when arrangements will be made to have the list issued, &c.

And Guelph. The Winter's campaign would not be complete without a grand rally there. We have not heard whither they intend having a show, but it is no trouble for the Guelph people to get one up. We hope they may, for all the Fanciers like to go there.

Toronto has not lately had a Winter show, and have not heard one spoken of for this year.

These, with Saginaw, Chic go, Detroit, Buffalo, Portland and other places, which a number of our Fanciers visit annually, will keep them pretty busy. We expect to see them come out in the Spring with greatly increased laurels and a large amount of booty.

Decidedly "Cool."

Mr. Daniel Allen, late President of the Ontario Poultry Society, and editor and proprietor of the *Dominion Poultry Gazette*, after paying his own premiums in full, which was no small amount, thanks to his judicious management of the prize list, coolly inform the other winners of premiums, "That the members will have to wait for about three-quarters of the Society premiums until after the next Show." Give the exhibitors the reason for this, friend Allen. Truly, as the *Fanciers' Journal* says, "Daniel Allen is well known among poultry fanciers as a reliable, square man, a true Fancier."

"What Our Neighbors Say of Us."

We have received the most complimentary and flattering notices from the Press generally—sufficient to fill four pages of the REVIEW—but consider that they are more interesting to ourselves than they might prove to our readers, we have, instead of publishing, pasted them on the walls of our sanctum, and will be happy, when our friends and patrons "pull our latch string," to have them peruse them. We thank these brethren of the Press for their good wishes for our success, and assure them that, financially, success is almost a certainty already. We will endeavor still to deserve their good opinion.

Canadian Poultry Association.

We call the attention of our readers to the announcement of the Canadian Poultry Association's Show, to be found in our advertising columns.—The Secretary informs us that everything is now in shape, and the prospects of a good show very encouraging. The matter of judges has been reconsidered, and W. H. Todd, of Vermillion, Ohio, has been appointed to judge the show. His ability and disinterestedness are a guarantee that the work will be well done. A fine room has been secured, and the most favorable arrangements made with railway and express companies. It is the intention of the Society to have the books made up, and the prizes paid at the close of the show. Fanciers, give them a good turn out.

Parasites on Fowls.

There are few things so conducive to disease among fowls as the accumulation of lice on their bodies. At this season of the year the small lice that find their hiding-places in cracks and crevices about the chicken quarters, are not so troublesome as in warm weather, but the larger kind, that find their homes continually on the fowls, are now to be guarded against more particularly than in summer, as the fowls generally have less opportunity of clearing themselves of their tormentors by dusting. Many recommend a dust bath of day wood-ashes, but I have found that for white fowls intended for exhibition, it has its drawback. In drinking the fowls get their breasts wet, and on going to the ash-bath immediately afterwards their plumage is soiled permanently. I have had White Leghorns and White Cochins injured considerably in this way. I have also found that if their combs or wattles are scratched or torn the lice in the ashes will cause them to contract and twist. In the Fall get a supply of clean, fine sand for dust bath; in this sprinkle sulphur or carbolic powder—the latter preferred. Fowls having free access to this will not be much troubled with lice, and their plumage will be in good condition. If you find that this is not sufficient for the purpose, supply yourself with carbolic powder—which can be had at any drug store, in cans or bottles holding about a quart, for 25 cents—and a common tin pepper-duster, and shake well into the roots of the feathers. An assistant will be very useful in holding the fowl, thus giving the operator a better chance to turn up the feathers. Give the fowl a good supply, as here they gather in greatest numbers. I have never found this treatment to fail in thoroughly exterminating the parasites for the time being, but the eggs not being all destroyed, it will be necessary to repeat the dose in about a week or

ten days; then the dust bath above referred to will be sufficient to keep them free. A flock of thirty can be treated in this way in about an hour. The powder will give the feathers a reddish-brown appearance for a few days, but will not permanently soil them.

Trade in Eggs.

We are indebted to Mr. Hanley, of Strathroy, Ontario, for the following account of his transactions in eggs for the past season:

He has packed, and shipped to the United States, two thousand two hundred barrels, averaging seventy-five dozens to the barrel, or 1,980,000 eggs. The average cost was 12½ cents per dozen, or \$20,625. He paid out for wages, exclusive of horse hire and travelling expenses, \$672.00; for packing material and barrels, \$949.00; making a total of \$22,237.00.

These eggs were all collected within a radius of twenty miles.

Mr. Hanley is an experienced dealer, having been engaged in the business for many years, and eggs packed by him rank among the highest in Canada, and find ready sale in the American market.

We will venture to say there is not a farmer who supplied his quota to this amount, who had the slightest idea that such an extensive trade could be done in eggs in his neighborhood. But this is not all. Not much more than one-half of the eggs produced found their way into Mr. Hanley's hands. The consumption in towns and at home, when taken into account will swell the total to nearly 330,000 dozens, worth \$41,250.00.

Adding to this the amount of poultry sold, and that consumed at home, which may, we think, be safely placed at half the value of eggs, we have \$20,625.00 more, or \$61,875.00 as the production of fowls in the area of twenty miles.

We know there are many localities in Canada of equal size which exceed this production, but this will serve to show the importance of poultry on the farm.

With improved breeds of fowls this may be increased to twice the amount, with no other expense than that of their first cost, as any of the non-sitting varieties would "pick a living" as well as the "dunghills," and produce a great many more eggs; but we hope with the introduction of better fowls will be introduced an era of better treatment.

Circulars Received.

Thomas & Campbell, Brooklin, Ontario.
Breiding & Lockie, Berlin and Waterloo.

(Get Ready.)

We will soon be engaged in getting our birds ready for the shows, and preparing our hampers to transport them, and a few general hints at the present time may be of use to beginners. The coops should be as light as possible, but strong. Substitute canvas for wood when it can be done. A coop for a pair of large fowls should not exceed eight pounds, and when a large number are to be shipped and the distances short, considerable can be saved by making hampers that will accommodate several pairs. Put some light absorbant such as oat hulls or dry saw dust in the bottom, fix a place for feed in a corner so high that the droppings cannot get into it. Sprinkle all well with diluted carbolic acid, one part acid to about forty of water. Members of receiving committees say they know our hampers by the smell of the acid; leading us to believe that few others use it. We have found that it enables our fowl to stand the shows better, and they always have returned in better health since we have adopted it. Make your entries within the time specified in the rules. It is not only a source of annoyance and trouble to the Secretary and other officers, but it spoils the orderly appearance of a show, having to find accommodation for a number of fowl after it was supposed all arrangements were complete.

It is very gratifying to us to find the great interest our old friends and brother fanciers are taking in our journal. They are not satisfied with sending us their own names and dollars, but are working up clubs with a will. We feel like shaking hands with them all round. Although very busy, we will find time to attend to their communications.

We promised our readers in first number that in this, the second, they would see a decided improvement. We have not yet been able to do all we intended, but think an improvement is evident. It is our intention next month to refit our advertising columns with new cuts, and would be glad to receive a few more patrons in that department. Our terms are very low, and our circulation large, both in the Dominion and the United States.

The *American Poultry Yard* is the title of a new weekly poultry journal, published at Hartford, Connecticut, by H. H. Stoddard. It is neatly printed, and will be vigorously conducted. We have also to thank Mr. Stoddard for three of the *World's* chromos. They are very fine.

Get two of your neighbors to join you and take the REVIEW. Three copies one year for \$2.25.

Ontario at the Saginaw Valley Association's Show.

Just before going to press we received a list of the prizes awarded at this Show, and being unable at present to give it in full, will give a list of the winnings of our Canadian Fanciers:—

WRIGHT AND BUTTERFIELD.

The choicest and most valuable collection of Poultry, entered and owned by one person or firm.

LIGHT BRAHMAS.—Special on cockerel, 3rd on fowls, 1st on chicks.

PARTRIDGE COCHINS.—Special on hen, special on pullet, 2nd on fowls, 1st on chicks.

BUFF COCHINS.—Special on cock, special on hen, 1st on fowl.

WHITE COCHINS.—1st on chicks.

SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGS.—Special on cock, special on hen, 1st on fowls.

GOLD PENCILED HAMBURGS.—Special on cock, do. on hen, do. on cockerel, do. on pullet, 1st and 2nd on fowls, 1st and 2nd on chicks, specials on cock, hen, cockerel and pullet, 1st on fowls, and 1st on chicks.

BLACK HAMBURGS.—Special on cockerel and pullet, 2nd on chicks.

WM. M. SMITH, FAIRFIELD PLAINS.

AMERICAN DOMINIQUE.—2nd on fowls.

BLACK HAMBURGS.—1st on chicks.

GOLDEN POLISH.—1st on fowls, 1st on chicks.

LA FLECHE.—Special on hen, 1st on fowls.

PEKIN DUCKS.—2nd on young, 1st on Call and Cayuga. White Muscovy, 2nd on young. Colored Muscovy, 1st on young. Aylesbury, 2nd on old. 15 pairs entered.

W. & J. R. CLARK, SANDWICH.

BUFF COCHINS.—2nd on fowls, 1st on chicks.

BLACK SPANISH.—Special on cock and cockerel. 2nd on fowls, 1st on chicks.

W. C. B. POLISH.—Specials on cock, cockerel and pullet, 1st on fowls, 1st and 2nd on chicks.

We are pleased to see that our old friend Mark Hagle, of Metamora, Michigan, was a very successful exhibitor.

We are in receipt of "The New Illustrated Poultry Book," by "Gallinaculturist." It is addressed particularly to the farmer, and contains much practical information regarding the rearing and management of fowls on the farm. "Gallinaculturist" knows whereof he writes, having reared in two years nearly three thousand head of poultry. Price 25c., postage paid. For sale at this office.

Persons out of employment can make money by getting subscribers for the REVIEW. Our commissions are large, and paid in cash. After the first, 25c. can be retained on each name sent.



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In all colors, such as Black, Blue, Fawn Gray, and White, also broken colors; Lops, Himalayan and Dutch.

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D. C. NOBLE,
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