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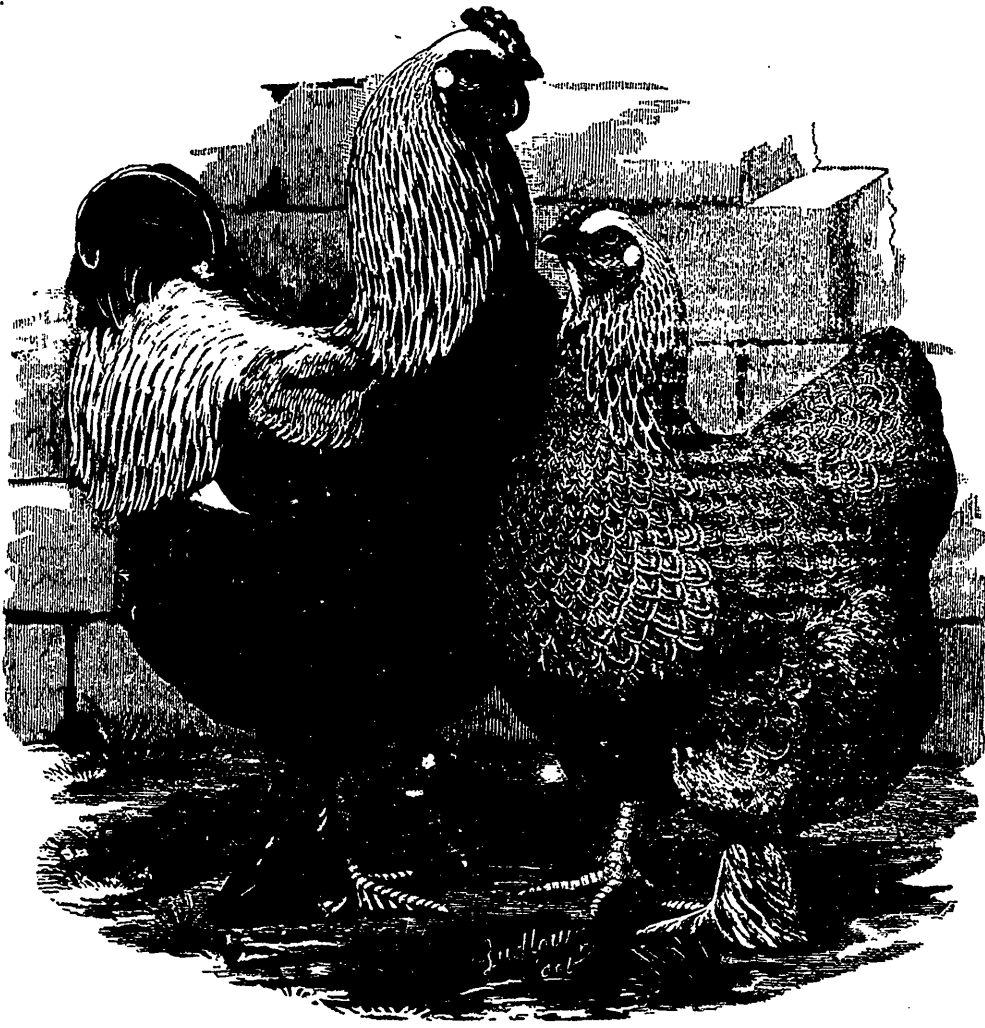
Canadian Poultry Review.

DEVOTED TO POULTRY AND PET STOCK.

Vol. 2.

STRATHROY, ONTARIO, AUGUST, 1879.

No. 9.



DARK BRAHMAS.

We reproduce this illustration in the hope that it may have some effect in awakening a greater interest in this grand variety than has been displayed during the past three or four years.—Dark Brahmata have much of beauty and utility to commend them, and the difficulty in producing fine specimens, instead of deterring our experienced breeders from adopting them, should be an incentive to give them their undivided attention. A skillful breeder, with good stock, would certainly find breeding them a financial success. A number of fine old birds, and of

splendid pedigree, appear at our shows, but, as far as we have seen, none of the young ones yet exhibited promise worthily to fill their places. The reason for this must be in their not receiving the study and care they require to fully bring out their inherent excellencies, and we fear that so long as they only receive the divided care of the breeder no great improvement will take place.

Poultry on the Farm.

Editor Review,

DEAR SIR:—

I purpose calling the attention of the farmer readers of your valuable journal to a few facts in connection with poultry raising and poultry keeping, and in doing so shall commence with chicken raising from a financial point of view, and by endeavoring to meet some of the objections usually advanced by farmers in agricultural papers, and in conversation upon the subject, to raising poultry. "In the first place, they are of such little importance that they demand or claim very little attention." I do not intend to advocate poultry farming, nor am I prepared to put down hundreds of dollars as the returns from a flock of fifty or one hundred fowls, but I do say that this decision does lead to the second objection, that is: "They do not pay." Not so much that they do not pay, even under the present unfavorable conditions, but from giving no attention to the matter any further than noticing every deprecation committed by them, and taking care that they shall receive very little of the grain so lavishly bestowed upon hogs, which do not bring in half the return according to the amount invested that poultry do. They are not in a position to know whether they do pay or not. You will find in the majority of cases that the farmer's lady is the strongest advocate for chickendom. And why? Simply because she is aware of their usefulness and value from experience. She remembers how many good wholesome dinners she has been able to provide for her family from her flocks, not to say how she could possibly get on without the eggs which enter into nearly every dish which her husband enjoys; but as they do not appear as boiled eggs, or as ham and eggs, they are not apparent, and the poultry yard is only given the credit for what is seen; but his wife is aware that from one-half to a dozen is consumed each day as pudding, cakes, &c.

Again, as a flock is usually kept it had better be kept under those conditions which will yield the greatest returns. And it is just at the commencement that the greatest mistake is made, a result of the conclusions already enumerated, and which lead to so many bad effects: acres of wheat trampled down and destroyed, grain recently sown

scratched up and eaten, and in the fall a lot of chicks at 25 and 30 cents per pair—and it is all they are worth, or were worth last fall, according to the price of other food. I notice in an agricultural paper a writer, in discussing this subject, quotes these prices to show how little deserving of attention is this part of farm stock. But why are these the prevailing prices? Because the chicks have not received the attention they demand. But a farmer may say, and truly too, "We cannot neglect the more important matters of the farm to attend to a few chicks." It is not at all necessary that you should. Fowls, like mankind, are omnivorous. Now there is only one appetite you are called upon to satisfy, (if I may be permitted the mode of expression,) that is their appetite for grain; give them all they will eat of this, and by satisfying their appetite for this their desire for animal food is not allayed, but they will forage as perseveringly for insects as ever, with this difference, having had enough grain they will look for no more, and just as much green food as is desirable for them will still be eaten by them. Farmers make no objections to taking a load of grain to the mill to have it chopped for pigs, or feed it whole, but how many farmers ever take a few bags of third-class barley or corn to the mill with which to feed young chicks. Too often the good wife has to slip out a little grain to feed a stunted allowance to her flock. And what is the result of all this? Why, as I have before said, ten times the value of what would have fed them destroyed, and chicks worth 25 cents per pair in the fall, either for market or for the table—they are worth no more, if they are more can be got. As I purpose confining myself to chicken raising I shall only ask any reasonable man: Are such fowls capable of performing any function during their life as a perfectly developed bird? Hence we see what have been Light and Dark Brahmas tipping the scale at three pounds at six months old and no more.

Now, I do not want my farmer friends to misunderstand me; I do not wish even to seem to say that too much attention is given to cattle and sheep and other stock. I do not think so, and as so much more can be invested in these than in poultry, so much larger returns are derived from keeping them.

But this is all theory; let us have something practical. Well, I will give something practical, and in doing so shall confine myself to hard matter of fact prices; those fine prices we so frequently read of in poultry items fail to influence when our mind comes down to home prices. (If any assertion made in giving my experience with a flock of fifty chicks last summer seems unreasonable, I give friend Fullerton authority to give my name

and address to any person wishing any explanation.) At five months old I weighed several of the largest and they went 9 pounds 6 ounces, the smallest 4 and 5 pounds, but the majority would weigh 6 pounds, and would have averaged a good deal more if they had been all Light Brahmas. I think I am safe in putting the fifty at 5½ lbs. each, therefore have 275 lbs. at five cents per pound, the price paid here last fall, making - - \$13 75

The cost for feed was as follows:—

4 bushels of corn, @ 56c. - - -	2 24	
4 " third class barley, @ 40c. 1 60		
2 bags of bran, @ 25c. - - -	50	
1 " shorts, @ 60c. - - -	60	
1 bushel pease - - - - -	60	
		\$5 54

Leaving a balance of - - - - \$8 21

I had to buy everything—these fowls never left their yards—and we have chicken meat produced at 2c. per pound; this is 150 per cent. on the money invested. "But," says one, "in order to make this we must raise the Light Brahma or some other such monster, which will do nothing but sit the next summer." Well, had I raised only Light Brahmas the average weight would have been 7 pounds instead of 5½. But I will endeavor to answer some of these objections in my next. I do not wish to make it appear that because chicken meat can be raised for half the amount that pork can, that farmers should make a business of it, but that thus far fowls do pay, and that a farmer can not, nor does not, produce any kind of food as cheaply as this. Where there is plenty of sour milk and insect life these figures for food can be greatly reduced, and poultry can be raised for market at 1½ cents per pound. But in these calculations we have not taken into account the value of service performed in the destruction of noxious insects.

Now let us take Toronto prices, and the prices generally paid for chicks in the fall, 40 cents being about the highest; a pair of Light Brahma chicks well cared for, or well fed, would be worth 90 cents. I know that farmers are in the habit of taking all such statements as these at a large discount, therefore, if necessary, I am prepared to give name and address of the firm which paid 5 cents per pound for chicks last fall. Now, suppose in keeping up the flock, the farmer's lady has accommodation prepared for her, and can raise one hundred chicks easily per year, let all the best pullets be picked out to fill the place of those two years old, which being well fed for a couple of weeks are fit for market; these, with the young cockerels, will net her between \$20 and \$30.

But if every farmer were to raise that number would it not bring down the prices? Well, I am of the opinion that if a greater quantity of superior

fowls were raised the price would soon be double of what it is. My reason for this is, we only raise now about what supplies home demand, and in the majority of cases what is fit for nothing else; let the home market be glutted with a superior article and it will soon burst through the narrow bounds of home market and be exported. The facilities for export are so great that it will soon attract the attention of those engaged. I am informed that poultry at present is worth 9d sterling per pound, that is 18 cents per pound. If no obstruction in the shape of duty exists surely this offers something to those who will engage in it. One great reason is that sufficient can not be got to make it pay, and the quality would exclude it from the English market.

GALLINÆ.

Lefroy, July 25th, 1879.

(To be continued.)

A Chapter from Early History.

CHAP. VI.—THE EPIDEMIC SPREADING.

While all this was transpiring, my "splendid" Cochín-China fowls had arrived from England, and I had had a nice house arranged, in which to keep and exhibit them to visitors.

The pullets began to lay in January, 1850, and immediately afterwards my trade commenced in earnest, which continued, without interruption, up to the close of the year 1854.

Among the "monstrosities" presented at the second meeting at the Boston Statehouse were several propositions that were suggested by gentlemen amateurs and farmers in regard to the price that should be fixed on, by members of the Society with the elongated title, for eggs sold for incubation.

One man thought that two dollars a dozen for most of the fancy kinds would pay well. This gentleman (I do not remember who he was) probably calculated to furnish fancy eggs as a certain agricultural concern had been doing for some months: that is, by first purchasing them at a shilling a dozen from the eastern packets, or in Quincy Market. The next man thought that three dollars per dozen would be fair. Another member believed that one dollar was enough for twelve eggs, "but he didn't know much about it," he acknowledged; which was pretty evident from his remarks. At any rate, he had never fed a "laying hen" long enough on good corn to ascertain how much she would devour while she was furnishing him with the said twelve eggs, I imagine! One gentleman, more liberally disposed, probably, ventured to express his willingness to pay five dollars a dozen for what he wanted. I understood he got home safely after the meeting, though it was feared he would be mobbed for his temerity in making this ridiculous offer!

I had already fixed my price for eggs that were to be dropped by my "extraordinary and superb" Cochin-China fowls, which by this time had got to be "the admiration of the State" (so the newspapers said). I had the *best* fowls in this world, or in any other; this being conceded by every one who saw them; there was no necessity of "taking the subject up" to any body. I charged *twelve* dollars a dozen for my eggs—and never winked at it!

And why shouldn't I have the highest price? Were not my fowls the choicest specimens ever seen in America? Didn't every body so declare? Didn't the press and the poultry-books concede this, without an exception? Well they did! And so, for months, I obtained one dollar each for my Cochin-China fowls' eggs; and I received order after order, and remittance, after remittance, for eggs (at this figure), which I could not begin to supply.

And I didn't laugh, either! I had no leisure to laugh. I filled the orders as they came,—"*first come first served*,"—and for several months I found my list of promises six or eight weeks in advance of my ability to meet them with *genuine* eggs.

I was not so well informed, then, as I was afterwards. I think all the eggs that were then wanted *might* have been had. But, as the boy said, when asked where all the stolen peaches he had eaten were gone, "I donno!"

Will it be credited that, during the summer of 1850, I had dozens of full-grown men—gentlemen—but enthusiastic hen-fanciers (who had contracted the fever suddenly), who came to my residence for Cochin-China eggs, at one dollar each, and who, upon being informed that I hadn't one in the house, would quietly sit down in my parlor and wait two, three, or four hours at a time, *for the hens to lay them a few*, that they might take them away with them? Such is the fact, however it may be doubted.

I subsequently sold the eggs at ten dollars a dozen; then at six dollars; and finally, the third and fourth years, at five dollars. This paid me, because I sent off a great many.

But they didn't hatch well after being transported away and shaken over in the hand of careless and ignorant or reckless express agents. Thus the buyers came again. Many of the early fanciers tried this experiment, over and over again, but with similar ill success; and when they had expended ten, twenty, or thirty dollars, perhaps for eggs, they would begin at the *beginning* aright, and purchase a few chickens to rear, from which they could finally procure their own eggs, and go forward more successfully. But all this took time to bring it about.

And meanwhile *somebody* (I don't say who) was

"feathering a certain nest" as rapidly as a course of high-minded and honorable dealing with his fellow-men would permit.—*Burnham's History of the Hen Fever.*

The Fancy Thirty Years Ago.

(From T. B. Miner's Poultry Book.)

(Continued.)

COCHIN CHINA FOWLS.

Notwithstanding what has been written in reference to this breed, there remains little doubt in the minds of experienced breeders, that the "Cochin China" (so called,) and the red "Shanghae" fowl, are indetical, or very nearly so—that is, that both originate from the same parentage in China. Some of these—both the Cochin and the Shanghae—are smooth-legged, and others are feathered on the legs, while the other general characteristics are very similar in both. Be this as it may, either of these breeds when well-selected and properly cared for, is considered by many as good enough for all useful purposes.

The following general remarks by Mr. Burnham, describes his imported specimens—which samples are adjudged by some of our best breeders, to be among the choicest domestic fowls in America. He says:

"A variety of opinions has been given, and a great difference of opinion still exists, among fanciers in regard to what is, really, the true Cochin China fowl. The first bird of the noble variety, which the public were made acquainted with, however, were those sent to Queen Victoria, a few years ago, as a present from China, by one of her foreign ministers. This lot comprised two cocks and four hens, and upon their arrival in England, they were pronounced 'most extraordinary specimens of poultry.'

"An illustration, comprising portraits of a group of these birds soon afterwards appeared 'by permission of the Queen' in the 'London Illustrated News;' and these birds were set down, at once, by all who saw them, and who were at all acquainted with poultry, as decidedly the finest samples of domestic fowls ever brought into England."

A pair were presented to Lord Heytesbury at Dublin, by her Majesty, and afterwards were bred by Mr. Nolan. Mr. Burnham obtained his fowls direct from that gentleman, at a high cost. There were six chickens in that lot, brought over to America in the winter of '49 and '50.

These fowls were, generally, smooth-legged. One of these imported cocks exhibited a very slight germ of feathering upon the legs. Their general color is a rich, glossy brown; the comb is a medium size, serrated, but not deeply so, and the wattles are double. Besides their size, however, these fowls possess other distinctive characteristics. The flesh is white and delicate. The eggs laid by the hen of this breed, are of a salmon, and sometimes of a chocolate color, and possess a very delicate flavor.

The Queen's fowls, said to be received from Cochin China were smooth-legged; but of a subsequent importation by Mr. Burnham, direct from Canton, five were smooth, and one was feathered on the legs. These last fowls proved of extraordinary weight at two years old; and up to this time, the stock has been bred together by Mr. B., with very elegant success. In the past year's product, perhaps one-fourth of all the chicks show more or less feathering upon the legs, though Mr. B. selects his breeding stock, invariably, with the smooth limb. All the *other* characteristics remain unchanged from the original, in this stock. The size, color, form, invariable single comb, and average weight—all, are like the parent stock.

The full grown cocks of this breed, will weigh, at twenty to twenty-four months of age, from nine and a half to ten and a half pounds; the hens, at the same age, will draw from seven to eight pounds; year old cocks will draw eight to nine pounds; and the finest year old pullets, from six to seven pounds each. This is the extent of their weights, generally, but in some cases, they exceed these weights.

We consider these fowls to be a good breed, but not equal to some other kinds now among us, nor are they selling at so high rates generally, as several other breeds that we can mention.

Those fanciers, however, who desire to purchase "Cochin China" fowls, will find the best specimens in possession of Mr. Burnham, who has probably had more experience in raising and dealing in this breed, than any other person in this country.

Mr. Burnham is correct when he says, that there is a difference of opinion among fanciers, in regard to what is the *true* Cochin China fowl. The following communication shows that these fowls are not entitled to the name they have hitherto received:

DEAR SIR,—I believe it was in October, 1849, that I sent you some China fowls, which were erroneously called "Cochin China"—but their true name was Shanghai—and they never should have had any other name, as that was their native place, and so, of course, should have been their legitimate name. And who first gave the name of Cochin China to this particular breed, I never could ascertain—neither could I arrest its progress after it had started.

I received from my nephew, Nicholas Baylies, in July, 1846, from Shanghai, in China, two pairs of fowls, which he recommended as a superior breed for the table, and very large. Some of this importation were sent to Plymouth country, where they were well received, and some one gave them the imposing name of Cochin China. I had heard so much of Cochin China, and Royal Cochin China, that I took pains, in February, 1850, to write to Nicholas Baylies, of Shanghai, China, to procure a pair of this breed, if they were superior to the variety that he had already sent me. And in Septem-

ber, 1850, I received his answer, to this effect—that he had a friend in Cochin China, who was a Missionary, and from him he could get all the information required.

February 10th I received from the same kind, friend a beautiful pair of Shanghai fowls, the cock weighing eight and a half pounds, and the hen seven pounds, and with them the reply to his inquiry, from his friend, the Rev. W. Dean, a Baptist Missionary, which is as follows:

KONG KONG 25th Oct., 1850.

MY DEAR MR. BAYLIES,—I have just returned from Siam and Cochin China, but in answer to the inquiry of your note of July 1st I can only state, that while in Cochin China, I saw the fowls in the market, and in the villages, and we brought them for use on ship-board but I saw *nothing but the common small fowl*, and none to be compared to the *Shanghai fowl*. Neither in Cochin China, nor Siam, nor elsewhere, have I seen so large fowls as those from Shanghai, neither have I heard of such, at any other place.

As I have twice visited Cochin China, and been in their markets and villages, I think I am safe in saying that they have not the large fowl you speak of.

I am happy to report my health as very good, and have had a pleasant visit at our mission station in Siam.

With kind regards to Mrs. Baylies,

I am sincerely yours.

W. Dean.

Thus it appears, that our so-called "Cochin China" fowls, may have originated in the vicinity of the city of Shanghai, or in any other part of China, except *Cochin China*. Mr. Burnham admits, himself, that this breed is identical with *red Shanghai*'s and in truth, they all ought to be classed under one and the same name.

My own candid opinion, in regard to the "Cochin China" fowls is, that they do not equal the *best Shanghai*'s in the valuable qualities that constitute a good fowl. They are generally less compact in form, have longer legs, and lay smaller eggs. Such is my experience, and the opinions of breeders with whom I have conversed on the subject, or from whom I have received written correspondence. I have none of the warm, enthusiastic eulogy that appears in favor of *Shanghai*'s, to offer my readers in praise of "Cochin Chinas," for the season, that it has not been sent to me, and has not appeared in the public journals, anywhere, to my knowledge; and I have access to about all of an agricultural character, and mand besides. It is true, that glowing accounts of these birds have appeared in some of our late works on domestic poultry, but these descriptions are more echoes of foreign authors; and when our works on domestic poultry were written, the "Cochin China" fowls were almost entirely unknown in this country; consequently, the descriptions given in those works could not have been from any actual experience of their authors; but they were compelled to resort to foreign authorities, which are incorrect in many particulars, as has been demonstrated.

Figures for 1875.

Dark Brahmas—sold 12 for \$38; highest pair, \$10; eggs, \$20. Light Brahmas, 10 for \$56; highest pair, \$20; eggs, \$36. Buff Cochins—14 for \$65, highest pair, \$20; eggs, \$36. Partridge Cochins—14 for \$42; highest pair, \$10; eggs, \$31. White Cochins—6 for \$15; highest pair, \$8, eggs \$24. Black Cochins—2 for \$6; eggs, \$12. Colored Dorkings—7 for \$25; highest pair, \$10; eggs, \$12. White Dorkings—3 for \$8; highest pair, \$5; eggs, \$3. Black Spanish—5 for \$13; highest pair, \$7; eggs \$13. White Leghorns—10 for \$30; highest pair \$8; eggs, \$22. Golden Spangled Hamburgs—5 for \$10; highest pair, \$4; eggs, \$5. Silver Spangled Hamburgs—4 for \$12; highest pair, \$5; eggs, \$6. Gold Pencilled Hamburgs—2 for \$5; eggs, \$9. Silver Pencilled Hamburgs—2 for \$4; eggs, \$3. Golden Polands—12 for \$50; highest pair, \$12; eggs, \$14. Silver Polands—10 for \$40; highest pair, \$15; eggs, \$8. White Polands—7 for \$17; highest pair, \$5; eggs, \$5. White-crested Polands—8 for \$30; highest pair, \$8; eggs, \$12. Houdans—6 for \$20; highest pair, \$10; eggs, \$5. Creves—2 for \$5; eggs, \$3. La Fleche—2 for \$6; eggs, \$3. Black red Games—7 for \$18; highest pair, \$10; eggs, \$43. Golden Duckwing Games, 5 for \$15; highest pair, \$8; eggs, \$11.

Total for fowls sold, \$539; a decrease from 1874 of \$113. Total for eggs sold, \$346; a decrease in eggs sold of \$45. Prize money during the year, \$330; a decrease from 1874 of \$140. Total amount received during 1875, \$1,298; a decrease in whole amount this year of \$185. Balance again in favor of Buff Cochins, \$25.

THOMAS.

Camden, Del., Aug. 1st.

A PEN WORTH RECOMMENDING.—We have been favored with samples of the celebrated Spencerian Double Elastic Steel Pens, and after trying them feel justified in highly commending them to our readers. They are made of the best steel, and by the most expert workmen in England, and have a national reputation for certain desirable qualities which no other pens have attained in so great perfection, among which are uniform evenness of point, durability, flexibility, and quill action. It is thus quite natural that the Spencerian should be preferred and used by professional penman, in business colleges, counting-rooms, government offices, public schools, and largely throughout the country. Indeed, so popular have they become, that of the "Number One" alone, as many as eight millions are sold annually in the United States. The Spencerian Pens may be had, as a rule, from any dealer; but when not thus obtainable, the agents, Messrs. Alexander Buntin & Co., 355 St. Paul Street, Montreal, will send for trial, samples of each of the twenty numbers, on receipt of twenty cents.

Notes from Waterloo.

No. 9.

A visit to a brother fancier's place is always a source both of pleasure and profit to me. Social and friendly intercourse with those who have kindred feelings on poultry matters, and the comparison of plans and experiments in feeding or breeding, with all the minutiae so important to success, can be much better explained and understood by verbal than written communications.

It was therefore exceedingly pleasing when a few days ago I dropped in on friend Stahlschmidt, at Preston, and saw his splendid stock of White and Brown Leghorns. Besides being a sociable and friendly gentleman, Mr. S. is an experienced and enthusiastic fancier, who, for a number of years, has made a speciality of breeding Leghorns, and has made his mark not only at Canadian but also at American exhibitions. In introducing fresh blood Mr. S. was satisfied with nothing but the very best stock from established strains, and the result, as might be expected, is highly satisfactory; such stock as he has, both old and young, is a credit to his skill and management. His houses are convenient and comfortable, with roomy yards, well shaded with sheds and fruit trees. He experiences one drawback: the soil in and around Preston is strongly impregnated with lime, which bleaches the legs of fowls causing them to turn white; but when taken to ground free from lime they regain their former yellow color. I was pleased to learn that he was doing a good business, and his customers report good success in hatching eggssent out by him last spring.

I next called at Galt, and found the genial R. McMillan lively and jolly as ever. And what a treat to walk around his poultry houses and runs, and admire his magnificent Black Spanish fowls, unequalled on the continent. It is certainly highly creditable to any one, more especially to a young man like Mac, to know that in a few years he has succeeded in establishing the McMillan strain of Black Spanish, and carried off all the honors in this class at the best shows in Canada and the United States, completely sweeping everything before him, and to all appearance he is likely to do the same thing over again, as the chicks of this season are perfect beauties, healthy and strong; and besides those at home several farmers in the neighborhood are raising chicks for him. Although the Black Spanish are ahead both in numbers and record of prizes, still his Hamburg pens contain many prize-winners at Chicago, Buffalo and other places. He also keeps Games, Plymouth Rocks, and several different kinds of Bantams, but after seeing so many magnificent Spanish and Hamburgs even good specimens of the others fail to please. His

houses are well planned and kept scrupulously clean. The arrangements for heating, unlike most attempts of the kind, are a perfect success. Every fancier who can make it convenient should, by all means, call and see them.

I was very sorry that time did not permit my visiting that veteran poultry fancier, Daniel Allen, and seeing his stock of Games, but a hurried visit to his place would be little satisfaction, so I shall make a special trip there at some future time.

So Mr. Fleming has got an "Answer" in last number of REVIEW. I trust the readers are as well satisfied with it as he seems to be. If he were only as courteous and clear in his criticisms as he is laudatory of his own ability and the quality of his stock, he would be more likely to receive respect and avoid "acrimonious controversy."

J. L.

Waterloo, August 5th, 1879.

Homing Antwerp Stations.

The following gentlemen have kindly offered to receive, properly care for, and liberate as instructed, any Antwerps intrusted to their care:

Freeman, Ont.—J. Peart.
 Guelph, Ont.—J. E. Horsman.
 Hamilton, Ont.—R. Mackay.
 Montreal, No. 20, Fort Street.—Fred. Whitley.
 Paris, Ont.—J. A. Case.
 " C. B. Capron.
 St. Catharines, Ont.—A. W. Bessey.
 Strathroy, Ont.—Dr. E. Nugent.
 " Jas. Fullerton.
 Toronto, Ont.—Chas. Goodchild.
 " Thomas Adams.
 Waterloo, Ont.—Jas. Lockie.
 Woodstock, Ont.—J. J. Spracklin.
 Yorkville.—Geo. Hope.

This list will appear each month, and we hope to receive the names of all who are interested in this fancy, and can attend to the duties set forth above.

Editor Review,

DEAR SIR:—Please publish the following in your valuable paper:

I claim the names of "Boss," for a red c. cock,
 "Sure-pop," " " "
 "Leonhard," " " "

These three birds were bred in '78, and when I flew them in the Steubenville race, (350 miles,) I scored 2nd and 4th prizes with them.

Yesterday they were sent to Columbus, Ohio, to compete in the five hundred miles race. Should they return it will surely be a wonderful performance for such young birds.

The New York Continental Club (of which I have the honor to be treasurer) having decided to fly the young birds over the N. Y. Central and Hudson River R. R., allow me to state that I am prepared for the first flight, which will be on Au-

gust 1st, from Yonkers, with forty-three birds.—All these birds were bred in 1879, and are all of my own breeding.

The new sport of pigeon flying is fast increasing here, and the chances are that we will have some well contested flights next year.

Yours truly,

O. W. DONNER.

Brooklin, E. D., N. Y. July 21st.

FRIEND FULLERTON,

I am in receipt of the June number of the POULTRY REVIEW, for which please accept my thanks. I have perused its pages with much interest, and found it well filled with valuable matter, which cannot fail to interest the poultry and pigeon fancier as well as give much information needed.

My attention has been particularly called to the article written by my friend John Van Opstal, wherein I am made somewhat prominent.

I have never sought prominence through the public press, and do not desire notoriety gained in that way, still, as I have been introduced to your readers through the kindness of my friend, it is no more than justly my due to correct a few of the errors he has fallen into.

In reference to the concourse flown in June of last year, in which the Utica birds won all the prizes, Mr. Van Opstal appeared the next day in the *Fanciers' Journal* declaring the victory a "mystery," and giving his solution of it. On seeing which I wrote him a private letter giving him the details of the flight so far as I had them, and also expressed regret that he should at once announce to the public that there was a "mystery" connected with the flight.

In the July, 1878, number of the *Fanciers' Journal*, page 130, will be found all that I ever wrote for publication with reference to this race, and I certainly never wrote a private letter upon the subject which was not fully in accord with it. Hence I say that there is little, if any, foundation for the remark in Mr. Van Opstal's communication, that I thought "I had the best birds on this continent." My language in the *Journal* is: that "Mr. John Van Opstal, of New York, and Mr. Waelefer, of Hoboken, N. J., whose lofts contain some of the best birds to be found in America, and not excelled in the world," is far stronger than I assumed to speak of my own birds, notwithstanding they had won the race.

In this communication I wish to correct an error into which Mr. Van Opstal has fallen, and which he continues to publish in a number of papers throughout the land, and that is, that all of the birds winning these prizes were bred by himself. Whereas, on the contrary, he never saw but two of them, and these two I bought of him when they

were squeakers, from which time he had nothing to do with raising or training them; the balance of the birds were never outside of Utica until they were put into training for the race.

Whatever I have said or done, publicly or privately, in furtherance of the pleasant pastime of training and flying the Homing pigeon, has been with a view to make it a sport in which all gentlemen could engage, and at the same time feel that they were in no way belittling themselves, and that a sense of honor and manliness should prevail among all those engaged in it, therefore I feel regret that any person should attempt to arrogate to himself what of success is justly due to others.

If this rule is to prevail, it must assuredly shear Mr. Van Opstal of all the glory he has ever gained in his own flights, for the only bird which has proven himself more than ordinary in his flock is his "Jupiter," a bird which he did not breed.

I hardly think the Homing fancy are prepared to accept any such theory, that because a person at some remote period purchased a pair of birds, that the person of whom the purchase was made should ever after be entitled to the entire credit of the excellence developed in the future stock; and for a person to make such a claim is hardly in furtherance of the best interests of the fraternity.

JOEL WILLARD.

Utica, N. Y., July, 1879.

The 500 Miles Flight.

Editor Review,

DEAR SIR,—With much pleasure I inform you that the 500 miles race, which has created such great excitement among sportsmen, has been a success.

Three of Mr. Van Opstal's pigeons and three of mine were sent to Columbus, Ohio, on July 17th, after having been stamped in the presence of the members of the New York Continental Club. They were sent by Adams' Express to D. D. Stansell, Esq., of the U. S. Signal Office, in Columbus, Ohio. This gentleman sent us several despatches stating that the weather in Columbus was very unfavorable, so that the birds had to stay there until July 27th, when we received the following despatch:

Columbus, O. July 27th, 1879.

Birds left at 5:30, a. m., sky perfectly clear, wind south-west, temperature 74°,—left in good shape.

Signed, D. D. STANSELL,
U. S. Signal Office.

None of the birds returned on the same day. At 11:45 the next morning my red chequer cock "Boss," arrived at my coop, winning the race. Mr. Van Opstal's blue chequer cock, "Swiftness," came in 2nd, at 2:50, p. m.

This race, (the longest distance ever flown in America) makes my bird

"BOSS,"

THE CHAMPION BIRD OF AMERICA.

and I hope you will give him an honorable place in your valuable paper.

Boss comes from Mr. Van Opstal's stock, and is about fifteen months old.

The following is a list of flights in which this remarkable bird competed:

In 1878 (when only about four months old)—

From Waterloo, N. Y.,	-	40 miles, air-line.
" Stroudsbouirgh, Pa.	64	"
" Tobyhanna, Pa.,	-	30 "
" Scranton, Pa.,	-	100 "
" Towanda, "	-	150 "

In 1879—

April 21, From Newark,	-	-	10 miles.
" 23, " Summit,	-	22	"
" 30, " Whitehouse,	-	44	"
May 2, " Easton,	-	64	"
" 3, " Allentown,	-	73	"
" 8, " Hamburg,	-	104	"
" 20, " Millersburgh,	-	155	"
" 28, " Huntingdon,		206	"
June 6, " Cresson	-	240	"
" " Pittsburgh,		308	"
" 28, " Steubenville,	-	340	"
July 27, " Columbus, O.,		490	"

All these flights were inaugurated by the New York Continental Club.

I am much indebted to D. D. Stansell, Esq., who took such splendid care of our birds while in Columbus. In a very interesting letter he states that great excitement prevailed among the people in Columbus, and that even the Governor of Ohio had been at his house twice to take a look at these feathered travellers.

I own now about 150 birds, 43 of which are in training for the fall races of the New York Continental Club.

"Boss" was stamped No. 93; old No. 17; counter-mark on one of his tail feathers, "Columbus, Ohio."

The parents of "Boss" are now owned by J. R. Husson, Esq., Vice-President of the N. Y. Continental Club; he purchased them some time ago from Mr. Van Opstal. I do not think that a better breeding pair can be found in America.

Very respectfully yours,

O. W. DONNER,
Foot of North 3rd St.

Brooklyn, E. D., July 29th, 1879.

We clip the following further particulars from the *Ohio State Journal*, published at Columbus:

"Sergeant Stansell has heretofore been inclined to be reticent on the starting of the pigeons for New York, but he was approached last night and kindly gave the information. He received six pigeons from Mr. Van Opstal, of New York, one week

at 10 o'clock last Saturday, and was to let them out the first favorable morning to see whether they would fly back to New York. Unfortunately the weather was not favorable till last Sunday morning. The birds were in the meantime given every possible attention by Mr. Stansell, who took great pride in exhibiting and caring for his pets. It was his desire to have them in the best condition for the flight, and he never grew impatient, although he got up early in vain one morning after another. When he arose about four o'clock last Sunday, examined his instruments and went out to look at the weather, he saw that the time had arrived, and never took the time to go out and call in his friends and the reporters, according to promise, but gave all of his attention to the birds. They were perching about the room, and each one was resting with his head under his wing. They were caught, put in the large basket in which they were shipped, taken to the roof and the basket was raised above his head, so that there would be nothing on either side to turn them, and they could choose their direction. The lid of the basket was thrown back and out they went. They first flew directly up and then to the Southeast. When over the State House they were about a quarter of a mile high. Then they curved about and passed along a line midway between the steeples of the First and Second Presbyterian Churches and kept that course for some distance, when they made for a direct line East and were flying in that direction at the time they disappeared from sight. They were flying in a group and within a circle two feet in diameter. It appeared as though the cluster was but a single bird, when they were at some distance. The weather was all that could be expected. It was clear, the sky free from smoke or fog, and the wind south southwest, blowing a gentle breeze of four miles per hour. The temperature was 74°. Mr. Van Opstal had directed that the pigeons should not be started if there was a prospect of over 90° in the shade, and it was not over 81° that day."

The birds were very fortunate in being consigned to the care of such a model custodian and liberator as Mr. Stansell has proved himself to be, and their owners feel very grateful to him for the care and attention given to their little pets.—[Ed.]

By JOHN VAN OPSTAL, 4 LEWIS ST., NEW YORK.
Editor Review,

The New York fanciers, after patient and careful training, have at last flown some of their birds from Columbus, in the State of Ohio, to the cities of New York, and Brooklyn, N. J.

Mr. Oscar Donner and I commenced to train our birds the latter part of April, and as it will

be interesting to your readers to know how we trained them, I will give an account of it. After flying them two or three times around New York we flew them from Newark, N. J., which is about 10 miles from New York; then we sent them to Summit, 18 miles, then to Dover, about 35 miles; then to Easton, Pa., about 60 miles; then to Hamburg, Pa., 105 miles; then to Millersburg, 155 miles, then to Huntingdon, 208 miles; then to Cresson, 245 miles; then to Pittsburg, 315 miles; then to Steubenville, 355 miles; and then to Columbus, Ohio, 500 miles—all the distances air-line.

Our birds were shipped from New York to Columbus on the 18th of July, but on account of the continual bad weather they could not be liberated until Sunday, July 27th.

The first bird that came home was one of Mr. Donner's, called "Bose," bred by me in March of last year; it arrived at 11:45, on the 28th of July, and the second was also a bird bred by me in August of 1877.

Mr. Donner won the 1st prize, which consisted of \$100, offered by Mr. Joseph M. Wade, of Springfield, Mass. (late editor of *Fanciers' Journal*); and the 2nd prize consisted of \$50, offered by Mr. Louis Waefelaer, of Hoboken, N. J. My bird also came home on the 28th of July, at 2:50 p. m.

But if we may flatter ourselves as having now the champion birds of America, it is only with great loss that we have been able to win these laurels, as we have been obliged to sacrifice some of the very best birds in the United States. I commenced with 10 birds, 1 of which number had flown from Steubenville the year before, 6 had flown from Sunbury, 150 miles, last year in the inter-State race; 2 were young birds of last year and had flown from Towanda, Pa., 150 miles, and 1, a bird of 1877, had flown last year from Tomaspuse, Pa., 105 miles—all air line—and it is only the latter birds, which had the best training, that have succeeded in accomplishing the 500 miles, 7 having been lost; one, my "Jupiter," died after coming from Pittsburgh, and one that I was obliged to keep home after coming from Steubenville, as it had lost an eye. My birds were lost as follows. two at Huntingdon, three at Pittsburg, and two at Columbus. Mr. Donner had also, I think, 10 birds that he flew from Hamburg, and had 6 left from Pittsburg, which was good flying, as of his 10 birds at least 5 had never been trained. But at Steubenville he lost three more, so that each of us had the same number to send to Columbus, each received one bird home, and each lost two birds. This will give your readers an idea how difficult it is for pigeons to fly 500 miles, and how many may

get lost before some can accomplish this long voyage. It was not that the birds were of an indifferent or common breed; they were all of the best and purest breed from the city of Antwerp, in Belgium, and bred from long-distance stock; and that 11 out of the 20 accomplished successfully the voyage from Pittsburg, 315 miles, air-line, and with bad weather and contrary winds, proves sufficiently their good qualities. But here, as in Belgium, a great many birds are lost by flying long distances. Take, for instance, the fly from Rome last year: there were over 1,000 birds sent, and of this great number only about 40 found their way home; the first one only coming home in about eight days. Rome is 750 miles from Antwerp, and 728 from Brussels. This year in the race from Madrid, which is about 800 miles, only 14 or 15 birds have returned yet of nearly 500 liberated, after being tossed nearly six weeks.

MR. JAMES GRIST'S CLAIM.

Your paper of last month speaks of the performances of three of Mr. Grist's birds, which he says flew from Dayton, Ohio, 500 miles.

Now, Mr. Editor, I will give you my opinion of the flight of Mr. Grist's birds. Without in the least wishing to contradict Mr. Grist's statement, or to insinuate that his birds did not perform the task, I will say that the secret way he has followed to train his birds to such a distance, and the mysterious ways he employed, must leave doubt that his birds ever flew the distance of 500 miles.

It is true that Mr. Grist wrote about March or April to Mr. Waefelaer to inquire if the city of Dayton, Ohio, which is about as far from Philadelphia as Columbus is from New York, was a proper place to fly from, but later we did not hear a word more from Mr. Grist until he informed us by telegram that two of his three birds which he had sent to Dayton had arrived at their coop at 5, p. m., the day after they had been set loose, and the third coming on the third day.

Mr. Waefelaer and I were of the commission to regulate this race. I proposed to Mr. Waefelaer to go to Philadelphia to inspect the birds, saying that if they had really flown 500 miles, after having been on the wing for nearly two full days, that I would easily see it by their behaviour, as birds after flying such a distance are always very tired, and "the pluck is out of them," as we call it in colombophilic parlance. When we came to Mr. Grist's place we saw the birds, and found them to be as lively as fighting cocks before the battle, driving their hens in grand style; and we were informed, further, that the birds had arrived in the same condition the day before. This seemed to us strange, as we had seen hun-

dreds of races from such distances, and we knew by experience that the birds in Belgium are quite tired out for at least two or three days.

Then when birds are sent to a race it is only natural that before their departure they should be properly stamped and numbered in the society, and the stamps and numbers left with a respectable and trustworthy man, so that these stamps and numbers can be controlled, and see if they correspond after the birds arrive. Besides, Mr. Grist choose his own men at Dayton to counter-mark the birds, which he ought to have left to Mr. Waefelaer and to me; and also sent his own ink and numbers to counter mark them with. This, too, leaves ground for doubts as to fair play. Mr. Grist's birds were counter marked with numbers on their tails. Would it not be an easy matter for Mr. Grist to send these birds to Dayton counter-mark them with, say 3, 5, and 8, and that one of his friends telegraph these numbers to Philadelphia, and that Mr. G. put these three numbers on three other birds, and represent the latter as having flown from Dayton. This game has been played in Belgium, but is too well known to be successful now-a-days. I want to be well understood that I don't charge this fraud to Mr. Grist, that I say only that it it could and has been done before successfully, and that Mr. Grist ought to have employed all the means in his power to leave no ground for suspicion if his birds should arrive successfully from the 500 miles flight.

Besides, Mr. Grist had been advised by Mr. Wade, before his birds were liberated, that if he flew them without corresponding with us, or without competition, he would not be entitled to the prize.

Now let us see what we New York fanciers have done. We have published in the REVIEW and the *Fanciers' Journal* that we were training our birds for the 500 miles race, and have invited the Philadelphia fanciers, and Mr. Grist in particular, to train for this long distance race; we have each month given our monthly trainings in these papers, in fact we have made all our acts in the case as plain as possible. I have written personally to Mr. Thomas Grist, who was also of the commission of three, requesting him to try to influence his brother James to fly his birds again from Dayton, with ours, telling him that if his birds had flown so well, and had come home in such fine condition, and having been over the ground already, the chances were greatly in favor of his gaining an easy victory. But, sir, not a word came from Mr. Grist—my kind inviting letter remained unanswered.

There is another point, which is difficult of explanation except Mr. Grist's stock be exception-

ally good, and Mr. Donner's stock and mine be composed of worthless trash and duffers. Mr. Grist commenced to train—according to his saying—only four birds, and three of these four came from Dayton; while we commenced with twenty, and had only two home of this number in three days. Mark this difference, gentlemen flying fanciers, peruse the statements I have given above, and I leave it to you to form an opinion.

Now in regard to the New York and Brooklyn birds. When I wrote to Mr. Thomas Grist before shipping our birds to Columbus, I requested him to name us a party to counter-mark our birds there, and we also marked them before their departure with two different private marks and numbers, and these marks were left in charge of a disinterested party; besides our birds had yet the marks and counter-marks on their wings and tails of the inter-State race. We had given orders to Mr. Stansell, United States Signal officer at Columbus, to counter-mark our birds with a private mark, to take an impression of this private mark and send it to the *Fanciers' Journal*, at Springfield, and that we would telegraph this mark to the *Journal* on the arrival of the birds, and later, to pull out the feather and send it by letter to the same destination, so that it could be examined and seen if it corresponded with the impression sent from Columbus.

All these conditions have been fulfilled to the letter, so that there would be no room for doubt that our birds had flown the 500 miles, and our two little pets are going to remain at the head of the flying birds as the acknowledged champions of the United States, until some more successful fancier can take our laurels away by beating the time our champions have made; and no fanciers will be more satisfied than Mr. Donner and myself that it may be done, and the sooner the better, as our great desire is to see this recreating sport brought to the high perfection here that it has attained in Europe.

JOHN VAN OPSTAL.

Another Home from Columbus.

DEAR SIR:—

Just now, 9 A. M., Aug. 6th, 1879, another of my Columbus birds came back, No. 89, counter-mark, "Columbus Ohio," on tail feather. The bird's name is "Leonhard"; it was hatched in 1878.—"Leonhard" is a younger brother to Mr. Van Opstal's "Swiftness."

Yours respectfully,
O. W. Donner.

101,720 Homers were sent from Belgium to be loosed during the first two weeks of June.

An Explanation.

Editor Review,

In my communication to the REVIEW, July No., I say that Mr. Donner and I deny the correctness of Mr. Waefelaer's report in regard to the fly from Huntington, Pa.

I find, by looking over the record of my birds, that the time given by Mr. Waefelaer is correct, but as I said, that there having been no watchers to time the birds, and consequently no official record or race, the arrival of the birds in this flight should not have been published in REVIEW.

By giving this statement a place in your valuable paper you will do me a favor, and justice to Mr. Waefelaer.

JOHN VAN OPSTAL.

New York, July 30th 1879.

Editor Review,

Mr. O. W. Donner, our jovial young fancier, wins the first prize in the 500 mile races from Columbus. No doubt that his numerous friends and many fanciers will have congratulated him upon his wonderful success, which he deserves for his great pluck, as well as for his gentlemanly actions in all races.

L. WAEFELAER.

Editor Review,

DEAR SIR,—In reading your valuable paper I saw a challenge from the St. Catherines Antwerp Club. Being in England since 3rd of May, I could not attend to flying matters, but before my departure for Scotland I would like to arrange with Mr. Bessey, or any one else, for a one hundred miles flight; but not for money or a cup, merely for the honor of it; birds to be flown on the first day of the poultry show at Toronto, and after the flight to be placed on exhibition there.

CHAS. GOODCHILD,
P. O. Toronto.

Aug. 1st, 1879.

FROM MADRID, SPAIN, TO BELGIUM.—The four hundred and eighty three birds entered for this flight of eight hundred miles, left Brussels, Sunday, June 10. As on the departure of the birds for Rome, a year ago, the wagon carrying the nineteen hampers to the depot was draped with the flags of both nations, and great enthusiasm prevailed. The loosing was on Saturday, June 14, at 4 a. m. Notwithstanding the early hour, many of the Spanish authorities, the Belgian Consul, and a great crowd of citizens assembled to see the starting. The first bird, owned by M. Massart, of Jupille, was announced July 21, at 8h, 58m. A.M. One other returned the same day. June 24 four more were received; July 10, ten only had returned. The winning bird was seven years old, and had already won many prizes. The money prize amounted to about \$2,000 in gold.—*Fanciers' Journal*.

Canadian Poultry Review.

IS PUBLISHED THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH AT
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—BY—

JAS. FULLERTON:

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

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Any paid up subscriber will receive 25 cents commission on each yearly subscription sent at \$1.00. And anyone not now a subscriber, by becoming such, can get up clubs on same terms.

Through the voluntary kindness of a few of our best breeders, we are enabled to offer the following inducements:—

I hereby offer to the person first obtaining from this date twenty new subscribers to your *POULTRY REVIEW* at one dollar each, one pair of B.B.R Games, to be delivered after 1st October next. They will be from my prize winning pedigree pair, "Mr. Henry" and "Jenny;" score of cock, 92½ hen 93.

Yours truly,
W. H. RICHEY, Jr.

Halifax, N. S., May 23rd.

I will give one setting of eggs, Brown or White Leghorn, to the person that sends you five yearly subscriptions to the *REVIEW*; and a fine pair of Brown or White chicks,—to be delivered about October 15th, 1879—to the one that sends you 15 yearly subscriptions at \$1 each.

Yours truly,
W. STAHLSCHEIDT,
Preston, Ont.

Permit me to offer a pair of Buff Cochins, from Mr P. Breidings stock, and very nice birds too, to any one getting up a club of twelve yearly subscribers to *REVIEW*, at \$1.00 each. Birds to be shipped at any time after September 1st 1879.,

S. SPELLETT,
Lefroy, Ont.

For every five new subscribers at \$1.00 each, I will give one setting of eggs from any variety I breed except Black Hamburgs.

SHARP BUTTERFIELD,
Sandwich, Ont.

BREEDERS ADDRESS CARDS of two lines in *REVIEW* for \$1.00 per year.

Mr. J. G. JONES, of Forest, Ont., has raised a fine lot of B. B. R. Game chicks, from his imported birds, this season.

We will get out a very large number of extra copies of September issue, for circulation at the fall exhibition. Those who have stock for sale will find it to their advantage to get their advertisements into that number. Send in copy early.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THE "QUEEN CITY BANTAM YARDS" PURCHASING AGAIN.—Mr. W. J. Way has just received from E. R. Spaulding, of Jaffray, N. H., two bantam cocks, one Silver and one Yellow Duckwing. Mr. Spaulding says, "They are two of the finest Duckwing bantam cocks ever bred in or brought to this country." Mr. Way pays \$60 for them. We believe he can justly claim to have the finest collection of Game Bantams on this continent.

Editor Review,

Dear Sir,—Can you inform me, as to the standing of C. E. L. Hayward, of Peterboro, N. H. I shipped him fowls and baskets to the value of \$23.00, taking him to be a gentleman, but my dealings with him have proved the reverse. I have written him three times but can receive no answer. I am of the opinion that he belongs to a certain class, the name of which occasionally appear in the "black list," or in plain words "a dead beat."

Respectfully yours,
DUNCAN KAY,
Late of Galt.

Drumbo, Aug. 4th, 1879.

We were favored with Mr. Hayward's patronage also. Our bill was returned with the following laconic note, without signature:

"Peterboro', June 11.
"Mr. H. has had bad luck, and all his fowls have gone into other hands, and he has gone West."

From another source we learn that Mr. H. is broken down in health and purse, and is now in Arkansas, but that an effort is being made to arrange his affairs and have him return.

BEST BOOK FOR EVERYBODY.—The new illustrated edition of Webster's Dictionary, containing three thousand engravings, is the *best book for everybody* that the press has produced in the present century, and should be regarded as indispensable to the well-regulated home, reading-room, library, and place of business.—*Golden Era*.

Shows to Occur.

Industrial Exhibition, Association of Toronto, —From 1st to 19th September, 1879. H. J. Hill, Secretary.

Central Exhibition, Guelph.—From September 26th to 19th. George Murton, Secretary.

Provincial Exhibition, Ottawa.—From 22nd to 27th September. John K. Craig, Secretary, Bramp-ton.

Central Fair, Hamilton.—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 30th, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Oct., 1879 Jonathan Davis, Secy.

The Western Fair, London.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Sept 29th, 30th, and Oct. 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1879. W. McBride, Secy.

The Rock River Valley Poultry and Pet Stock Association will hold its first annual exhibition at Sterling Ills., in December, 1879, from the 9th to 12th, inclusive. R. H. THOMAS, Secy.

Indiana State Fair, Indianapolis.—September 29th to October 4th. Alex. Heron, Secretary.

—o—

Meeting of Poultry Fanciers.

Toronto, July 31st, 1879.

A largely attended meeting of poultry, pigeon, and pet stock fanciers was held at Thomas' Chop House last evening to discuss the premium lists offered at the Industrial Exhibition, to be held here in September. By invitation Messrs. W. H. Doel, A. McGregor, G. Leslie, junr., and W. Rennie were present, and stated that if the prize list was not satisfactory to the fanciers they would be happy to meet a committee representing them at the next meeting of the Industrial Exhibition Association, when they would do all in their power to induce the directors to alter the prizes so as to meet the views of intending exhibitors. The following gentlemen were then appointed a committee to prepare a draft list and submit the same to the directors, viz.:—Messrs. John James, Thomas Adams, I. B. Johnson, W. J. Way, John Munn and U. Boddy.

The Committee appointed to meet the Directors of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition attended the meeting of that body, held on Tuesday evening, August 5th, in the council room of the City Hall. The chairman of the committee laid before the President of the Exhibition a draft of what they considered a fair premium list. The President and the Directors, after discussing the matter, told the committee that they would, if possible adopt the list, as they were anxious to see each branch of the show well filled up; and expressed pleasure to see some part of the show that the exhibitors were taking great interest in. Mr. W. J. Way, one of the committee, offered, in case the association granted the list submitted, to give \$25.00 towards the premiums. This liberal offer was well received by the exhibition officers, and the committee feel sanguine that the list as submitted will be adopted, and the fanciers get all they have asked for.

A Poultry Squabble.

No doubt many of our readers both in Canada and the United States have received a four page sheet headed "An open letter to the American Poultry Fraternity," signed by "Geo. P. Burnham, Melrose, Mass." The ground which this document covers is by far too extensive to permit a minute or exhaustive review in our columns, but as many of our readers have no access to the poultry journals so severely assailed by Mr. Burnham, we propose as briefly as possible to give them some idea of the nature of the squabble, without prejudice and without partiality.

The "open letter" is divided into three parts, the first of which is devoted to Mr. J. M. Wade, late editor of the *Fanciers' Journal*. Of the merits of this quarrel we know little or nothing, and have no doubt Mr. Wade is quite competent to tell his own side of the story.

The second part of this "open letter" is mainly a reply to an article written by D. D. Bishop, in the July No. of the *Poultry Bulletin*, and which is the first of a series under the caption "Lewis Wright vs. G. P. Burnham." It would appear that Mr. Burnham claims the credit of having been the first to introduce the Light Brahma fowl. This claim Mr. Wright, an English fancier, disputed, and a wordy war has sprung up between the two. Mr. Bishop undertakes to review the whole subject, and says all the documents have been placed in his hands for the purpose. He says:

"I may say that I have not been in haste, nor have I been careless, and I am as much surprised as another could be to find so general and unqualified a condemnation of Mr. Burnham and his transactions throughout his whole career."

Speaking, further on, of Mr. Wright's reply to Mr. Burnham, he says:

"The wonder is not diminished that Mr. Wright should have made, at his distance from the man and from the times, so exact and circumstantial a statement of the subject, and that he has placed the matter entirely and forever beyond question. The only criticism to be made is this, which rather takes the form of a regret, that it cost so comprehensive a review of the evidence to prove who *did not* introduce—not to say originate—the Brahma, that Mr. Wright does not make it so clear as we would wish *how* that noble bird *was* introduced.

"The scope and nature of our present undertaking is to review, in part independently of Mr. Wright, the evidence by which it is shown:

"First—That G. P. Burnham did not introduce the Brahma.

"Second—Where, when, how, and from whom Bennett, Plaisted and Burnham procured the birds with which they severally made their reputations as breeders, what was paid for them, some that were *not* paid for, and various incidental items in connection therewith."

Mr. Bishop refers in severe language to Mr. Burnham's transactions, quoting as one instance his official report of the Boston Poultry Show. He says:

"Burnham furnishes us, gratuitously, with the opinion held by his neighbors of him,—'who would rob a church yard, or steal the cents off the eyes of his dead uncle for the price of a hen.' That was the character he started out with in 1850, and it must be allowed that he has 'held his own' pretty well. Where one had that opinion then, a thousand appears to hold it now. He seems to have indulged in his natural crookedness even when the truth would have served his purpose equally well, to have practised every possible deception and imposition upon honesty and ignorance, and to have prostituted his official position and powers at the instigation of malice and the perpetration of injustice, and then prove himself so depraved as to boast of it."

He concludes his article in these words:

"We may say that we have but just begun upon the mass of material before us, and that if Mr. Wright does not, indeed, follow the serpentine path for the whole twenty-five years, he shows us the holes through which the creature has crawled and several old skins cast off by the way."

The third part of this "open letter" is a reply to certain charges made in the *Chicago Poultry Journal*. Mr. Burnham is alleged to have sold some birds to Mr. Case, of Lansing, Michigan, in a fraudulent manner, that is representing them to be what they were not. Mr. Case produced some correspondence from Mr. Burnham to prove the truth of his charges, and Mr. Burnham declares the letter as published to be a forgery. Thereupon Mr. Case retorts with the following offer:

"Mr. Burnham and myself to each choose a man, these two to select a third, and the correspondence in question to be placed in their hands; they to determine whether Burnham is guilty of the charges I have made or not, and their finding to be published in the *World*."

Mr. Burnham in this "open letter" attacks Mr. Ward, editor of the *Chicago Poultry Journal*, and the latter retorts in vigorous style, calling Burnham a "villainous old fraud," "a liar," "worse than a thief," &c., and adds that "his assertions in regard to the Case controversy, are simply unadulterated lies."

Mr. Burnham, the main actor in this "tempest in a tea-pot," is a poultryman of some twenty-five or thirty years standing, author of several poultry books, and a frequent contributor to poultry journals. That he has done some service in advancing the poultry interest is unquestionable. But justice compels us to say that his transactions have not always manifested that scrupulous honor and integrity which should be a leading characteristic of the true fancier. We have before us a book written by Mr. Burnham himself,—several chapters of which have appear-

ed in REVIEW—giving an account of his own transactions some years ago, which places him in light far from enviable. This book is entitled "The History of the Hen Fever," and assuming that it is a true record, it furnishes the strongest condemnation of his career, and justifies very much of what has been said against him. But aside altogether from his past history, aside also from the merits or demerits of the recent controversy, to which we have thus briefly adverted, the language he uses in his "open letter" can not be too strongly censured. Not only is there in some places a perfect volley of epithets, but the lack of argument seems to be intentionally covered with abusive invective, insinuation, and *muendo*. Worse than all, however, there is irreverence, if not actual blasphemy! We are aware that some hard things have been said against Mr. Burnham, but none of these things can justify the language of his "open letter."

We may say in conclusion that this heated squabble is not well calculated to advance the poultry interest either in the United States or in Canada. The sooner such quarrels are "squelled out" the better for the general good. We admit this is a public matter, and Mr. Burnham by his books, by his position in the poultry world, and above all by his "open letter," has made himself public property, and justly amenable to criticism. That criticism, however, should be calm and dignified, without any attempt to copy his original and reprehensible style, and, that duty once performed, it may well give place to other matters of more interest and importance to the fancier's fraternity.

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\$20,000 in PRIZES.

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8-11a

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Games from Cooper's Stock, Limerick, Ireland; reared and mated by W. F. George, La Forte, Ind., U.S.
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\$3 for Chicks and Ducks Eggs, per sitting.



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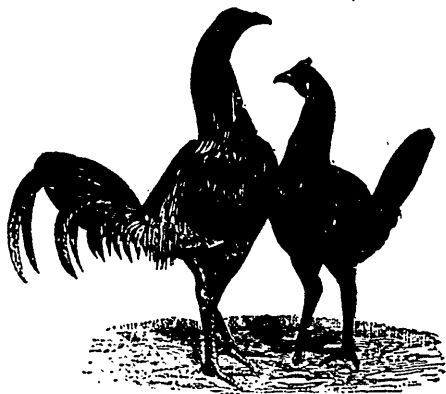
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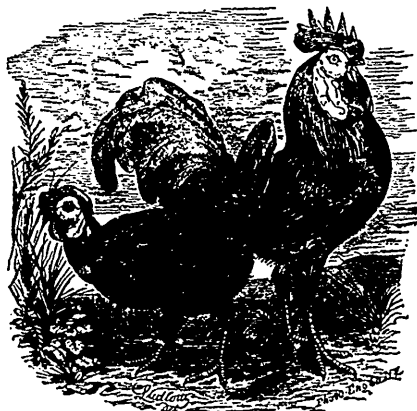
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EGGS in season packed in baskets, \$3.00 per 13.

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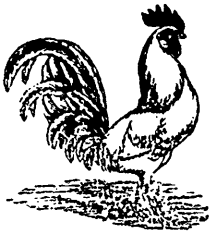
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NO BETTER STOCK IN CANADA.

In Pen No. 1, is a Cock, Williams' (Atlas) Strain, that took First Prize as a Cockerel, at the Great Boston Poultry Show, in winter, 1877-7. He is mated to one Hen and five Pullets, "Duke of York," (Comey's) strain.



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EGGS, \$2.50 FOR 13; OR, \$4.00 FOR 26, IF IN ONE ORDER. Orders booked in turn.

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Will breed this Season from First-Class Fowls only:

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HOUDANS, B. B. R. GAMES AND GAME BANTS,

Rouen and Aylesbury Ducks and Toulouse Geese.

EGGS for sale. Correspondence promptly attended to.

Address, **W. SANDERSON**, Brantford, Ont.

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BREEDER OF

Light and Dark Brahmas,

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Houdans and White Faced Black Spanish.



All from first-class Stock, some of which were exhibited by me at the late Poultry Exhibition, held at Guelph, Feb., 1879, and awarded 2nd premium on Dark Brahma cockerel and pullet.

From any or all of the above yards I will sell

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