

Poultry.

GEO. D. GOODHUE, EDITOR.

Poultry Notes.

Unless a poultry raiser is willing to put the same amount of intelligence brains and attention into that business that he would into any other business he or she had better abandon the same.

For laying hens exercise is necessary and for that reason feeding at times so as to compel some scratching to procure the food. Exercise keeps them in health, and they should be required to work for at least one meal each day.

It must be remembered that feeding chopped onions to the hens will not only flavor the eggs during the feeding, but also the flesh if fed for some time and the fowl is killed during or soon after the feeding.—Germantown Telegraph.

Regarding the best market fowls those who purchase prefer those that have a rich yellow skin with yellow legs and therefore poultry growers should endeavor to accommodate them; but in reality the dark legged fowls are the best for the table, being finer grained, having a delicate flesh and thin skin.

Wyandottes.

Despite the fact that many theories have been advanced and put upon the public as to the true origin of the Wyandotte fowl, no absolute proof has yet been published as to where and how they originated. The theory most generally accepted and the one which the appearance and characteristics of the brood would seem to confirm, is that which makes them the result of a Hamburg and Asiatic cross. The Wyandotte as a breed shows many of the characteristics of the dark Brahma. The silvery hackle, the wing bar of the cock and also the breast—for what dark Brahma breeder has not striven with the tendency to white in breast of cockerels? The yellow legs and many other points in color and form go to prove the presence of dark Brahma blood. They resemble the Hanburg in many points of color, in smooth shanks and in comb, although the latter is greatly modified in size, and in place of the large spikes of the Hamburg comb should have a level and evenly corrugated surface and set closely on the head, following the outline of the head. It is useless to go into a detailed description of the Wyandotte hen. The beautiful illustrations which, since the great Wyandotte boom have been published in the leading live stock journals of the country, have made all acquainted with what the perfect Wyandotte should be—but alas, not with what it is in its present stage of development. The pages of the standard do not describe a breed which presents more intricate points, and calls for higher skill in the art of breeding.

Taking the generally accepted theory of the origin of the Wyandottes, it is readily seen that in the attempt to produce a laced breed from a cross of spangled with a breed neither laced or spangled, a task requiring no small skill, and one which will require some years to accomplish, has been undertaken. Already the results of scientific breeding can be seen in their improved appearance. There is more uniformity in color, combs, etc., and fewer feathered legs and single combs than formerly. The tendency to spangled, instead of laced plumage, is giving way to more uniform lacing. The light-colored birds which were at first tolerated on account of the scarcity of the breed and the fact that Wyandottes of almost any shade, size and condition would bring a fabulous price, are being discarded as the breed becomes more numerous, and greater chances for selection are given. A medium shade of color should be the one striven for, with medium sized white centres to breast plumage.

In a practical point of view the Wyandotte stands with the Plymouth Rock between the Spanish and Asiatic breeds in a class commonly known as "general purpose fowls." The question, which of these two birds is entitled to the championship in this class, is one hard to answer, as both possess such high merits both as market fowls, egg-producers, and as sitters and mothers, that it is hard for the unprejudiced mind to give the palm to either.

Following closely upon the first great Wyandotte "boom," the new white Wyandotte has taken a jump into popular favor never before paralleled. The laced Wyandotte was long before the public, but never before paralleled. The laced Wyandotte was long before the public, but never became universally popular until after its admission, to the Standard. But the White Wyandotte, before being admitted to the Standard, is universally in favor, and the only obstacle to its wide introduction is the great scarcity of the breed and the extreme high price of the limited number now on the market.

of Wyandottes with all the qualities of the original, with all the qualities of the original, with the additional one of breeding true to color. This point has undoubtedly been attained in the White Wyandotte, for in my experience as a breeder of them I have never known a chick to come other than a pure white with smooth yellow legs, perfect Wyandotte shape, etc.

With the neat head and comb, beautiful shape and carriage, and perfectly pure white plumage that characterize the breed, they form a picture rarely equaled in beauty. Combine this with ease in breeding to color, and the grand practical qualities that characterize Wyandottes of every breed and color, and it is easily seen that a great field is before the White Wyandotte, and there does not exist a breed better fitted to be the favorite general purpose fowl under all conditions and all classes.

Black Wyandottes will soon be introduced, and probably receive much attention. The only objection to them will be the color, which is not well adapted to a market fowl. Doubtless other varieties will follow, and if all possess the grand qualities of their progenitors, American breeders can "point with pride" to the breed of Wyandottes as one of the greatest productions of American live-stock breeding.

LUMBERMAN.

More About Dominiques

"A Breeder," enumerates their good qualities thus: Exceeding hardiness, whether young or old, and hence will live and thrive when other fowls will perish; prolific layers of very large eggs, and as good as any, if not the best winter layers among the large breeds; breed truer to color than most others, hence few culls; hens best and most careful of mothers and sitters, scarcely ever breaking an egg, or tramping on a chick; good foragers, yet bear confinement well; mature early, are excellent table fowls, and for market, having yellow legs and rose combs; and last, but not least, in moulting they shed a feather at a time, which is replaced by a new one, so they never look bare or ragged. They are a little smaller than the Plymouth Rock, yet large enough for a first class farm fowl.

To Revive Dormant Granges.

The way to revive a dormant Grange is very simple, and free from difficulties that may not be easily overcome. All that is required is such determination as must exist as a preliminary requisite in any business performance that has prospect of successful issue only through suitable means employed to conduct it in proper order. A few persons sufficiently interested and moved by desire may meet and resolve that they will restore the privileges lapsed because of neglect, then establish communication with the State Grange, whereby the subordinate body may be put in possession of the necessary forms, all easy simple and plain, imposing no hardship upon any one, and requiring from no one any labor beyond what is necessary to conduct every organization that imposes upon its members duties for which they have more or less fitness and, most important of all, desire to perform them in such a way as to accomplish best results.

There are scores of dormant Granges that might be restored by the effort of a few members, and all the benefits that accrue to successful organizations would be at once within reach. It is not necessary to enumerate the advantages to be derived from combined effort of men and women working toward a common purpose. Society is in itself organization, and the chief good that blesses civilized life is dependent on mutuality of effort and labor. Yet, so far as dormant Granges are concerned, there is no possibility of restoration, except through well-defined purpose to which those who enter upon the work must devote enough of effort to make practical test of possibilities. Besides, there is no sufficient inducement to organize except as the benefits that result through organization are kept in view and adequate means employed to keep them ready for use.

A big business has been done at Chicago in oleo oil for making artificial butter. But the oleo oil market there now is absolutely flat. Butterine makers are buying nothing, and quotations are only nominal. It has been predicted that no more than two licenses for dealing in oleo oil will be taken out by Chicago parties in May. The oleomargarine act has evidently proved the death knell to the manufacturers of artificial butter. There is, however, a large export demand for this oleo oil. Let those "doubting Thomases who are sometimes heard to say, 'The Grange is accomplishing nothing, never benefited me a dollar, etc. etc.'" figure up the millions of dollars this oleomargarine law, so ably worked for and supported by the Grange, has already put into the hands of the farmers of our country.

An End to Bone Scraping.

Edward Shepherd, of Harrisburg, Ill., says: "Having received so much benefit from Electric Bitters, I feel it my duty to let suffering humanity know it. Having had a running sore on my leg for eight years; my doctor told me I would have to have the bone scraped or leg amputated. I used instead three bottles of Electric Bitters and seven boxes of Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and my leg is now sound and well."

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Grange Colony.

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The Oregon State Grange.

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GRANGE NOTES.

We have passed the twentieth mile stone of our journey as an organization; success has come wherever the field has been well prepared, the crops carefully tended and the sheaves safely garnered. The great need of our order now seems to be to let the world know we "still live," that we have come to stay, and the Order of Patrons of Husbandry has not only done more up to this time for protecting and advancing the true interests of the farmers of our land than all other orders or societies combined, but that it has still greater possibilities for the future, and is the one well-tried and proven plan by which—if we will—we can place agriculture where it is of right belongs, in the front rank, and command for its followers that respect, fairness and equality that belongs to them by birthright and the blessings of God himself.

At this writing the President has nominated the members of the Inter-State Commerce Commission. It is to be hoped that he will recognize our Order and the farmers of our country in appointing one representative of our class on the Commission. Besides Bro. J. J. Woodman, the names of several other good Patrons are "at the front;" and being urged by their many friends. Among them are Bro. Leonard Rhone, Master of the Pennsylvania State Grange, Bro. Wm. A. Armstrong, Master New York State Grange, and Bro. Victor E. Pillel, Past Master Pennsylvania State Grange. It would thrill the hearts and nerve the hands of all true Patrons to hear that either of these able leaders in our cause had received the appointment. They have all done much to bring about this legislation controlling inter-State commerce.

It is action we need now more than ever before. Working Granges are the successful ones. Most of us know the principles of our Order now full well. We have been learning them many years, but "Who learns and learns, but acts not what he knows, Is one who plows and plows, but never sows."

No wonder the oleo folks are bringing all the pressure possible on Congress to head off our Oleomargarine law. They are being beaten more and more at all points. Here are two items of many we might give to prove this: In Pennsylvania the Supreme Court has affirmed the constitutionality of the State law prohibiting the manufacture, sale or keeping for sale of oleomargarine. The court holds that the act was not in conflict with any provision of the State or Federal Constitution and was entirely within the limits of legislative authority in these words, "The fact that the prohibited substance may be harmless as a food makes no difference with the case, for the sale of a mixture of pure milk and pure water has been prohibited," and the constitutionality of that prohibition has never been doubted.

Georgia is coming to the front in Grange work. State Master Kimbrough and State Secretary Taylor have organized and are pushing a revival. The Georgia Farmer is helping; its last issue said: "The State Grange of Georgia is to-day more determined to battle on in the war for the farmers' rights and interests than ever! So long as one of either shall last so long have we plighted faith to stay! Conscripted by necessity, yet volunteers by aim and principle, upon neither of which fear we the noonday sunlight of criticisms."

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