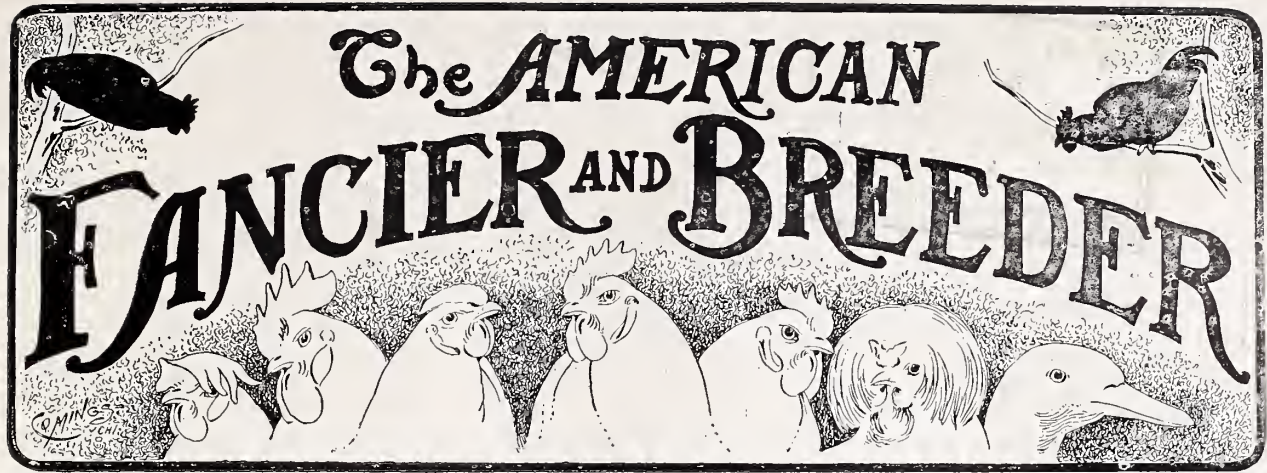


The AMERICAN FANCIER AND BREEDER



Vol. 20.

De Kalb, Illinois., March, 1903.

No. 3.



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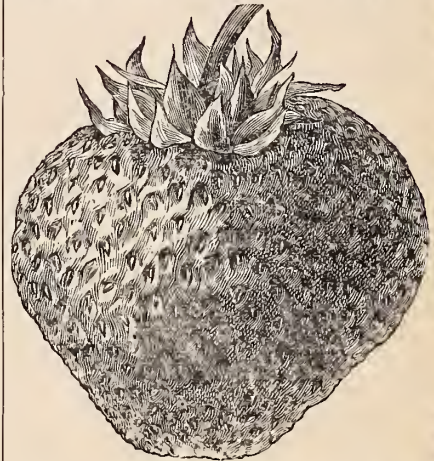
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The American FANCIER and BREEDER.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO POULTRY CULTURE.

Vol. 20.

DE KALB, ILLINOIS, MARCH, 1903.

No. 3.

The Farmer and Poultry Breeding.

Notwithstanding the splendid opportunity the farm affords for poultry raising advantage is not taken of the resources, and the average flocks of farm poultry are rarely ever self-supporting. Proper business management of the flocks would result in profit. Poultry raising will enable the farmer to bring into profitable use the unworkable hill-sides and the rough rock lands, which make ideal ranging grounds for poultry.

The so-called poultry fancier is successful because he gives his flocks personal business attention. He knows the value of a varied diet; he has proved that the ration which will fatten his poultry is not the best for producing eggs. He aims, as does the expert dairyman, to give a balanced ration for some specific purpose. He knows that poultry profit mainly comes from winter eggs. In order to get winter eggs he knows there must be, first, a healthy flock, free from vermin: comfortable chicken houses, kept scrupulously clean. Experience has proved that the best of foods are always the cheapest. Green food of some kind in winter is essential. The hens should earn a good portion of their daily allowance by scratching for it. Poultrymen now admit the scratching shed is one of the most important factors in winter egg production. It gives the hens needed exercise, which keeps them warm and in good health. The idea of keeping up the stamina of a flock of poultry by introducing new blood, unless the new blood comes from a flock bred and raised rightly, and proper selection of the home flock is followed, is a myth.

The profitable qualities of all breeds of poultry is the result of careful, intelligent selection. Size, early maturity, early and continuous egg laying, all may be greatly improved in a flock by proper selection and without the use of any new blood. The so-called poultrymen who make poultry raising a very profitable business, with few exceptions, are not a favorably situated for poultry raising as most farmers are. They simply take advantage of all opportunities in a business way and look carefully after all the details. There are a number of factors governing profitable poultry raising. Some of them are very little things, but they are like the cogs in a wheel—each little cog performs a service of importance; knock out one and all are thrown out of gear. So it is with poultry; the little essentials to success must be observed, both singly and as a whole. One of the main reasons why

women are generally more successful with poultry than men is because they more carefully look after the little details and are invariably more particular about the comfort and cleanliness of the flocks.

The proper way for a farmer to commence poultry raising on the farm in a business way is to start with a flock of from 25 to 50. Every hen should be as nearly alike in shape as possible. At the head of the flock should be a Plymouth Rock or a Wyandotte male. The second season the selection should be made still more carefully—both uniformity in size and plumage being carefully observed. The idea should always be to breed a certain type. Nothing but pure bred males should head the flock. This plan is the only one to build up from a common flock. Of course, a much better way is to start at once with a pure breed.

The superiority of the pure breeds does not seem to be fully understood by many farmers. If a farmer will visit a commission house in any large city that makes a specialty of poultryselling he will learn these facts. The commission man will tell him the pure breeds always sell for more because they are alike in size and shape. He can tell a lot of common chickens as soon as he opens a package of dressed poultry. Why? Because some have short back, some long, some are full-breasted and some are not, long and short legged specimens; even though all may be in comparatively good condition this variation will exist. There can be no fixed type with mongrels. Therefore the commission man classes them as "mixed lots" or "second" and they sell accordingly.

Appearance in any product is a most excellent invitation for the best class of customers, who are willing to pay the price for a choice article. Pure breeds cost less to keep and invariably give better returns for their keeping.

An apple orchard makes a very excellent poultry run. The shade afforded is not too dense. The hens and chicks will keep down many insects that are injurious to the trees. The henhouse should always be situated on an elevation, or so arranged to insure perfect freedom from dampness if situated elsewhere. The sashed part of the house should face the south, which will give plenty of sunshine in the windows in winter time and little at other seasons.

A few things to remember in poultry-raising are these: When the ground is frozen or covered with snow grit must be supplied. Crushed oyster shells are excellent. Grease

the insides of the water vessels so the ice won't stick to them; empty the water vessels every night. Cleanliness is necessary at all seasons. The dampness and roosting in drafts is the cause of many poultry ailments. That in cold weather the eggs should be gathered several times a day. That hens are more reliable sitters than pullets. That keeping the flock tame adds to their value in many ways. That eggs from unduly fat hens rarely ever hatch. That an overfat male should not be at the head of the flock. That sick fowls should be penned by themselves and not be allowed to run around with the flock. That continual feeding of one thing is apt to produce serious cases of indigestion and bowel trouble.

Which is the best breed? is a question often asked. It might properly be answered by saying it depends upon the man as much as the breed. Every poultryman who is making a specialty of one breed thinks his breed is the best. And it is true just as long as he thinks so. The best breed, then depends on the man behind the hens. There is more difference in men than there is in breeds of poultry. Any breed that does not do well is handicapped by conditions, surroundings and lack of favorable opportunity. Of course there are breeds that are justly considered as more generally in favor than others. The Barred Plymouth Rocks and the White Wyandottes are to-day more extensively bred than any other breeds. Why? Because they are considered more of a general purpose breed. Their chicks at a certain age make the best broilers, can be put in marketable condition early and at less cost than other breeds. The hens make good mothers. Chicks are strong and rapid growers. They are considered good winter layers. All these qualities are desirable.

It should be understood there is a great difference in strains of fowls regarding utility qualities. For instance, we know of a strain of Barred Rocks which the owner has been for years developing, making careful selection for improvement in size, early and continuous egg-laying and eggs of good size. These desirable points have been wonderfully improved and at the same time the standard plumage markings have been so well kept and improved that birds from this breeder's yards have often been winners. There is no reason why beauty and utility should not be a well-matched team on the road to success in poultry raising. The points considered in judging poultry are not, as many people seem to consider,

simply fancy points. Each breed has its distinctive characteristics, and these so-called points which the judge considers are really the requirements the respective breed should possess to denote that they are pure bred. These points, of course vary in their degrees of excellence and in considering them the judge ascertains which specimen is nearest to the ideal bird the standard describes.

WINTER EGGS.

The most successful winter poultry house I ever saw was a big open straw shed. The shed had been covered from the stacker of a thrashing machine. The roof, north side and ends were several feet of straw and chaff. Some thirty head of cattle were in the shed and yard nights and running the corn stalks day time. Besides there was a hog trough in the yard where the shoats got their daily slops of bran, shorts and waste vegetables.

I was at home with Dad and Ma at the time. My father believed in being liberal with salt, the cattle had their salt box, and all the swine were seasoned with salt. I remember that an argument came up as to whether the fowls would get too much salt at the hog troughs.

Up overhead in this shed were a variety of poles and brush that served to hold the straw up. Flock after flock of early hatches took up their roosting place in the cattle shed and by cold weather the regular hen house was almost entirely deserted. Some 150 hens, mostly early pullets, were roosting in the shed by December 1st and the daily output of eggs was from five to eight dozen, and it continued all winter.

When the weather got colder and stormy days came, the cattle were fed in racks clover and timothy hay and millet hay, corn fodder, etc. The cattle were continually working down some of the straw shed and finally the shoats went to sleeping in the litter. That old straw shed seemed to be a home for most everything that could get into it. Even flocks of quails made daily visits and worked with the hens in and around the yard and shed. I do not remember of a single ailing fowl all winter and when spring came they were bright and ready to hunt in the nearby groves and orchards.

At the time I looked at all these things as a matter of course, but since I have grown older and read and listened to up-to-date methods, scientific ventilation, jim crack feeds and sanitary poultry houses, my mind wanders back to the old straw shed, its simplicity and the success. I have firmly made up my mind that lots of up-to-date poultry theories are more theoretical than practical and that if it were possible for all poultry raisers to have an old straw shed that chicken doctors and remedies would not be so popular as they are.

I am a firm believer in lots of litter for the fowls to work in, also a variety of feeds and unlimited pure air. Still more, I believe

fowls should have plenty of salt and water. Stop and think of it: An egg is nearly eighty per cent. water, and hens must have water in abundance and unlimited exercise and pure air. Yes, salt will kill fowls, and it will kill stock too, but it will kill nothing if it has been managed carefully.

Sunshine and pure air were made for fowls as well as other life and while it is so cheap why be stingy with it? Straw, chaff leaves, and other kinds of litter are enjoyed by hens just as much as a pond of water is by ducks. The water may not do the ducks any particular good, but plenty of dry litter keeps the hens warm and healthy, besides the litter absorbs moisture and keeps the ground or floor under it warm. In building poultry houses, we should study the hens more and ourselves less.—M. M. Johnson, in *Home-stead*.

Difference in Feeds.

In feeding poultry this time of the year—and, for that matter, any time of the year—a sharp distinction should be made between food that fattens and food that makes bone, muscle, tissue and eggs. The food that makes bone and tissue is also the food that makes eggs. If fed to the young chickens it makes them grow in size and stature, with heavy bones and strong muscles. That is the kind of a frame we need in chickens, for then when the time comes they have a large carcass on which to lay their fat. If fattening food is given to them when they are young they become plump and dumpy little birds, very pretty to look at and eat, but not practical for commercial purposes.

The worst fattening food in the world is the old corn meal mash, which we used to feed regularly to the chickens. Such mash would fatten any bird and stunt its growth in bone and muscle. Do not feed that much to the young thrifty chickens. Let them have rather, good wheat bran, buckwheat bran or oatmeal. These contain the elements of bone and muscle making which they require. They will grow heavy and big of frame then and when they begin to lay eggs the same food, mixed liberally with grits, ground bone, whole grain and seeds, will do wonders. Let the corn meal mash be fed sparingly all the time, and in some cases not at all where the chickens are inclined to fatten up easily. Cornmeal mash should come in when fattening the birds for market. Then it can be fed as liberally as required. The birds not used to it will fatten up so rapidly that within a few weeks their big carcasses will be round and plump.—Annie C. Webster.

Cutting The Wings.

Some readers are interested in how best to cut the wings of flying hens and among the letters received is the following, from an Indiana subscriber:

"I am now, and have been for some time, engaged in keeping the Leghorn variety,—both White and Brown,—and think of add-

ing the Black. I do not keep them for any thing but eggs for market, and they give me no little bother flying out of their quarters. I have read something about cutting the wing off at the first joint, to prevent flying; is not that what they call 'dubbing?'" I would like to know more about this, as I am interested in the Leghorns. Does it injure the appearance very much? Do you cut one or both, and how soon after they are taken from the incubator do you do this? Does it really unbalance them so that they cannot fly? Does it injure the growth or vitality of them to do this? I want to treat my entire lot of Leghorns in this manner next summer if it can be done satisfactorily."

In reply we will state that what is termed "dubbing" refers to cutting off the combs and wattles of Pit Games. When cutting the wings of fowls it is usual to cut off, from one wing only, all but the two outer main feathers. If pulled out they will grow in place again. It does injure the appearance some, but unbalances the fowl and prevents flying, though we have known of cases where both wings had to be cut. They can only be cut after the birds are well feathered and the feathers of chicks sometimes grow in, thus necessitating a second cutting. Otherwise it does not injure them except that in winter it may leave portions of the body exposed to cold.—Poultry Keeper.

Feeding Intelligently.

When eggs are the object, the fowls should be of a breed that excels in the proportion of eggs, and the food should be varied. When fattening a bird for market, after its growth is completed, it may be given more grain than at any other time. The only rule that can be allowed is to feed with an object in view. It may be correct to give a nearly perfect ration for an animal or fowl, but it is not always advisable to use such a ration. It is possible that in some seasons or in some sections the cost of an element in that ration would make it unadvisable to feed such. One must feed to some extent according to circumstances, always keeping in mind that it never pays to feed what will absolutely injure the flock however cheap it may be. Food values and analysis are well enough, but the farmer who keeps a sharp eye on his flock, and notes the appetite of each of his fowls, will know more about how to feed and what to give than all the theories that may be given. It is not inferred that the tables of feeding values are useless, or that the efforts of scientists are futile; but fowls differ in characteristics; and the only way to know is by practical observation. Many fowls refuse food and lose appetite simply for the lack of some substance to give the food a pleasant flavor or taste. Animals, like humans, will reject food. Salt is essential to digestion, and it should be provided. The food should be slightly seasoned with it. A small quantity added to the mash will induce the birds to relish it.

A Good Poultry House.

A poultry-house 16 by 20 feet would accommodate from 100 to 200 hens; in addition to this it might be advisable to build a cheap scratching shed for winter. Fowls can get along with limited room if there are other buildings in which they can exercise during the day time. For 200 hens where there are no extra buildings, I would advise a house at least 20 feet square. The accompanying cut illustrates a very convenient poultry-house that can be made of ordinary lumber, the windows should be perhaps a little larger, it would let in more sunshine. By the way, I wish to mention that sunshine is very beneficial to the inside of poultry-houses, the warmth and light evaporates objectionable stench and turns foul air into healthy air. It is argued that glass draws cold water in winter time; in this case curtains could be supplied very cheaply. It will be noticed by the perch arrangement that the fowls would have the entire floor surface as a scratching shed, the scratching shed could not interfere with the perch-floor being hinged to the back wall and can be lowered for cleaning; the perches are simply horses similar to the horses that carpenters use, except the 2 by 4's are turned flat ways instead of edgewise. The division down through the center of the building can be boarded up or left open, I prefer leaving it open and have the 2 by 4 extend from the highest part of the building clear to the floor down through the center of the building. The nest-boxes can be arranged to suit. Would advise your correspondent not to make the fixtures inside of his poultry-house permanent, that is, I mean that everything should be removable as much as it is possible. I have never seen a poultry-house yet that did not need some changing no matter how much thought we give it in advance of its erection. In the cut the nest-boxes are along the front of the building. There is no better place for poultry-house than in an apple-orchard but I would not advise placing the poultry-building a long distance from the residence in order to get it in an apple-orchard. Poultry does much better when it is near the house or other buildings, and it is very satisfactory in many ways.

About the cheapest way to build this kind of a poultry-house is to board it up and down with ordinary barn-boards and batton the cracks, to make the building good and warm, would advise a layer of tar-paper on the inside, then over this tar-paper put a thickness of red rope-roofing. The roof can be made by sheathing over the rafters tight with barn-boards or any cheap lumber, for this roofing we have found nothing more suitable than red rope-roofing. There are other roofing fabrics that are no doubt as good. The crimped-iron-roofing is all right either for the sides or roof of the building, but I would not advise any one to use the corrugated iron for poultry-houses as every corrugation makes a suction for cold air. The coldest building I ever saw was covered

with corrugated iron. I would advise your correspondent to keep the floor of his poultry-house covered with litter, chaff, fine straw or most any kind of dry stuff; it absorbs the moisture and stanches, keeps the floor of the building warm and makes a natural place for the hens to hunt some feed.—M. M. Johnson.

Feeding in the South.

A Louisiana subscriber states that his climate is mild and that he desires to know if he is feeding too much. He feeds as follows:

"I have 36 mongrel hens, which I feed as follows: Morning, a mash of one quart of rice bran, one quart of wheat bran, one quart of table scraps (vegetable), and one pound of meat. At night I give, alternately, three pints of corn, oats or wheat. They have plenty of grit. I feed them ground dry bone "ad lib," and occasionally feed green bone. They are on a half acre where they can obtain plenty of green grass, the weather here permitting them to range all the year. Is that feeding right or wrong? How will you advise me to feed them in the summer, considering that the half acre will be covered with crab grass and weeds as well as insects. Will the commercial meat meal and bone meal, or blood meal, take the place of fresh meat and green bone? Can rice bran be used as a substitute for wheat bran? Can cotton seed meal be used profitably, and how as a poultry food?"

He feeds about five quarts a day to 36 fowls that are on a range, which is fully twice as much as they should have. If they can range all the year they will require but little. In fact, we would not feed over a quart a day to fowls on the range, and nothing at all in summer, as hens can pick up a large amount of food in a day.

Rice bran may be used in place of wheat bran, and if green bone is difficult to procure then the other foods may be allowed, but nothing can take the place of green bone entirely.

Cotton seed meal is not suitable for poultry, but linseed meal is excellent. Cotton seed meal is derived from a raw, or unripe product. It is not always safe.—Poultry Keeper.

Getting a Reputation.

In every field of human endeavor those who obtain reputations for honest dealings have gained the desired goal through years of earnest effort, and persistency of purpose.

A breeder should not expect to capture the best trade until his name becomes familiar to the buying public. His stock may be the equal of any in existence, but he will get few or no calls from a large class of buyers who make it a rule to deal only with people of established reputation. And in some particulars this is the cream of the trade. It is made up of people who know the value of a good bird and who stand ready to pay for a good bird what it is worth.

If any one is in the poultry business for profit, it is well to lay his plans with a view to attracting the attention and winning the confidence of this class of buyers.

One of the most skilled and best known poultrymen recently told the writer that he steadily lost money at the business the first three or four years that he offered eggs and birds to the public. He had a fine stock as money would buy, but failed to secure buyers except at prices far below its value. He could open up no communication with those who were qualified to recognize the high quality of his stock, and those who did come to him could see no difference between it and that of some other breeder who was ready to sell for half the price that it was necessary for him to ask. Now this same breeder makes no attempt to meet these low-reprices. He easily finds sale for every good bird that he can raise at a figure corresponding to its value. The fact that it comes from his yards is a guarantee that it is worth the price, and the fact is accepted without question throughout the territory in which he has made his name so well known.

It is not to be supposed that everyone has the intelligence, the industry, and the patience to build up a poultry business which will cause him to rank alongside of the leaders in that kind of work.

Many will utterly fail to obtain the reputation which they are seeking, because they are unfitted by nature for earning it. But no matter how good one's stock may be, nor how well qualified he may be for keeping it up to a high standard, he will not attract the most desirable buyers, unless he in some manner constantly keeps himself within their sight, and thus in a fashion forces from them the recognition of his merits as a breeder.

Moulting Hens.

I fail to see why a hen at moulting time needs any special treatment except to be kept comfortable and supplied with good food and pure water. Moulting is a natural process, and the new feathers are not created by the hen, but some of her food is transformed into feathers. Nature seems wisely to have provided that egg-production shall be suspended for a time while the process is going on. A somewhat parallel case occurs when the flow of cow's milk ceases as the foetus calls for heavy drains upon the system. It is my belief that a hen at moulting time needs less nitrogenous matter in her food than she does when producing eggs instead of feathers. I am very positive that a flock of hens that is given an opportunity to choose its own food from a variety will choose a greater proportion of carbonaceous food at such times, and it seems reasonable, since an egg contains more nitrogen than she could possibly put in her new feathers during the time required to produce the egg. Better supply the necessary sulphur in some form of her food, as she has not the power to transform the sulphur from the shelves of the drug store into feathers, eggs or bones.—Exchange.

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WHITE WYANDOTTE CLUB.

The officers of the National White Wyandotte Club have just issued a neat circular setting forth the objects of the club and giving much information pertaining to the same. The circular also contains a complete list of the officers of the club together with a copy of the by-laws. This circular should be in the hands of every breeder of White Wyandottes and a copy will be mailed free to any one sending his name and address to the secretary of the club.

Ross. C. H. HALLOCK, ST. LOUIS, MO.

HOW TO RAISE PRIZE WINNERS.

Mr. W. F. Chamberlain,

Kirkwood, Mo.

Dear Friend,—

Yours of the 15th. inst. with congratulations received. While I feel gratified at the success "BLUE POINTS" achieved at the St. Louis Poultry Show, yet I feel that part of the honors belong to CHAMBERLAIN'S PERFECT CHICK FEED.

Any good poultryman knows that in growing chicks, a healthy, a healthy vigorous start is half the battle. My score cards show an average of over 8 lbs. a piece for the four April hatched pullets, and 9 lbs. for the May hatched cockerel, that made up the first prize hens at the St. Louis Poultry Show, 1902-03. This weight could not have been attained without a healthy, vigorous start, which a diet of "PERFECT CHICK

FEED." For ten weeks undoubtedly gave them. I hatched during the past year over 400 chicks, yet the loss of the first ten weeks, while fed on "PERFECT CHICK FEED" was less than 4/3. My brooding yards contain no bird underweights for 1903, yet some were hatched late. This I attribute in a great part, to the early use of your "PERFECT CHICK FEED" which is surely a well balanced ration for chicks. One can truthfully say, "You hatch the chicks, CHAMBERLAIN'S PERFECT CHICK FEED" does the rest."

Yours truly,

W. L. Gillham.

Wanda, Ill., January 17, 1903.

AN OUT-OF-TOWN RESIDENCE.

An out-of-town house is described, with fine illustrations, in the April DELINEATOR. It presents a simple, wholesome, artistic arrangement that is not easily attainable in a small suburban lot, and both in architectural quality and interior furnishings it differs from the usual out-of-town residence. The entrance is at the side, and a wide veranda extends across the front, these are unique features, and an out-of-the-ordinary adjustment of the different parts of the house follows. The furnishings are especially attractive, and do doubt, will be suggestive to other home makers.

If, in the breeding pens, a cock appears sluggish or indolent to his mates, we would advise the removing of him for a day or two, as very often a good cock of the heavier breeds will act in this manner, after being mated all winter. In this state he is unable to serve the hens, but if given a day or two by himself in quietness, now and then, he will soon recruit and regain his wonted vigor.

The non-hatching of eggs, so annoying to any breeder, may be owing to this lack of separation and explain why cockerels are used in the breeding pens instead of stronger and older birds.

In nearly all cases poor butter is overworked all the way through. The cow has hard work to make a living. It is hard work to get her milked regularly and well. It is hard work for the cream to rise because the milk is set away to cool. The cream is allowed to stay on the milk too long, and the cream is hard to churn and the butter is hard to gather and hard to sell after it is sent to market.

To distinguish sex of pigeons there is no sure way given as almost always the cock and hen look alike. The hen should be bred as near like the cock as possible. In most cases the cocks are thicker and more massive about the head and beak, the male being thicker and stouter built in every respect. But this is not always the case, and a fully developed, vigorous stylish hen can be passed off for a cock. Again, the cock makes a louder noise than the hen and his breastbone is larger. When two young birds are hatched the cock is most generally the larger and feathers out the faster.

Incubator Buyers! ATTENTION!

Before purchasing your incubators, write to me for catalogue of 12 of the leading incubator manufacturers of the U. S. and make yourselves familiar with the different kinds of machines, prices, etc. **H. L. Squires, Wading River, New York.**

Poultry and Fruits of Nashville, Tenn., has a new ad in this issue and it would be a good plan for the readers to notice it.

Notice the dot counting contest ad on the opposite page. This is a good thing for the readers of this paper who want to get a good poultry paper and a chance on some prizes. Can't you get up a club and all send at once.

Experience With Green Cut Bone.

No one thing can be fed to fowls that will give better results than a judicious and persistent feeding of green or raw cut bone. When caring for a flock of seventy fowls one winter, sixteen of which were White Leghorns, I carried into the house from forty-two to fifty-eight eggs per day. This was during December, January, February, and when eggs were highest and other poultrymen were not securing eggs. If fowls are matured, and if they have good health, I can guarantee that there is no one thing which can be fed to them that will bring the results that will the feeding of cut bone and clover.—H. B. H., in Orange Judd Farmer.

Shipping Market Eggs.

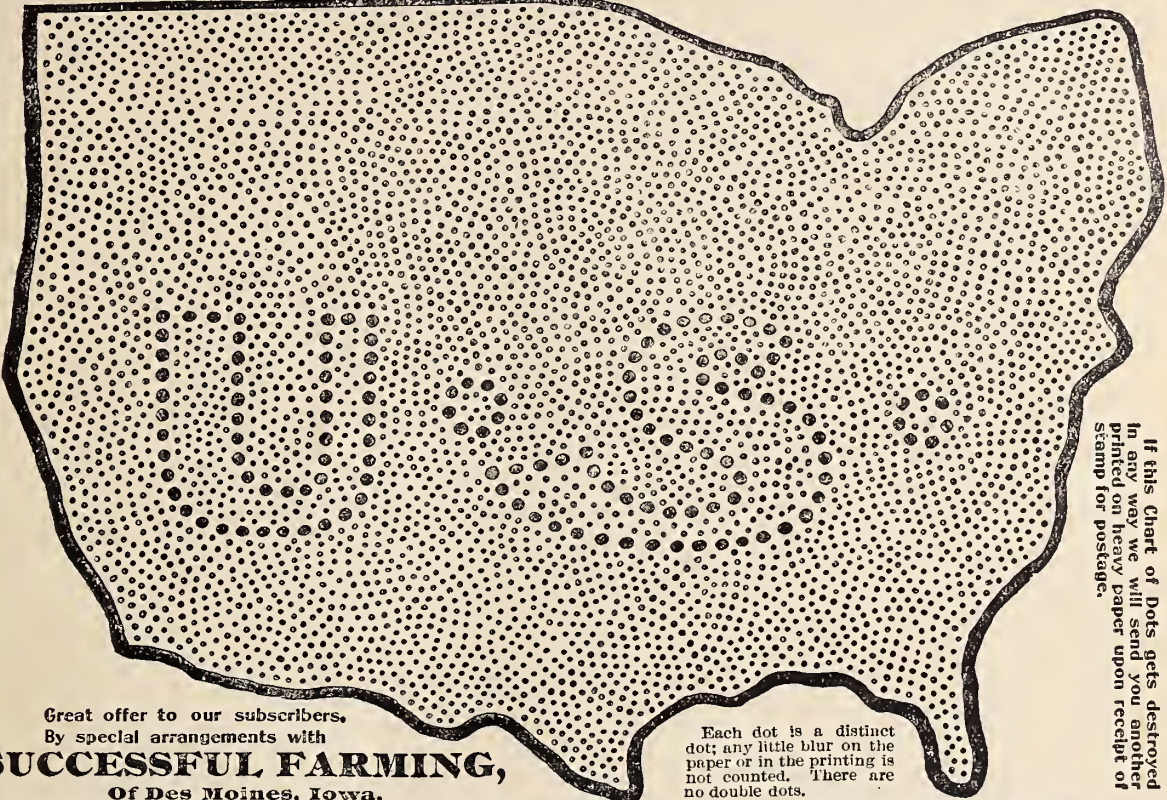
Those who send any number of eggs to market should pay attention to the packing of same so as to obtain the top market price. First of all select all white eggs for one case, and the brown eggs for another. Select out all the very small eggs and the badly formed ones and pack them in a case by themselves. When a case contains all white eggs of a nice, even size they are graded well up in quality; the same is true of brown eggs, and the small and ill-shaped ones are graded where they belong, but when all are mixed together the whole lot will be graded about where the poorest bring them. Fresh laid eggs in winter will sell well even though they be mixed, but in the egg stores of New York, the first week in December last, fresh-laid, well-selected white eggs sold for 40 cents per dozen; brown of the same quality, 38c., mixed 28 to 30c. This shows plainly the value of quality and selection in fresh-laid eggs. The same ratio exists all along the line. No matter if they be cold-storage eggs, appearance counts in their favor, and the well selected ones of all qualities and grades bring the best prices.

All meat and milk products should be given as fresh as possible.

It is a good plan to soak the oats that are to be fed; it helps digestion.

Don't forget that animal feed of some kind is absolutely necessary to give the best results.

\$1,500.00 FREE TWO \$350.00 SCHILLER PIANOS.
 IN GRAND PRIZES



Great offer to our subscribers.
 By special arrangements with
SUCCESSFUL FARMING,
 Of Des Moines, Iowa,

Each dot is a distinct dot; any little blur on the paper or in the printing is not counted. There are no double dots.

One of the best 32-page illustrated farm papers published, we will give to those who count the dots in the above diagram correctly or nearest correctly, or in case of tie suggest best plan, **TWO \$350.00 PIANOS AND \$800.00 IN CASH.** Read offer carefully. **Greatest offer ever made! You may lose \$500 by not entering contest.**

Two \$350.00 Schiller Pianos as first prizes—one to a lady and one to a gentleman; \$200.00 in cash; third prize, \$100.00; fourth, \$50.00; fifth, \$25.00; next, \$10.00; next, \$5.00; the next twenty-five, \$3.00 each; next thirty-five, \$1.00 each; two special prizes of \$150 each (see below). Surely out of this immense list you can win. If you can count and plan you can.

AWARDS WILL BE MADE AS FOLLOWS: The person giving correct or coming nearest the correct number, gets first prize, next nearest second prize, and so on down the list. The Pianos will be awarded to those who count correct or nearest correct—one to a lady, the other to a gentleman. If there should be a tie in the count for any prize it will be awarded to the one of those tying who suggests best plan of counting the dots. It is likely the person giving nearest the correct count will win as it is no easy matter to count these dots.

GRAND SPECIAL PRIZES—To the gentleman and lady winning the Pianos will be given an additional **Cash Prize of \$150.00 each** if they have three advance subscription counts entered. That is have paid two years in advance to our paper and Successful Farming at \$1.50 for the two years. If you win the piano and have paid one year at 75c the judges will give you the piano only. If you win the piano and have two years paid you get **\$150.00 extra.** It will pay all to have the three advance counts.

CONDITIONS—Subscriptions must be at 75c per year which pays for one year to both **Successful Farming,** and our paper and entitles you to one count; \$1.50 pays for two years and entitles you to three counts and makes you eligible for the grand **\$150 Special Prizes.**

TWO ELEGANT \$350.00 SCHILLER PIANOS FREE. These are fine prizes and in order to give ladies and gentlemen each an equal opportunity, one will go to a lady and one to a gentleman. Mark your subscription blank below stating whether you wish to enter "ladies' contest" or "gentleman's contest." Two different members of a family may compete, one in the ladies' and the other in the gentleman's contest, if they wish. 75c pays for one year's subscription to both papers and entitles you to one count, or \$1.50 pays for two years and entitles you to three counts, and by taking one on each side of what you think is the correct number you are more likely to win and besides if you win you get the grand special prizes of \$150 each, which you do not get if you only have one year paid in advance. See above in regard to special prizes.



She Won a Piano For \$1.00.
 "You may say to all the world, I received my piano, an elegant Schiller. I never heard of you until I answered your ad., so you have no favorites. I will answer any body sending stamp.—Daisy Keller, Belle Plain, Iowa."



A Check For \$150.
 "Oh I am so glad. Just received your check for \$150. It proves to me that you deal fairly with all. I paid the \$150 on your place.—Willis Sheirbon, Merrill, Ia."

First Prize She Ever Won.
 "I won \$100, all my own. It pays to enter your contests. They are surely conducted fairly. E. M. Hall, Montrose, Mo."
 We will send names and addresses of dozens and dozens who have won bicycles, watches, sewing machines, besides many larger premiums, to anybody writing for them.

Please Note—There is no element of chance, of guess work or lottery about this. It is a test of skill pure and simple. If you can count the dots correctly you can win. The number of prizes is so large you are bound to hit it somewhere.

State Treasurer Gilbertson, Mayor Brenton and a Banker, They Will Select, to Award Premiums

To Whom It May Concern: We know the publishers of **SUCCESSFUL FARMING** and can assure anybody interested that they will pay every premium they promise and treat every contestant fairly, showing no partiality. They have asked us to act as judges to award the prizes, and we will gladly act in that capacity.—G. S. Gilbertson, Treas. State of Iowa, and J. M. Brenton, Mayor of Des Moines.

Nobody connected with our paper is allowed to compete. Surely with such judges all may be assured fair treatment. You are as likely to win as anyone.

Key to Dots—To all who wish it and will write on separate sheet of paper "Send me key to dots," and sign your name and P. O. and enclose 10 cents to cover expenses, we will at close of contest send you a key to the dots showing just how many there are. Every contestant should order one, but it is not necessary unless you wish one. No key will be sent out until close of contest.

Contest closes April 30, 1903, but get your counts in at once, the earlier the better. Contestants having three advance subscription counts entered may enter additional counts at 25 cents each. Address,

AMERICAN FANCIER & BREEDER
 De Kalb, Ills.

Publisher American Fancier & Breeder, De Kalb, Ills.
 I enclose \$..... for years subscription to both **SUCCESSFUL FARMING** and your paper, and I wish to enter the..... (write ladies' or gent's) Dot Contest. (If \$1.50 is paid send three counts; if more than \$1.50, send one additional count for each 75c over \$1.50; if only 75c is paid send **ONLY ONE** count. The \$150.00 special prizes go only to those having **THREE** or more counts entered.)
 My Count is: (1)..... (2)..... (3).....
 Name.....
 (Have paper addressed to head of the family)
 P. O..... State.....
 Remarks: My plan of counting is

In nearly all cases the best and strongest chicks come from 2-year-old hens united with a good strong cockerel.

One of the necessities of the loft which cannot be mentioned too often is salt. Salt is necessary in some form for all animals.

The Scratching Shed.

A poultryman's education means knowing how to do things—little things; everyday things. The trouble is, that a large majority of those who take up poultry are waisting time upon the visionable scribblings of theoretic fools or intricate problems that, when worked out, bring no money. The men who succeed are those who learn to do the little things right and do them faithfully. Men are prone to go from home to learn, to go from home to purchase stock, and to depend upon other people's judgement. He who studies things in his own yards depends upon his own judgment, will accomplish infinitely more than the man who adopts all the theories spun by writers for papers.

THE BEST YET

POULTRY AND FRUITS

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EGGS FOR HATCHING



From fine Golden Sebright
BANTAMS

My Bantams are bred from the best imported stock and are mated for best results.

Eggs \$3 per 13, \$5 per 26.
Lea M. Munger,
DeKalb, Ill.

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CARDS of 30 words or less, in card column,
1 insertion 50 cents. 3 insertions \$1.00,
6 insertions \$1.75, 12 insertions \$3.00.

Cards with small illustration, of 20 words or less at the above rates. Over this number of words in plain or illustrated cards, 2 cents for each extra word. All cards must be paid for in advance.

CHICKENS, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Guinea Hens, Pea fowl, Belgian Hares, Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Rats, Mice, Dogs, Cats, Ring Doves. Eggs for hatching State wants. Wm. A. Bartlett, Box 34, Jacksonville, Ill.

Poultry Breeders send 50c for a 20-paged monthly devoted to poultry, etc. Sample 3 cents "Michigan Poultry Breeder," Battle Creek, Mich. Or send 55 cents and receive Michigan Poultry Breeder," and THE AMERICAN FANCIER & BREEDER both 1 year

PIGEON Book, illustrating, describing all varieties, arranging loft, feeding, breeding, caring for, 5 cents. 1,000 Pigeons for sale, prices sent free. Wm. Bartlett & Co., Box 34, Jacksonville, Ill.

BUFF WYANDOTTES AND BUFF Leghorns. Eggs from first-prize stock at Erie, Painsville and Warren at \$1.50 per 15. Geo. Sapper, 154 E. 21 St., Erie, Pa. R. 2.

Grit for Poultry.

In those days at home, we lived along the pike, and the fowls had free range and a pike full of crushed stone for their fun, we never thought of providing grit for the fowls. But in the first years of our starting out in life it was necessary for us to yard our fowls or not have any, and later to yard the breeding birds of different matings. Our first yard was the house yard with outside run part of the year with nineteen fowls, common stock, for a beginning. Our next was, one acre fenced in, of course the number of fowls had increased too about 100. After a few months on the acre some of the finest birds begin to get crop bound, and on examination found they needed teeth or grit to grind and digest their food, and away we went to the pike about a half a mile away for the life saver, sand or grit. We next read we could make grit with a hammer and large stone, and we thought "is'nt that fine." And looked at the fowls in wonder as they crowded around and ate eagerly all we would pound about once a week. Our next improvement was a grit machine, then we thought we had reached the climax. Here we could grind up all sorts of stone, crockery, etc., and have the grit for fowls. Each week we took about an hours exercise at the grit crusher, after the novelty wore off and the roller began to get smooth it required grit on our part to grind the grit. The machine was the only cost, flint stones and such material being free. But the time came when labor was of more value and the grit was bought in 500 lb. lots from those who prepare this necessary article for fowls by steam power or some wholesale method. And did any one ever know of a fowl eating too much grit? I never did, and know they will starve in a feed house if they cannot get any grit, and they eat quantities of it. Last year our fowls ate 500 lbs. of grit that was purchased, outside of any they chanced to find, the lowest number of fowls being 200, and up to 550 in summer. We have never had a crop bound fowl since we provided plenty of grit. Little chicks need grit if they are put in a board coop and cannot get any grit, they will die in a short time even if the feed be right. Still there are plenty of people that do not understand about the grit, and look at you in wonder as you tell them they eat stones. How they need it and how it wears out and passes on, and they need more too take its place. They see the gravel in the gizzard when cleaning fowls but never think of its being the workshop of the fowls, the grit being the tools or crushers for grinding the feed.

The poultry papers need grit too, not stone crushed, but the grit or determination to succeed and overcome the difficulties that come to us all. And I suppose even the editor has to have a reserve supply to draw upon when needed.

Over-crowded Poultry.

There is no graver danger to fowls than

crowding too many in too small space. Not only do a number of diseases result from this course, but the hens will not lay as well, and the profits in consequence are greatly diminished.

It is natural when a poultry keeper makes a fair bargain of profit for the year to wish to add to it the following season by increasing the number of his fowls. This is sometimes done without enlarging his buildings and yards sufficiently, and the dangers of overcrowding incurred in consequence. Now that so many make a living from scientific poultry keeping in large or small plants, a poultryman cannot afford to overcrowd or neglect his fowls, for he is in general competition with these plants in marketing his chickens or eggs. Of course, no matter how large a number of fowls are kept in a hen-house some will lay, but there is nothing like the egg yield there would be should other methods be used.

Overcrowding is quite often accompanied by under feeding, particularly as there has been so much written about the danger of too much food for laying hens. This advice is undoubtedly correct, and a medium course in feeding should be followed, but it would seem that it were best to be on the side of over feeding rather than the reverse. It is surely true that a hen cannot produce eggs if she is not given the food to do it with, and in the anxiety not to over feed her she may not get sufficient food.

It seems to take all the ambition out of a hen to have too many of her own kind about her. Why should she lay eggs to hatch out chickens (for that it was a hen lay for, and not to realize so much money per dozen for them) when there seems to her no room for them to live or grow in? Again, where there are too many in a yard there is a less likelihood of finding tit-bits by hunting for them, so a hen will stand around waiting for feeding time. One may make her exercise by throwing the grain in litter, and this litter, by the way, is a source of scaly leg, but this exercise is not as good as if she were hunting for herself, and then some of the grain is almost sure to get lost and is therefore wasted. It would seem to be the best plan to keep only a moderate number of hens in the different yards, to keep them out of sight of those in other yards as much as possible, and to give each yard of fowls a chance at free range every now and then, or at any rate a run in a larger space.

There is far more profit in a smaller number of fowls well kept than in a large number poorly managed, and in this poor management overcrowding has a prominent place.—H. E. Maydock, in A. P. A.

The amateur in the pigeon business should begin with a few pairs of good birds, watch them closely, study their wants and needs and after he has found how to successfully keep a few it is time enough to increase the stock to large numbers. Homers and Flying tumblers are good birds to start with.

OIL = SMELTER = MINES !**- WESTERN BRANCH -****DOUGLAS, LACEY & CO.,****BANKERS AND BROKERS,****Willard & Yates, Managers,**

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When we have placed with our customers the amount of treasury stock of any company necessary for its development, our labors and responsibilities have but just begun. We must stay with the property and our customers' financial interests therein; must see that it is intelligently, economically and honestly operated; and, having a conditional interest in the profits of the property, secondary to the interests of our customers, if we followed any other policy than that of keeping strict supervision of its management, even although it might take a much longer time than was anticipated to demonstrate the actual value of the property and place it upon an independent dividend-earning basis, we would most assuredly be negligent not only of our customers' interest, but of our own as well.

The following remark recently made regarding our firm by one of the well-known financiers of New York was both flattering and appreciated, for it expressed what we are striving for:

"DOUG AS, LACEY & COMPANY HAVE SUCCEEDED BY THEIR BUSINESS-LIKE METHODS IN MAKING MINING INVESTMENTS RESPECTABLE AS THEY SHOULD BE"

Booklets giving our successful plan for realizing the large interest and profits of legitimate Mining, Oil and Smelter Investments, subscription blanks, full particulars, etc., sent free on application to all who mention this Journal.

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Send 25 cents for a year's subscription to THE RURAL SUN a large illustrated monthly devoted to Poultry, Pigeons, Pet Stock, Farm and Home, etc., and your card will be inserted in Breeder's Column, one year free. Circulation 5,000.

S. A. Carrick, Orangeville, Md.

The Rural Sun**Cash For Your Farm**

may be obtained through me. No matter where located. Send description and selling price and learn my plan. W. M. Strandner, 1215 Filbert St., Phila., Pa.

\$10 Buys a 200-Egg Perfect Hatcher and Brooder. Test. & Illustrated Cir 2c. J. A. Chelton, Fairmount, Md.

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of the choicest breeding for sale. All bred from high scoring pens. Eggs for hatching. Write for prices and full information. Lloyd E. Thompson, Sterling, Ill.

Do you want to Make Money?

If so, send stamps for full particulars of our "Money Making Propositions," for Man or Woman, Boy or Girl, in country or towns who has room enough to raise some Poultry or Pet Stock for us. American Fancier's and Breeder's Exchange,

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GAME COCKERS? Send 50 cents for a monthly journal devoted to Game fowls. Sample 5 cts. "Game Fanciers Journal," Battle Creek, Mich. Or send 55 cents and receive "Game Fancier's Journal" and THE AMERICAN FANCIER and BREEDER both one year.

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Send for our free Booklet "Why you should Breed Belgian Hares." Don't buy until you read this book. Those who start now will make big money the next two years. The demand for good breeding stock will be larger than the supply.

GROVE STOCK FARM,
Warrenton, Ohio.

Wanted To Sell.

500 of my Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, Silver Laced Wyandottes, Light Brahmas. To readers of this paper I have show birds, also breeders. I guarantee to please every customer or his money back, try me and see. J. A. ROADRUCK,

Tripp Co.

Buck Creek, Ind.

Why Some Poultry Don't Pay.

It does not take one who is familiar with comfortable, roomy, well-kept poultry yards and houses, long to see why the raising of poultry does not pay, in many cases.

A trip through the country will often show a woeful neglect of all that well regulated poultry keeping demands—open sheds and roofs are all the protection the fowls get from the cold rains of fall and winter, and no effort is made to provide dry houses or scratching sheds for disagreeable days, when the hens cannot hustle outdoors. As for feeding anything to laying hens, that seems to be too remote to even consider.

The idea seems to be among this class, that owing to the mild climate, the hens will easily succeed in gathering all the food necessary, and that no protection is needed during the fall and winter months.

The hens will doubtless gather most all they need, especially during summer, except on days when rain falls incessantly from daylight to dark, which not infrequently happens, and at such times, unless supplied for them, they will huddle together under some friendly shelter and remain hungry rather than face the drenching rain.

Then, again, the roofs on the poultry houses afford no protection whatever, and the hens are compelled to roost beneath cracks through which the rain pours.

The houses are never cleaned but vermin and filth combine to breed disease among the fowls.

Fresh water is never given the hens, and they are compelled to drink from stagnant pools or go thirsty.

No grit or oyster shells are supplied though both may often be had at practically no cost except the crushing.

The markets of the south are constantly demanding both eggs and poultry at good prices and it seems strange that more attention is not given the hens. The conditions of soil and climate are ideal for poultry raising, and with the same care as is given by breeders north of the Ohio, the poultry business of the south could be made a very profitable one.

The idea that nature will supply both food and shelter must be banished before the hen can be made profitable. Houses must be built that are dry and clean; food must be given and water and grit must be supplied. The young chicks, when first hatched, must not be turned out with the hen and be made to hustle, and, as the southern people say, "root hog or die." They must be cared for and kept growing so that at maturity they are fully developed and physically strong and vigorous.—Exchange.

Linseed meal is used largely in the food of poultry, one gill of linseed meal being added to every quart of ground grain used. The linseed meal is rich in mineral and nitrogenous materials and serves to balance the grain, the mixture, when half a pound meat is added, making one of the best egg producing foods that can be combined. It should not be used of tener than once a day, corn and wheat being given at night.

50c.

Sample

Free.

DO IT QUICK

Modern Farmer & Busy Bee 5c
American Poultry Journal 5c
National Fruit Grower, 50c
All for 50c if you mention this paper, and address
Modern Farmer,
St Joseph, Mo.

The Shareholder

is Wall Street's leading financial paper and is the only paper reporting actual sales of mining, oil and other Unlisted Securities. If you have stock for Sale or Exchange communicate with the Exchange Department, THE SHAREHOLDER, 68 Wall Street. New York.

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your opportunity to become a member of an organization having secret signs, a password a secret code of writing and many other fascinating features. Everybody is joining. For particulars, enclose a two-cent stamp and address Ivan Johnson, 426 W. Main St. Louisville, Ky., and he will also send you a nice present FREE. 2-6

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Tells all about the operations of the various companies in the different fields, values of their properties, worth of their stock, kind of management, etc.

Subscription Price \$2.50 a Year.

Send for sample copy. Office, 318 Pine St., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

HOW'S THIS?

How would you like to have your name on what is called a LINOTYPE SLUG? Well, you can get it free. With this little article you can stamp your name on handkerchiefs, towels, linens, etc., or any thing of such nature; you can also use it for printing your visiting cards. This is the "real thing" as a novelty, and the very first time anything of its kind has been offered. Now we are just doing this in order to introduce our monthly magazine for young men and women and the home—X-RAY MONTHLY. It is up-to-date in every particular and is quite unlike the average monthly home paper. Its stories are by the best writers; its departments are edited by the ablest to be secured; its appearance presents a most attractive one, and taken as a whole, X-RAY MONTHLY has no equal. On receipt of a silver dime we will give you a year's subscription, and will also immediately forward you your name LINTYPED.

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Our Matings still produce the Winners, and win the Prizes for our Patrons.

We are giving our friends and patrons the benefit of our 23 Years' Experience in Mating and Breeding. We make a specialty of

Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, Silver and White Wyandottes, White and Brown Leghorns, Bronze Turkeys, Bantams, and Pearl Guineas.

HERE IS A GOOD RECORD.

What our patrons say:

January 3d.—The two Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerels you sold my friend, scored 93 and 94 by B. N. Pierce. I have changed my mind and want to know what you will send me a cockerel bred for. The youngest cockerel had the finest hackle I ever saw, and also clear yellow legs, nice comb and a strong bay eye. They were well barred to the skin, let me know soon. Yours truly,

A. N. HILLS.

UNIVERSITY PLACE, NEB., Feb. 17, 1901.

F. M. MUNGER, De Kalb, Ill.

Dear Sir:—I bought some eggs of you some years ago, I like the stock better than from any I have been able to get since. Please send me catalogue and prices. Yours truly,

W. H. INGRAHAM.



Wing of "Match Mark Prince" at the head of one of our breeding pens. Match Mark Prince is a most remarkable bird in color and markings, clear, even surface color and nearly perfect in eye, comb, legs and shape. We value Match Mark Prince at \$100.00 on account of his valuable breeding qualities, mated with high scoring "Blue Bird" hens and pullets. A limited number of eggs from this mating at \$4.00 per 13; \$7.00 per 26.

The coming season are made up of the finest and most beautiful specimens in each variety we have ever used. These yards are selected from over 1,000 fine birds, and contain large well matured and vigorous specimens, nearly all of them prize winners. We pack eggs in new baskets, and in such a manner that they will go safely long distances by Express, to any part of the continent and hatch just as well as at home. I guarantee eggs to arrive in good order. I have shipped eggs to nearly every State and Territory, and in almost every case with good results, as I send eggs that are fresh and will be fertilized by strong and vigorous male birds, and I know a good per cent of them will hatch if proper care is given. Eggs from Barred Plymouth Rocks from such sires as "Match Mark," "Blue Prince 2d," "Hero Prince 2d," "Sweepstakes 2d," "Blue Jay," \$4.00 per 13; \$7.00 per 26. Five other high scoring sires, such as "Prince Lea," "Champion Prince," "High Mark" and "Hustler" \$3.00 per 13; \$5.00 per 26. Eggs from White Plymouth Rocks, Silver and White Wyandottes, White and Brown Leghorns \$3.00 per 13; \$5.00 per 26. Turkey eggs 50 cents each, from eight special matings. Eggs in large numbers a matter of correspondence. Birds hatched from our matings have won the highest honors in every State in the Union.

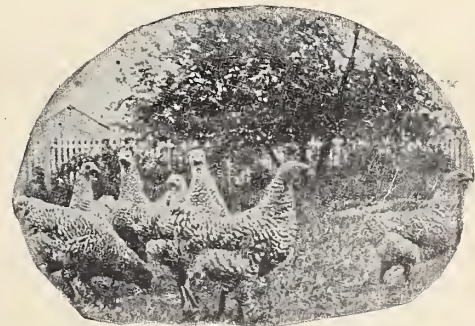
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