

not one of those persons that consider fowls are sickly creatures, a ready prey to every imaginable disease. They are not, but it has been the common fault of their owners to neglect them and their habitations still more. I venture to say any other kind of stock subject to the same conditions as fowls have been for years and years, would not exist at all, but gradually die out altogether.

Friend SPILLETS article in June number is good, and anyone raising chicks with the mother confined to a coop has not much chance against disease. I may say here, I never enclose the hen after the chicks are two or three weeks old. I have only this season about three hundred chicks, as I have to depend on my better half for a great deal of the care in raising them; and her health will not permit of much labor in this way I am sorry to say; and they do not thrive so well under other and less observant eyes. Still when I have been raising six hundred, my plan is the same, all the chicks have unlimited range with their mothers. By the way, I buy or hire hens, and with my own sitters try to have the chicks as nearly as possible of an age. My intelligent Collie looks after the peace of the mothers, he allows no fighting, and knows so well by look and action of the birds when strife is impending that they are generally divided (by a gentle poke with his nose), before hostilities begin.

The article by MR. ERMATINGER contains some pertinent remarks concerning poultry breeding as a commercial industry. Most of your readers are aware of my opinion on this really important subject. I had no idea until I read his article, of the proposed government plan extending its operations to poultry. If this branch is conducted by a practical man it will give to poultry culture, a much needed stimulus, but there must be no crookedness about it; no fanciful, or medical feed-

ing, let the man be a thorough poultry man, *with power to act on his own discretion*. Much good must be accomplished by such a system, well grounded, and ably conducted, without favor to any breed or breeder.

The article by E. W. HUBBELL is very interesting, but I find that absorption of the yolk is almost the last act of dame nature in the process of hatching being completed only very shortly before the chick leaves the shell. I do not know how the rest of "chicken-edom" has been doing, but in this neighborhood there are very few chicks, everybody for miles around is complaining of a bad season.

I am and have been very busy the past two months. I came to the conclusion last year that a poultry man needs a place of his own, for each season brings expensive and needed changes, and on a rented place this means loss. So I have had a new poultry house built on my place in the village, I have been living a short distance out hitherto. Moving in the middle of the breeding season is an awful job. But it is over, and I hope to extend my operations shortly.

HONOR IN THE POULTRY FRATERNITY.

Editor Review:—

Please allow me to make a few remarks through your REVIEW re "Honor in the Poultry Fraternity." I have frequently noticed broad hints, and strong insinuations in poultry papers and publications to the effect that poultry men, as a class are very "tricky" and dishonorable, to say the least in their poultry dealings. My experience has been quite different to this.

Whatever (foul) fowl-dealings others may have to complain of, my business transactions with the poultry fraternity have been of a very satisfactory character. I have been well pleased and satisfied with all the

dealings I have had so far with all poultrymen. Perhaps I have not "struck" the mean class yet, but they cannot be very numerous as I have dealt with a large number of all degrees, among them old breeders and new fanciers, high and low, rich and poor, and have never been "badly bitten" nor very much deceived yet.

I have many times sold eggs on credit to parties in various parts of the province, whom I had never seen nor heard of before and I have yet to meet the first customer who has failed to pay for his eggs. This is a pretty good showing I think for a class of men in all circumstances of life—a good deal better than can be said of some other classes who hold their heads quite high and look "down" on the poultry fraternity with supreme contempt.

One reason, we believe, why many unfortunate people regard poultrymen with suspicion and distrust is the fact that eggs do not get a fair chance in handling by express men and hatching by hen. It is a curious but remarkable fact that we frequently send out eggs for hatching from the same birds, and about the same distance and give them the same care in packing and shipping etc, and one man will get almost a full hatch while another will only get one or two chickens from the whole sitting.

Now how or why is this;—it must be owing either to the rough handling by expressmen or the fault of the sitting hen. But some one says my eggs were handled carefully and my hen sat faithfully, and I had a poor hatch, and therefore it was the fault of the eggs, they must have been bad. Well, let us see; there is as much difference in sitting hens as in brood-mares or sows. One mare will raise a good colt, while another will loose hers every time. One hen will hatch out a good brood of chicks almost every time you sit her while another never hatches out a single chick though you may let her sit every year, and sometimes two or three