

Will it pay to do this? In pleasure, yes; in money, perhaps. But in breeding our birds the money question should always be secondary. We cannot keep all of them, if we would. Some must be disposed of. But we ought not to ask ourselves whether it will pay in dollars or cents if we would get the greatest pleasure out of breeding fowls. The true fancier asks himself how he can produce perfect birds or birds as near perfection as possible. And to this task he bends his energies without thought of pecuniary result. When he has got his birds where he desires them, when beauty shines out in every line, then some one comes along and buys this one for a V, that for an X, and once in a while one for XXV or an L. Then he realizes that he is getting back again the money he expended, but this is but a small part of the satisfaction he has derived. All along he has rejoiced over the improvement he has been making in his feathered pets.

#### MINORCAS AT THE INDUSTRIAL.

**I**N regard to the first Ontario cock having feathers on his legs. It appears it was not the judge that said so but an exhibitor, and when I spoke to him about it while we were looking to see where the feathers were, said he did not say there were but said he thought there were which I claim to be about the same thing, passing remarks around where there are a lot of strangers, although members of Toronto Association heard him say there were. I had not seen the birds from the time I put them in until I went up on Saturday noon when I was asked why I did not take the feathers off. I said there were none on to take off or never were since I owned him. So in passing down to the Minorca section I asked Mr. Daniels if he would come and take the bird out to examine, which he did, but no feathers could we or many others find, and having sold the bird I think it is only right to contradict the statement.

If you will please publish this and hoping I have not taken up too much space.

I remain, yours truly,

JOHN FORD.

Toronto, Oct. 20, 1896.

[Perhaps the judge Mr. T. H. Smelt, to finally settle this matter, which has caused some comment, would say if he found any trace of the objectionable feathers referred to. Ed.]

#### SELECTION AND CARE OF POULTRY FOR PROFIT.

BY MR. H. W. PAGE, ST. MARY'S.

*(Continued.)*

**Meat Scraps**—Meat scraps are necessary in the winter to take the place of the animal food the fowls can procure in the summer in the shape of insects, worms, etc. For the same reason it is necessary in the summer when hens are kept in confinement.

**Dust Bath**—The dust bath is the very best method of keeping poultry free from vermin, especially if a little sulphur or carbolic powder is mixed with it.

**Sunlight**—There are millions of disease germs which multiply rapidly and thrive in dark places which cannot live in the sunlight so that one of the best aids we can call in for the prevention of disease is the direct rays of the sun.

**Lime**—Lime can be made very useful in the poultry house. Good fresh lime made into a white wash with a little carbolic acid mixed in it will make the inside of the house clean and healthful, and a little air-slacked lime sprinkled on the floor tends to keep it dry.

**Douglas Mixture**—A very good thing to prevent roup, or to cure mild cases, is made as follows: Take two gallons of water, one pound of sulphate of iron and one ounce of sulphuric acid. Mix all together and stir or shake occasionally till dissolved. To a flock of ten or twelve hens give two or three tablespoonfuls in the drinking water two or three times a week.

#### A FEW DON'T'S.

Don't keep more fowls than you can properly care for.

Don't keep more than one breed unless you have ample facilities for keeping them separate.

Don't keep fowls unsuited to your locality or the purpose for which you need them. Don't try to raise birds for the show pen until you have acquired the necessary skill.

Don't try to raise birds by the use of the incubator and brooder until you understand the delicate and complicated process of incubation.

Don't debit the poultry with all they cost for food and care unless you credit them with all they return you for home consumption and what you sell.

Don't expect to be as successful when you first start as the man who has been in the business for many years.

Don't keep hens after they are three years old. After that age they will not pay for their keep much less will they