

proprietor of Blyth Poultry Yards, to dispose of his fine stock of Light Brahmas, The strain is a good one, and we feel convinced that Mr. Thorne will give bargains. He also has chicks to dispose of from several popular varieties. We know that this gentleman has not spared money in getting the best stock procurable for breeders.

Chas. Bonnick, Yorkville, Ont., advertises W. Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks, Partridge Cochins, and Golden Polands, and will try hard to please all who favor him with orders.

The *National Poultry Monitor* says:—"The CANADIAN POULTRY REVIEW is a neat little journal, well gotten up, original, and full of interesting matter each month," &c. Thanks, brother Jeffrey; but did it never strike you that the fourteen pages of reading matter, which REVIEW averages each month, with its small type, contain as much if not more matter than most of the poultry journals published. We like your *Monitor* very much; it is a good journal, and is deservedly popular, but we prefer our smaller page and smaller type. We know that our readers do not value a journal according to the amount of paper covered, so, adhere to the old shape, even if not quite the fashion.

The Business in Eggs for Hatching.

The season just closed has been one of the best in the trade in eggs for hatching that we have had in Canada for years; indeed from many letters received, and personal information, we are inclined to the belief that more business has been done in this line the past spring in Canada than during any previous season.

From the nature of the business there is apt to be a great deal of dissatisfaction connected with it on the part of both the buyer and the seller. The buyer, especially he who is not aware of the great trouble and expense of procuring and keeping up pure-bred poultry at their best, generally looks upon \$2.50 or \$3.00 as a very large price to pay for a setting of eggs, quite large enough to entitle him to a number of first-class chicks, and insure him against bad luck. He is likely also to purchase with a certain amount of distrust, a feeling quite natural when he cannot know with certainty what he is buying; the many dishonest schemes attributed to sellers of eggs must have a tendency to increase this feeling. In the early days of the poultry fancy many unscrupulous practices were resorted to, to confine the business within narrow limits, such as dipping the eggs in boiling water, perforating the shells &c., but in these days of competition we believe the purchaser can order eggs with perfect confidence that no such tricks will be resorted to. It stands to reason that it is in the

interest of the fancier to do the best possible for his customers in this business as in any other, for only by honest dealing can he expect to receive continued patronage. Still, when the hatch is found not to be good, the fancier is often charged with dishonorable dealing, even when he has done the best he possibly could for his customer.

On the other hand, when the fancier has taken every possible precaution to have the eggs in good order, and so packed as to reach their destination safely, it is very discouraging and unsatisfactory to be informed at the end of three weeks that they have brought fourth no chicks, and to have all the blame cast on him, or perhaps be threatened with being posted as a fraud and a cheat unless he duplicates the order, while he is at the same time having excellent hatches at home, and receiving accounts of excellent hatches from other customers, who have had eggs in the same condition as the grumbler.

A greater part of the unpleasantness and bitterness arising in this way might be avoided, if the buyer and seller were to have a better understanding of their respective risks and responsibilities. It is the duty of the seller to know that his stock is pure, and the eggs fresh and fertile. (Of the latter fact he should convince himself by trial before shipping, as it sometimes happens, especially with Asiatics early in spring, that few eggs are fertilized.) He should pack the eggs safely for carriage, and when shipped his responsibility should cease, unless he guarantees a good hatch, in which case we would advise him to have the eggs hatched before sending them.

The buyer, when the eggs reach him in good condition, should get them under the hen as early as possible, and see that she faithfully performs her part. Should she desert the nest, or from some other cause the eggs become destroyed, he should accept it as his luck, and try again. It is very seldom in a case of this kind, that the seller will not either make a reduction in a second setting, or even duplicate the order, if the matter is set before him in a manly way; but fanciers, as a rule, detest whiners, and regard them with suspicion. Here, as in most other cases of investment the buyer must take his chances of success or failure, just as the seller did before him, and may either get a flock, out of which he may realize a large sum, or he may get nothing. As instances of success we know of many cases where over \$20.00 was realized from a setting of eggs costing \$3.00 or less, and of one this season, where, though the chicks are not over two months old, the product of a single setting would not be bought for less than \$30.00.

We hear a great deal of the dishonesty of fanciers, but they also have a story to tell.