

ers whose experience is wholly in the line of the remarks now quoted. My own observation leads to a similar opinion of these birds.

It is to be hoped that some of our farmers will give this breed a trial and I know they will like it. Breeders should endeavor to get a heavier fowl from this breed. We want both meat and eggs. I have no doubt but this will be at length obtained in the near future. With the increasing attention given to poultry all over the country, and the ever deepening interest in all that pertains to poultry culture, we will have an improved breed which will meet our especial requirements of meat and eggs."—REV. J. C. QUINN in Orange Judd Farmer.

How to Mate.

HERE are all sorts of theories advanced on this subject. Many of them are ridiculous ones. The old English rule—and England has much to boast of in her poultry—is to put a stout, young and lively male with twenty-four hens, if the eggs are merely intended for table use. But if we wish to obtain strong and thriving chickens, there should not be more than six hens to each cock. If the object is to improve a wornout and degenerate breed three are best. But in all cases the cock must be in perfect health.

Last year we tried an experiment which proves that the English idea is correct. We mated a pair of Light Brahmas—five hens and a cock—and the chickens hatched were hardy and gave excellent results. Later on we added seven more hens to the pen, and while there was a remarkable fertility of the eggs, the chicks produced were very weak, and the changeable weather we have had has killed nearly all of them. This year we will follow the English rule more closely, and believe our success will be better,—Germantown Telegraph.

Kill the Poor Ones.

IF it costs seventy-five cents a year to keep a hen, is it of no account whether she pays a profit, or is a bill of expense? The fact is, we are not realizing as we ought, because there are hens that do not return enough to pay their keeping. The total production of the flock does not tell the story of individual merit. There must be a weeding of the poorer ones. Better by far reduce the flock to fifty and secure an average of one hundred and twenty eggs, than to keep fifty more that do not pay the feed bill, and simply load the remainder. Even though the average be above the cost line, there is need of weeding out the poorer ones, that in the saving of food there may be the greater profit.

It is in the study of individual merit that the most is to be realized in the years before us. It is by getting rid of the poorer hens that one makes money in the business. This is not a difficult task. A little watchfulness will soon tell the story of merit, and the saving will pay well for time and trouble. There must be a difference in individual worth, and so long as this exists the best should be selected.—Maine Farmer.

Death of F. A. Kidder.

THE sudden death of F. A. Kidder, publisher of Poultry Chum, and Popular Chum, Geneseo, Ill., and secretary of the Rock Island Association is announced as occurring on the 10th October. Mr Kidder was an energetic, intelligent and persistent worker in his chosen field and his death will be lamented by a wide circle of friends.

Experiment in Feeding.

AT the Maine Experimental Station, during October and November, twenty-four Plymouth Rock cockerels were confined in two roomy pens of twelve each.

"One lot was fed with cracked corn alone, and the other was fed with cracked corn mixed with beet scrap, in addition to which both lots had an equal allowance of potatoes, ground clam shells, gravel and fresh water. In seventeen days the twelve birds gained four pounds on cracked corn while those which were given a ration of equal weight in which beef scraps were substituted for a part of the corn, gained 8½ pounds. This was an average gain of one-third pound for each bird in the first lot, and almost three-fourths pound in the second lot. The first lot ate 27½ pounds of cracked corn, worth 39 1-2 cents, making the cost per pound of the weight gained 26 cents. Lot second consumed 21 1-2 pounds of corn and 6 pounds of beef scrap, the whole costing 43½ cents or 4.77 cents per pound of weight gained. In the second test an equal weight of dried blood was substituted for the beef scrap for fourteen days, but the result was slightly in favor of the pure corn. This may be explained from the fact that an equal weight of blood contains only about one half as much actual food elements as the beef scrap, but this difference alone does not seem sufficient to explain the apparent difference in effect. The 24 birds gained 20½ pounds in 82 days. The increase having a value of at least \$2.50. They consumed 94 pounds of corn and 12 1-2 pounds of scrap and blood, the whole costing \$1.50. The half bushel of small potatoes had scarcely any market value.—Fanciers' Gazette.