

good reason why the two should not be successfully combined in most cases. Thorough-bred fowls will cost more than mongrels in the first place, but they will be found much better, and a good deal of money may be made by selling select stock to those who want thoroughbreds for breeding or exhibition.

To those who have had little experience with poultry we would offer the advice that they start with a few good birds, and increase the number as they find they can manage them profitably. One advantage the poultry business has over most others is that in one season the stock can be increased to almost any extent without great outlay. Get the very best for the purpose intended, whether for eggs or poultry, and only use for breeders those that best fill the bill. Breed at home the birds required to increase the stock. No one can succeed who commences by purchasing a lot of fowls from different places. By starting in this way vermin and disease is sure to be brought in, the labor is greatly increased, and the profits lowered, if not completely swept away.

Not only is experience required in the management of the stock, but also in securing a good market for their produce. The poultry farmer should aspire to procure the very highest price for what he has to dispose of, and to dispose of it only when prices range highest.

It is a very easy matter to get plenty of eggs from hens in the spring and early summer months. The profit is not in producing them at this season, unless liming or other means is resorted to. From the month of October to the month of April the best prices prevail, and the one who gets the bulk of the yield between these months will make the most profit. To manage this the stock must be hatched early, and warmly housed. It will seldom pay to supply hestartificially.

We sometimes hear of very large profits being realized by poultry-farmers; some claim to have made over \$2 each per year from hens in large flocks, from eggs alone, but this was near markets where high prices always prevailed. We believe that at the present time a clean profit of \$1.00 per head might safely be counted on in Canada, if a good laying variety is kept and carefully attended to. Prices are steadily advancing year by year, and we believe that the careful, industrious man, who now goes into the business, and is content with small profits for a few years, will find poultry farming a profitable occupation in the long run. But to those who expect large returns and little labor, we would say, it will not be found in poultry farming in Canada at the present time.

The laying hens will go on strike now if you don't keep them in warm quarters.

## They wouldn't Thrive.

Editor Review.

Being that you are always glad to chronicle any bit of practical experience, no matter how commonplace, if it is likely to be beneficial to your readers, I thought I would relate a circumstance that came under my notice this season.

A friend of mine, who, by-the-bye, is a new addition to the ranks of poultry fanciers, hatched out a number of chicks, on which he lavished every attention, (as he thought). He fed them five or six times a day on the most approved food, and every night about 10 o'clock the little strangers were fed by lamp-light; they had a good grass run, but he did not permit the hens to tire them, Biddy being confined most of the day under a coop, they had plenty of shade and lots of fresh water. But still they did not thrive as they should; they seemed to stand still and cease growing. One day a couple of the chicks mysteriously disappeared, and supposing some thieving cat had taken them, he thought no more about them. About six weeks after this my friend invited me to look at his chicks which I did, and quite agreed with him that they were very small for their age. After viewing the birds in the yard I went with him to see the interior of his fowl house, which at first sight appeared clean and tidy, but happening by chance to rest my hand for a moment on the wall, I immediately detected about a dozen lice running up my fingers. Here was a discovery; they were the small "spider like mites that infest every crack and cranny into which the point of a knife could be placed. We proceeded at once to investigate, and first of all I ripped off a perch, on the under side of which we found, not thousands, but millions of the little beasts. Off came another, just as thickly populated. Next we went for the nest-boxes, and found them actually in layers, wriggling and writhing by millions. Thousands of them were quite red, being filled with blood, and those were the largest. We ripped up everything movable and took it out into the yard, deluged it with coal oil and set fire to it. The burning oil soon destroyed every one of the lice, but we did not permit the fixtures to burn beyond a good scorching, putting out the fire by throwing earth on it. We next gave everything a good coat of sulphur and coal oil, and sprayed the fowl-house with coal oil every day for a week. We next worked sulphur and coal oil into every crack in the house, and after a coat of white wash, a louse could not be found in that house.

At this time my friend accidentally found the two chicks which he had lost. Instead of falling into the clutches of a cat, they had strayed into a neighboring yard, and had installed themselves as regu-