

barns every morning and consider it, in their line of choring, as an easy job. They also clean the chicken house every morning, as part of the 'chores,' and an easy job."

"Yes, but when a farmer is in a hurry it don't pay to stop to clean hen-houses."

"Does it pay to remove the filth from the stock barns?"

"Yes, it has to be done. We have to treat horses good. We depend on them."

"And you depend on the hens, too, and expect them to bring you more according to their cash value than you expect, or get, from your horse, according to its cash value. You see, you go on the principle when it comes to considering the hens, that much comes from little—nothing comes from something. You call that clear profit which you realize from poultry, because they cost you nothing."—By S. L. Roberts, in American Poultry Journal.

#### Gentleness.

THE poultryman should be as gentle as the summer breeze; not impulsive, neither moving rapidly nor with quick nervous action, when going among his stock. A door quickly opened will sometimes cause the whole flock in an apartment to fly helter-skelter, to the farthest corner, bumping one against another in the wildest and most unreasonable manner. Reasoning faculties, among poultry, have never been developed; thus a hen with her head cut off will appear about as sensible as one with her head on, if the latter comes under the influence of a sudden scare. We recently visited a nearly kept poultry house, that was under the exclusive management of a well-preserved woman, eighty-two years of age. She went into the several apartments of the house, and not one of the occupants manifested any fear. She could readily capture any of them. But when any person wearing a coat and hat came within the door, there was a regular panic. Each hen was doing her best to hide behind the others, or fly through the window. "It's because you're a man, and they don't know ye," said the ancient dame.

If the ox knoweth his stall, and locketh upon the keeper with a mild eye; if the sheep know the voice of the shepherd, and come at his call, so do the chickens become accustomed to the voice, the presence, and the movements of the person who has charge of them, and thus they may have confidence and no fear. They will crowd about his feet, if he is gentle. They may alight on his shoulder. He can put forth his hand and take them without a snare. Even those varieties sometimes called "highflyers" may be tamed by moving among them slowly and carefully and by manifesting towards them invariable kindness.—American Poultry Yard.

#### A Novel and Useful Feeding Apparatus.

M. Christy of Ithica, Mich., has invented a poultry feeder which not only greatly facilitates the labor of feeding but gives constant exercise to the fowl. It consists of a bucket or other receptacle for grain, to the bottom of which is



attached a trap-door (c) operated by a cord (e) on the lower end of which is a treadle. The apparatus is suspended about six feet from the floor; the treadle resting on the floor. A spring (b) closes the trap door when the treadle is at rest. By the slide (d) the flow of grain can be regulated to any desired quantity; and a tongue inside of the bucket assists in delivering the grain, but prevents a continuous flow in case the treadle is held down. Passing over the trap the grain falls on the spreader, (a) which is a beveled, tin wheel suspended on the treadle cord about six inches below the bucket, and it is thus scattered about over a space of several feet. The treadle (a piece of lath or small stick) should be buried in litter on the floor and in scratching about the fowls move the treadle or step on it, thus bringing down a small quantity of grain. In hunting for this they bring down more grain, and so on *ad infinitum*. Any kind of grain can be used, but wheat or other small grain is preferable as affording more exercise than corn. The apparatus can be attached to the ordinary grain hopper as readily as to the bucket.



The fowls soon learn to operate the apparatus and the exercise it affords amply repays (in growth or in the egg basket) the small cost for the apparatus. For Asiatics or fowls in confined quarters the benefit is especially marked; it is also of great service in keeping a constant flow of grain before growing chicks and making them work to get it, thus promoting their development. Where fowls are kept confined to the house in severe winter weather this apparatus will be found invaluable.

J. HENRY LEE.

There are three sizes made, one two and three