

practical enough in his management of it. The "Company," now in their second year, are reported to be doing well and steadily increasing their business. They keep a few thorough-bred fowls, and sell eggs and breeding stock from these at the usual prices for such stock; but the mass of their production is of all kinds and sorts, the eggs being bought of farmers and keepers of poultry wherever they can procure them freshest and best. In connection with the poultry raising business they have established a large egg trade, supplying hotels and private families in New York city with eggs, every one of which is warranted to be perfectly fresh. In this trade, they receive eggs from sources hundreds of miles from the city, the stipulation being that they must be shipped daily and not over forty-eight hours old.

The hatching room of this company is somewhat novel. It is a small square room, around three sides of which are hot water pipes, between these pipes are shelves on which are shallow boxes or drawers holding each sixty eggs. I believe there are about a hundred of these boxes. A small opening on one side is fitted with a spring door which is just large enough to allow a drawer of eggs to pass through; the spring closing the door immediately the drawer is passed beyond it. An attendant inside passes the boxes through to another outside, where they are turned, sprinkled, and tested, and then replaced on the shelves. The room is provided with automatic ventilators, which regulate the heat very evenly, a difference, however, of three or four degrees, is not considered as affecting the hatch to any extent.

Well, friend F., this was not what I set out to say, at all, but having said it, I'll let it go, and defer the original subject until another time.

Yours truly,

A. M. HALSTED.

Rye N. Y., Aug 20th, 1880.

### Our Halifax Letter.

#### SMALL PROFITS.

Some little notice has been taken of the subject under the above title. One writer is of the opinion that it is better to chop off the head of the fowl rather than sell it at too low a figure; and another believes in selling at a low figure, but in a sufficient quantity to make a fair return, while still another, in a lengthy article, endeavors to show that a good price *must* be charged for fowls and eggs because they cost the seller in the first place a large amount. Every man has a right to his own opinions, and further, has a right to act upon them if he see fit, and if I can make money by selling my stock at reduced figures, I can do so, and not all the arguments of the entire poultry community

can convince me that I am not doing right. For do I not keep *my* own books, and cannot I tell whether or not the balance is on the wrong side? But admitting that the arguments of all who have written upon this subject are correct, what do they amount to? It is nothing but theory, and I am not afraid to wager that fifteen eggs is nearer the average annual sales among the entire fraternity than fifteen dozen.

#### PETS.

X Roads strikes the nail on the head in his article upon the above subject in the August number of the Review. There is no doubt that many are induced to keep pets because their friends do, or because they think it would be "nice." One of the great harms done to poultry breeding is the number of youngsters who are induced to purchase fowls with the belief that all that is required to ensure success is to procure a number of some fancy breed. They hand them over to the care of their hired man or the servants, and deem their duty to be nothing but the seeing of the bills paid. They advertise eggs for sale from premium stock, and if they are successful in disposing of any, the purchaser, if a beginner, is generally disappointed with the result, becomes disgusted with the "hen business," and judges the whole fraternity from this one sample. No one need go into the business of raising fowls with the expectation of succeeding unless he is prepared to give them his personal attention.

#### A CANADIAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

No doubt your readers will think I am "gone" on this subject, and I must plead guilty of having the formation of such a society much at heart.

One writer has had the courage to touch upon it, but gives a very poor excuse for the Ontario fanciers. "Gallinae," in writing upon this subject says: "There is not a doubt but that there are *many* in the fancy in Canada who will come to the front with all the energy they possess, *when once the thing is set agoing*." Is it possible that the fanciers of Ontario are so wanting in ambition and energy that they will not take the initiative in an undertaking when they know it to be a worthy and necessary one? Are we to understand that they are of that selfish stamp that will quietly and with folded arms watch the efforts of others to build up a structure, into which, on completion, they may enter on equal terms with the builders? If so there is little hopes of such a society being organized. The "setting agoing" of a new organization is the main difficulty, and here is where "all the energy they possess" is required. To the fanciers of Ontario, from their numbers and experience, we naturally look for leaders and workers in all undertakings likely to be beneficial to the fancy, and