

doubtedly. But was it not the farming interest our cousins had in view when they modified the sitting propensity of the Cochin by a cross upon the Dominique and produced the Plymouth Rock, which are admitted by all to be good layers of large eggs, splendid sitters and mothers, and a first-class table fowl, of good size, also active and splendid foragers? W. H. Todd says of this variety: "Of all varieties we think this one the kind for farmers and general purposes." So if this be the case, the sooner the common variety is supplanted by this one the better, and, as a number of your subscribers are no doubt farmers, I would strongly advise them to give this variety a close inspection, at any rate, wherever the opportunity offers.

Under the head of difficulty, I too have something to offer. One of my Buff hens has been affected with some malady, and from the symptoms I am led to believe it cholera. The symptoms are: extreme weakness, especially in legs, which causes her to stumble and fall about; droppings at first greenish, afterwards thin and white. Well, for the first, second, and third attacks, which happened at intervals of four days, and continued about two days, I gave bread soaked in scorched milk, made pretty hot with black pepper, and a little Douglas Mixture in drinking water, alternated with a few drops of carbolic acid. I suppose the treatment given in the fourth attack will excite the risibility of older hands, but laugh if you must; I gave half a teaspoonful of Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry, and in twenty minutes she was as sound as a Canadian dollar, and has continued so ever since; and I cannot see why any astringent will not correct the laxity which seems to be always present in this disorder. I am not acquainted with the hygienic precautions necessary to keep this scourge of the poultry yard at a distance; nor can I account for its appearance in this case, unless it was occasioned by bad ventilation, which "J. L." shows in his last letter is so deleterious, or by feeding too much bran in soft food. I may state that the pen in which one pair was kept is 12 x 10, and was cleaned out every morning according to "J. L.'s" plan, and regularly sprinkled with lime and carbolic acid, and is perfectly free from vermin.

In conclusion, permit me to ask, would it not be a good idea for some of the older breeders who live in a central position to keep poultry requisites, such as bone meal, baskets, &c., for sale and advertise them in the REVIEW? I see W. H. Todd, and Mr. Gibson, of N.B., both keep these for sale. Thanks friend "J. L." for your kindly pat of encouragement.

Yours very truly,

Lefroy, March 1st.

GALLINAE.

ADVERTISE eggs for hatching now.

## A Chapter From Early History.

CHAP. XL.—"DOING THE GENTEEL THING."

"There is one thing you should always bear in mind," said a notorious shark to me, one day, while we conversed upon the subject of breeding livestock successfully—"there is one thing you should always remember; and that is, under no circumstances ever permit a fowl or pig to pass out of your hands to a purchaser, unless you *know* him to be of *pure blood*."

This is a pretty theory, and, I have no doubt, such a course would work to admiration, if faithfully carried out (as I always intended to do, by the way); but in this country this was easier to talk about than to accomplish. I have now a letter before me, received some years since, upon this point, and which will give the reader some idea how far this thing extended in certain quarters and what came of it.

"SIR: I have been informed by my friends, and I have seen it stated in the poultry-books generally, that *you* are a breeder of fowls who can be relied on. I wish I could say as much of some other parties with whom I have dealt, during the past year or two.

"I have been striving, for a long time, to get possession of some *pure*-bred domestic fowls, and a strain of thorough-bred Suffolk swine. I am satisfied *you* have got them. Now, I beg you will understand that I am fortunately pecuniarily able to *pay* for what I seek. I care nothing for *prices*;\* but I do desire, and stipulate for, purity of blood. Can you supply me? What are your strains? When did you import it, and how has it been bred?

"If you can send me half a dozen Chinese fowls, all *pure* bloods, of each of the different varieties, do so, and charge me whatever you please,—only let them be fine, and such as will produce their like. I have read much on this subject of poultry, and I want to *begin* right, you perceive. I have made up my mind that there are not so many *varieties* of fowls extant as many breeders describe. I am satisfied that these domestic birds hail originally from China, and that *all* of them are of one blood. What is your opinion?

"Write me your views, please, and let me know if you can furnish me what I seek, upon honor; bearing in mind that I am ready to pay your price, whatever it may be; but that I want only pure-blooded stock.

"Yours respectfully,

"\_\_\_\_\_."

I immediately forwarded to this customer (as I usually did to my newly-found patrons) copies of the *portraits* of my "genuine Suffolk" pigs, and of my "pure-bred" and "imported" Chinese fowls. These "pictures," samples of which appear in this work upon pages 174 and 212, had the desired effect. I rarely forwarded to these beginners one of these nicely-got-up circulars that didn't "knock

\*This was the kind of customer I met with occasionally, and whom I always took at his word. The gentleman who "didn't care about price" was always the man after my own heart.