

fornia can justly claim to be the home of pure White Langshans in the United States.

Would-be fanciers of the breed need not be subject to the difficulties that beset and obscure the origin of many of the new breeds, nor harrassed with impure and deleterious blood such as fanciers of the Black variety have been contending with ever since their introduction from England.

GOVERNMENT WHITEWASH.

What is called the government white-wash, and which is good for outside as well as inside work, is made as follows: Slack in hot water in a covered wooden vessel six quarts of well burn't clean stone lime. Next pass it through a fine sieve; add one-fourth of a pound of burnt alum, pulverized, one pound of sugar, three pints of rice-flour, made into a thin starch, and one pound of glue dissolved in hot water. Apply with a common painter's brush. Add a second coat after the first one is thoroughly dry. Apply this wash, cold, on inside work and warm on outside work. It costs more than the usual lime-wash, but has the merit of endurance, and then too, it makes a more attractive appearance.

FEEDING POULTRY.

BY JOSEPH KINZIE.

One of the most important points in raising fowls is to keep the coops clean; do not let the insects turn you and your poultry outside before you start to clean them. Whitewash them about three or four times a year with hot lime, the hotter the better. Take out all the roosts; put new ones in. Haul in lots of gravel in the fall; put a heap in one corner before them all the time. Clean your coops out every other day; and have good ventilators

in each coop. Feed your chickens small wheat, oats, peas, barley, corn, buckwheat, raw turnips, cut hay mixed with mildings or chop and water or milk. Feed three or four times a week or a little every day will not hurt them. Give them plenty of fresh water or milk, fresh ground bones without salt, beef bones preferred, charcoal sifted from hardwood ashes, broken mortar, and do not use coal oil in your coops. The large varieties of fowls should not be kept more than two years for laying. A fancier once told me that he had light Brahmas and they were useless for laying, I asked him how old his birds were and he said they were four or five years; so it is no wonder they did not lay. As many have asked me which fowls are the best for laying, I do not run any class of birds down as every man has own fancy; but I have light Brahmas, partridge Cochins, silver grey and white Dorkings, and find very little difference between them, as they all layed one or two days after the other.

CLOVER.

The *American Poultry Yard* gives the following sterling advice:—

Sow a piece of clover. Even if it be but a few rods square it will pay.

If you have your breeding yards so arranged so that you can give the fowls a grass run, seed this run down to clover. If you have not this desired arrangement you have land upon which you grow green food for the fowls, and seed this down to clover.

Why?

1st. Because clover is one of the quickest growing of forage plants, and a few weeks after sowing, if the land is rich and a little phosphate is used, it will be covered with a tender green crop

2d. Because clover when young, is

the juiciest and tenderest of forage plants.

3d. Because hens like clover better than almost any other form of green food.

4th. Because clover is a valuable egg producing food.

5th. Because clover, being so well adapted to the wants of the hen greatly promotes her health.

6th. Because in a word, it pays.

Six reasons are enough—the sixth which is summary of the five preceding is sufficient.

Where the fowls do not have access to the clover plot it should be mowed frequently, beginning to cut it as soon as it is five or six inches high. This frequent cutting will make it thicken up and produce a heavier crop, and besides the younger it is cut the better the fowls will like it.

If the fowls have access to the clover plot it is well to mow it off once or twice before allowing them to forage on it, in order to get something of a sward and to give the clover an opportunity to send down its roots and get a firm hold upon the land.

Either the ordinary red or white clover may be sown or a mixture of the two. The first will produce the largest growth and the greatest quantity of food but the second will furnish the finest quality. Where the plot needs to be re-sown every season, red clover, because of its greater growth, is to be preferred, but if the plot is large enough, so as not to require seeding every season we would recommend the white variety. If one keeps bees, in connection with his fowls, a clover patch large enough to come into blossom has a double advantage. But bees or no bees every poultryman ought to have a plot of clover for summer soiling and winter feeding.