

pure breed, indeed you will generally get better results from a *first* cross, provided it is a judicious one." This I believe, is the case as to *pullets*, but when they once get through laying their pullet eggs, they are perpetual sitters, and will try to hatch chicks out of the bare earth, if you give them no eggs to sit on.

Caponizing is a business that might be carried on successfully in this country, and where non-sitting breeds are kept and incubators used, the capons make the best of brooders and they are easily taught. Years ago, before the days of incubators, I saw them thus used in France and Switzerland, the mother hens being returned to the yards among the layers, and capons taking charge of two and three broods each.

Mr. Brown seems to have a strain of Leghorns which will pay him well when we can persuade the public to buy eggs *by the pound*. He has a fine selection of breeds and it would be interesting if he would try the following experiment on the four breeds another year.

Let him set an equal number of eggs of each breed, at the same time, keep all chicks raised say May hatch, till cockerels are fit to broil, then if he wishes to kill off any, take an equal number of each breed, weigh and credit to each breed at current price, then in November or December, weigh all cockerels and credit in same way. Pen the pullets of each breed separately, and credit each breed *every month*, with the number of eggs laid at market prices, and at the end of one year from date of hatching, publish the results, closing the account by weighing the hens and crediting each breed at the same price per lb.,

Again, Mr. B. if not inclined or unable for want of room, to give the whole year to it, might *now* pen an equal number of pullets of each of the breeds, (as near the same age as possible) keep their egg account as above,

and close their account by weighing and crediting at say 10 cts per lb. in April next. This would be a fair test of winter profits, though of course the first is a better one as to which is the best and most profitable breed.

Every breed has its good points, and consequently many friends, but our farmers want to know which is the most profitable, both for eggs, and to be sold on the market, or eaten at home. I maintain that a Langshan will be fit to broil at eight weeks old, and weigh as heavy as a chick of same age, of any other breed, and they will lay better in winter than any breed which commences to lay as soon as they do, and make up then for a week or two lost at the beginning, besides weighing more when killed; again they are comparatively small eaters and easily fattened.

ANDALUSIANS.

BY PARTI-COLOR.

Mr. Editor, will you allow me a short space as I am an old breeder, and fancier, of the above beautiful and useful variety. I am glad to see that they are likely to take a prominent place in Canada, as well as in the United States. I have often wondered why they were not more in demand, because I am sure a Blue Andalusian is certainly very handsome, and very uncommon; and as for their laying qualities, their record as egg producers is yet to be surpassed, both in number and size. I have often heard it said, "well they may be good layers but they don't breed true." on that point I would say, that I can produce as many exhibition birds from my season's breeding as any other breeder can from Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, and many other parti-colored varieties. I could not say that they will breed as true as White Leghorns, or any white or black birds, but there is far more skill and experience required in breeding colors in all the varieties of spangled, penciled, and laced birds, and I

must say that I admire the stand my friend Peter takes in trying to show how to breed Wyandottes to the standard color.

As a proof of this our judges invariably give a colored bird the preference over a white or black, provided in all points they are equal, and giving as a reason that it requires much more skill and judgement in mating colored birds for breeding.

Take for instance a White and Partridge Cochon hen, the white bird beautifully washed and in grand shape (and they do look fine, no one can deny it), then look at the partridge hen with her mottled feathers, nothing attractive to look at to the amateur; you will hear them asking, "why did the judge give the prize to the partridge?" Friend Butterfield would say "because it is much more difficult to breed true to feather." The Andalusian is certainly not the easiest kind to breed true, but if we get them as near to the *American Standard of Excellence* they will be O.K. But I differ with it on the face question, it says "white face" the *English Standard* says "red face," which I have always tried to breed, and think it to be correct. A white face is as objectionable to me as a white face in a Black Hamburg, or White Leghorn. I would like to hear from some other breeders, what they think about red or white faces in Andalusians.

To have old birds look well in September, it is absolutely necessary that they should be kept out of the sun, and if possible give them a grass run under shady trees. I trust that some of your subscribers in England may give us some facts of their experience in breeding Andalusians.

POULTRY ENGRAVINGS.

BY STANLEY SPILLETT.

The subject of "Poultrycuts" is one which is receiving an ample share of attention at present, both in Canada and United States, yet no more than