

peculiarity of the Partridge Cochins which I use as sitters, and which I find preferable to any others that I have tried as sitters, but I have never had hens leave their chicks at so early a period in their life as this year. A lady who has 150 Light Brahma chicks hatched at present, makes the same remark, and her sitters were either Brahmas or common stock. But I find that chicks six or eight weeks old get along just as well if not better, especially in hot weather, without the hens.

As for egg production, I have to report very favorably. Light Brahmas commenced laying early, and though they fell off for a while just when the eggs were needed for hatching, still, on the whole, they have done and are now doing well. I have used about 30 settings for myself, and notwithstanding the fact that I advertised "no eggs for hatching," have shipped 15 settings—making an average of 60 eggs per hen during the hatching season, and we are now getting 7 and 8 eggs per day from 10 hens, which have mostly been either used for custard for the chicks or for the table, for the last two or three weeks. So I think we are safe in concluding that the pure Brahmas, either Light or Dark, have no superiors as layers. I may say to beginners that this custard is an article of food that chicks relish exceedingly. It is made by taking from three to six eggs and stirring in sweet milk, and cooking. This with baked food, soaked in sweet milk, will make chicks grow.

STANLEY SPILLET.

Nantye, July 2nd, 1885.

Old Fancies and Favorites.

Editor Review.

To many, unacquainted with the fascination of the poultry business in its many different forms and fancies, they cannot account for the many likes and dislikes that occasionally take place in the mind of the fancier. Not aware of the pleasure derived from poultry keeping, that is to be found in the many varieties which the inventive mind and fancies of man has placed at our disposal to choose from, they are at a loss to know why one season the fancier is all enthusiasm about the beauties and benefits of, say the Leghorns, then it may be the Hamburgs. Then, finding he has not much for a dinner in the small kinds, he is off to the larger varieties, such as the Asiatics, (Light Brahmas, Cochins &c.) and thus he goes the rounds of the whole, finding something to praise in most as well as find fault with. This individual belongs to the class that is always ready to pull up stakes and move on the next craze that comes upon the fancy.

But there is another class, Mr. Editor, your steady, plodding kind that is not so easily turned

about by every wind of fancy that blows on the poultry fraternity, and such are now turning their attention once more upon old, long forgotten friends, and from their well known value and worth will bring them back again to their former place at the top of the ladder, where they long held sway not only here but in the Old Country. Can you guess what I refer to? It is to the aristocratic Black Spanish. I see there is an extra move in their favor in Ontario, and here in the East some of our old fanciers are again going to introduce them to notice by their recent importations. I for one earnestly hope that the effort will be entirely successful, and that our too long neglected friends will once more take a prominent place where they deserve.

PURE BLOOD.

Montreal, June, 10th, 1885.

Turkey Raising.

To farmers who can give them unrestricted range, there is no more profitable stock than turkeys, and it might also be said with truthfulness, that unless you allow them full liberty, they are about as unprofitable as any kind of live stock could possibly be. Turkeys require free range; they will not, like chickens, thrive in confinement, no matter how much care and attention is given them. But when they can have the range of a large farm, and when only the best and largest are kept, such as will weigh from 20 to 25 pounds by the holidays, the turkey crop will be found to be a profitable one, and the farmer's wife can realize considerable "pin money" from them.

Turkeys are great foragers, and will gather from the fields during the summer months their entire food, at the same time destroying myriads of grasshoppers, bugs and other insects that prey on the vegetable and grain crops. For this reason they are not troublesome to raise, and as the old turkeys can take care of themselves, all that is necessary in this article is to tell how to care for and raise the young poults successfully.

The turkey hen usually begins to lay about the first of April, and will lay from fifteen to twenty eggs at a litter. The first litter should be given to good Brahma or Cochin hens, and the second to the turkey hen herself. The period of incubation is from twenty-six to twenty-eight days. As soon as they are hatched and strong enough to leave the nest, they should be placed in a dry coop. For the first two weeks after hatching, great care should be taken to keep them from the scorching sun, drenching rains, and heavy morning and evening dews. It is well if the coops can be placed in an open shed, with plenty of chaff, sand or dry earth for the young poults to run upon. When