

society dependent on voluntary help is not in a position to require the expeditious transaction of the work. What the amount of recompense should be, of course, depends upon the value of the judge's time in his ordinary occupation and the ability of the society to pay. This can only be settled between the contracting parties.—*Bulletin*.

ISOLATED FARMERS,

(We mean those who live at a distance from neighbors) may now get rid of their barn-yard or mongrel fowl-stock to the advantage of the owners. There are thousands of such farmers in the country, who keep good-sized flocks of common fowls, and allow them the run of the farm the whole year, *outside* of the vegetable or kitchen garden—the latter being fenced in, instead of fencing up the fowls.

Upon such farms the conditions are superior to those that the mere fancier's poultry is surrounded with, because the birds have unlimited range, with nothing to do but roam and feed, roost and lay, and get fat. These are the very *best* places in the world to keep fowls in, and to advantage.

But such farmers, in our enlightened time, should turn aside from the played-out old furrow of their ancestors in fowl-keeping, and get rid of the poor stuff that may, nowadays, be so often seen prowling about such farms, inasmuch as it is for the owners' best interests that a change be made for the better.

For a few dollars they may get a good start with any of the choicer varieties now being bred (and advertised in our columns), at various points; and they may take their choice among the sitting breeds, such as the Plymouth Rocks, the Brahmas, the Cochins, the Dorkings, etc. These fowl will multiply very rapidly, and the old sorts may be killed off, and marketed, meanwhile.

Thenceforward they will have little trouble in raising *good* fowls, annually, which will find a sale at better prices. Then the increase of poultry-meat, and the positive increase of eggs, thus procurable—with the same care and cost of feeding—are items not to be forgotten, by the farmer who will get out of the old-fogy system, and try our advice. "There is money in this," gentlemen, and we trust you will not forget it.—*Poultry World*.

If a greater supply of eggs would be preferred, at a sacrifice of flesh, the choice should be made from the non-sitting varieties, such as Leghorns, Hamburgs, Houdans, Spanish, Polands, etc. With these it would be necessary to keep a number of hens of the sitting varieties for hatching purposes.

True affection grows stronger as it grows older. The same may be said of an egg.

HOW TO FATTEN CHICKENS.

It is hopeless to attempt to fatten chickens while they are at liberty. They must be put in a proper coop: and this, like most other poultry appurtenances, need not be expensive. To fatten twelve fowls, a coop must be three feet long, eighteen inches high, and eighteen inches deep, made entirely of bars. No part of it solid—neither top, side nor bottom. Discretion must be used according to the sizes of the chickens put up. They do not want room; indeed, the closer they are the better—provided they can all stand up at the same time. Care must be taken to put up such as have been accustomed to be together, or they will fight. If one is quarrelsome, it is better to remove it at once; as, like other bad examples, it soon finds imitators. A diseased fowl should not be put up.

The food should be ground oats, and may either be put in a trough or on a flat board running along the front of the coop. It may be mixed with water or milk; the latter is better. It should be well slaked, forming a pulp as loose as can be, provided it does not run off the board. They must be well fed three or four times a day—the first time as soon after daybreak as possible or convenient, and then at intervals of four hours. Each meal should be as much and no more than they can eat up clean. When they have done feeding, the board should be wiped, and some gravel may be spread. It causes them to feed and thrive.

After a fortnight of this treatment, you will have good fat fowls. If, however, there are but four or six to be fattened, they must not have so much room as though there were twelve. Nothing is easier than to allow them the proper space; it is only necessary to have two or three pieces of wood to pass between the bars, and form a partition.—This may also serve when fowls are put up at different degrees of fatness. This requires attention, or fowls will not keep fat and healthy. As soon as the fowl is sufficiently fattened it must be killed, otherwise it will still get fat, but it will lose flesh. If fowls are intended for the market, of course they are, or may be, all fattened at once; but if for home consumption, it is better to put them up at such intervals as will suit the time when they are required for the table. When the time arrives for killing, whether they are meant for market or otherwise, they should be fasted, without food or water, for twelve or fifteen hours. This enables them to be kept some time after being killed, even in hot weather.—*London Collage Gardener*.

"Every heart knows its own misery," she said, as she looked into the nest and saw that those Cochins eggs, which had cost \$3 per dozen, had hatched out Muscovy ducks.