

poultry men, but the writer does not prescribe them as infallible cures, so if you don't meet with success the first time don't get mad, dear reader, and call us bad names; for what forms one man's meat is often another's poison, and it may happen that the recipe that knocked the roup higher than Gilroy's kite in the case of Jim Brown's rooster won't fize on Tom Smith's old hen.

Instead of paying any attention to alphabetical arrangement, the writer deems it best to treat first of those diseases that are most common.

CATARRH.

All fowls are subject to a common cold especially during spring, fall and winter; it shows itself by a watery discharge from the nostrils, frequent sneezing, froth in the eye etc, this is acute catarrh, or common cold, and is easily cured, but if neglected is quite likely to lead to roup.

(To be Continued.)

A WORD FOR ROCHESTER.

Editor Review:—

Mr. J. L. Bundy, president of the N. Y. Poultry Association, writes me that their show at Rochester was an immense success in every way. The exhibits were numerous and grand. I have not a doubt of it. I may state my experience in commendation of its management. I sent six birds to that show, and they stepped out of their coops upon their arrival home after travel and cooping for eleven days, as smooth and bright as when they left for Rochester. The necessary slats were carefully removed and neatly screwed down again. In short, the coops returned in precisely the same condition they came from the makers shop.

This is quite a satisfaction when one finds it inconvenient to attend a show personally, and especially when coops are nicely made for the shipment of exhibition fowls.

Respectfully yours,

T. M. GOFATT,

Orillia, Feb. 18, '87.

MATING WYANDOTTES.

A. R. NARRAWAY.

When at London you asked me to give you for publication my experience in mating Wyandottes, I thought and told you it would be absurd, as there were so many older breeders much better qualified to deal with the subject. However, as I want to hear from some of those elders, possibly if I make mistakes they may see fit to correct me, and in this way I may start rolling a ball that may make holes in the curtain that covers some of the secrets.

Suppose Mr. A., while strolling through a poultry exhibition, sees a nice pair of Wyandotte chicks, and forthwith is attacked with a severe case of hen fever. He decides to be a breeder, and, as he proposes to have nothing but the best, he waits until the prize tickets are up, then purchases from the winner of the first a trio of chicks. These being properly mated and being good birds will bring a fair proportion of good chicks, all of which are kept till mating time.

The owner examines the cock which, by this time having moulted, will scarcely look as bright as some of his sons, and on that account the old bird is offered for sale. As our breeder would not be guilty of breeding brothers and sisters together, and as one cockerel can be bought for less than a lot of pullets, the cockerels are also sold. Being now in want of a male he again visits the show room. After looking the birds on exhibition carefully over, he decides that there are no birds there that can compare with the pullets in his yard, and that the cockerels he has sold for a song were at least eight or ten points ahead of any in the room, but as he *must* have a cockerel, he at last strikes a bargain for the winner of the first prize, which may be either a light or dark colored bird, and of an entirely distinct family from his own. Taking his purchase home he places him with a dozen pullets selected as the

best, no attention being paid as to uniformity of shape, of color, of markings, or in fact anything except that they please the eye from a distance.

He enters the arena as a breeder, and offers for sale eggs for hatching, disposes of a few settings, and rears a lot of chicks. He is visited at some time by a breeder of some other variety, to whom he shows his chicks. His friend does not go into ecstasies over his beautiful pets, and he is disappointed. In a few days one of his customers writes him that he is a fraud, and that the eggs sold by him must be from culls, as he has not a bird out of the whole lot of *thirteen* eggs worth ten cents as a breeder. Why is this? Simply because his birds were not properly mated. He may, more than likely will, have a very few fair birds, but a large majority are off, and the *average* score will be low.

Now right here, in my opinion, is the reason, or at least the principal reason why Wyandottes are said not to breed true, to have too large a percentage of culls, we have had too much out-breeding. A breeder who is breeding with a definite object in view, in order to accomplish his purpose is breeding his birds dark in color, he finds among his cockerels one that looks well but is light-colored, and for this reason is discarded as a breeder. This bird is exhibited and sold and is used by the purchaser to breed from, being bred from dark ancestors, should his get "throw back" they will be dark. Suppose him to be mated to medium dark pullets that have been bred by a breeder who was striving for the correct thing by breeding light, the chances are that the chicks from this mating would be good, that the percentage of off colored birds would be small, and the average score be well up.

The deduction from above premises would be that a breeder in mating should know the style of birds bred by the parties from whom stock is purchased. The old adage that "like pro-