

Then there is the question of caring for the layers. One man will have his pullets laying early and keeping up a steady egg yield during the whole winter. His pullets will be very tame and will always be busy scratching and singing merrily. He is the man who will be busy gathering eggs when they are selling at sixty cents per dozen.

Another man with equal opportunities as far as stock and environment are concerned will have his pullets laying erratically, being checked by every change in the weather. His pullets will not lay during cold weather. They will be wild and afraid of him, and will not be busy and singing, but will sit around in groups looking grouchy and dejected. These pullets will not produce nearly as well as will the others.

When the personal factor is efficient the attendant will always be on the jumps, busy doing some seemingly unimportant jobs, but which help to make the stock comfortable, while the inefficient attendant is sitting or standing about telling yarns or smoking his pipe to pass the time.

In fattening chickens the personal factor comes in also. Some men seem to have an intuition as to how to feed the chickens to obtain the best results. This was fairly well demonstrated in the Fourth Year fattening experiment.

Thus we see that the personal factor plays a very important part in poultry keeping and that it is well worth while for the poultryman to make himself as efficient as possible, and to give the closest attention to every detail of his business because only in this way can he attain to the highest degree of success.

### CHRISTMAS'

The time draws nigh the birth of Christ;  
The moon is hid; the night is still;  
The Christmas bells from hill to hill  
Answer each other in the mist.

Four voices in four hamlets round,  
From far and near, on mead and moor,  
Swell out and fail, as if a door  
Were shut between me and the sound.

Each voice, four changes of the wind,  
That now dilate and now decrease;  
Peace and goodwill, goodwill and peace,  
Peace and goodwill to all mankind.

—Alfred Tennyson.