

be seen that they are very rich in flesh-forming materials. They will be found too stimulating to be fed alone, and on this account as well as for economy, should be mixed with others wanting in this respect.

These analysis are of American grains, and their use will greatly aid in making a choice between available foods. Too great a value should not be placed upon them, as in the case of all animals, there are likes and dislikes that will in some cases over-ride figures.

Why Business Is Poor with some Breed-ers.

OCCASIONALLY one meets a breeder of pure-bred poultry that complains of dull trade and is unable to account for it, but in all such cases that have come to the notice of the writer, the cause was very clear. Without an exception in all such cases of complaint the breeders were either breeding unpopular varieties of fowls or they failed to use printers' ink to an extent that would warrant their expecting a fair amount of patronage.

There are a few old breeds that continue to hold their places in the front rank in point of merit and in popularity; notably among these being Barred Plymouth Rocks, Light Brahmas, Rose and Single Comb Leghorns and B. B. R. Games. Second in popularity come Wyandottes, Partridge and Buff Cochins, Langshans, Black Minorcas, White Plymouth Rocks and two varieties of Bantams.

Of all the other varieties named in the Standard, it is safe to say that there is no profit to the breeder in breeding them. Barred Plymouth Rocks rank first with a large majority of the public, and there being a much greater demand for this breed than for any other, breeders of this variety have had no cause for complaint on account of dull trade, nor are they likely to have.

As a general purpose fowl the Plymouth Rock has no equal. They are the best market fowl in existence, and as egg producers are nearly the equals of Leghorns and Minorcas. For a large showy fowl the Light Brahma is a general favorite, although there is no good reason why the Partridge Cochin should not rank with them unless it be that because they are not quite as prolific as egg producers. For a strictly egg producing breed the Rose and Single Comb Leghorns and Minorcas take the lead, but there is much objection to Minorcas on account of their very large combs, which are easily frosted.

It is useless for breeders to produce a lot of

fowls of any variety for which there is no demand, as to do so will result only in a pecuniary loss, and hence it is a matter of necessity that if a breeder hopes to make any money out of the business he must breed birds of a variety that buyers will purchase. Beginners should bear this in mind, and if they are going into the business with an idea of making money out of it, they must confine themselves to a few of the leading varieties named above.

The next step after producing a lot of good specimens of one or more popular breeds is to let the public know it. This can easily be done by the exhibition of a few choice birds at some of our leading shows, and a fair sized "ad." in a few or our best poultry journals. An inch ad. will bring you many inquiries, but three inches space will pay you six times as well as an inch advertisement will, and an six-inch advertisement will pay you in the same proportion.

If any breeder possessing good judgment will take hold of any of the breeds for which there is a demand, and will advertise liberally they will not complain of dull times, but if breeders will continue breeding varieties which no one desires to purchase, they must expect to meet with pecuniary loss. GEO. T. PITKIN, in Fanciers Gazette.

A Year's Contest.

THE contest, as to the merits of different breeds of fowls in egg production, inaugurated by the National Stockman, for one year, was ended with the month of August. Only three breeders sticking to it until the end. From the report in that paper we extract the following, for the purpose of informing such of our readers, as may have seen it elsewhere, what the actual results were. It will also give them a correct idea of what a hen can do for her owner. Now, these are undoubted facts, proven by actual tests by reliable parties. Who will say there is no profit in keeping fowls? Read the result which is at "market prices."

"In the twelve months, ending August, 1889, Mr. Baker's six Brown Leghorn pullets laid 1,335 eggs, which weighed 162 pounds and were worth at market prices \$19.27. This is an average of 222½ eggs, or 27 pounds, or \$3.21 1-6 per pullet.

"In the same time Miss Whitham's six Silver Wyandotte pullets laid 1,203 eggs, weighing 151 pounds 8 ounces, and worth \$17.72. This is an average of 200½ eggs, 26 pounds 4 ounces, and \$2.95 1-3 per pullet.

In the same time, or rather in the last ten months of that time, Dr. Shaffer's five Silver