

training, but always be gentle, and avail yourself of some knack, according to the bird's inclinations. Take away the drinking water or coffee for some hours, then hold it out to the bird, and offer also some tit-bit of which the bird is very fond, and thus the bird will learn to take food from the hand, and will presently voluntarily come on to the finger, allow its head to be scratched, and soon permit one to caress and handle it at will.

FOOD.—The food usually given to parrots consists of a mixture of unhulled rice, cracked corn, hemp and sunflower seed, chiefly the latter, but the effect of all foods should be watched and if any of the above appears to disagree, it should at once be withheld. A few peanuts may be given occasionally, but no other nuts, as they are too rich. If the bird will eat it give it a piece of cuttle bone daily, about the size of a walnut. Never give any butcher's meat, bones, or greasy food of any kind, as they cause diseases and ruin the plumage. Dainties from the table are usually harmful. Fruits, such as apples, oranges, bananas, etc., may be given in limited quantities, but only those proper for your special bird. A cayenne pepper pod can be given every week or so, and is particularly desirable during moulting season, and a piece of raw onion, about half the size of an egg, acts as a good tonic. A cracker or stale, but good, bread