

of getting better they became worse, and in despair, I chopped their heads off and threw them away.

After getting rid of these I thought my troubles were over, but after a while my chicks began to show symptoms of the same disease, sneezing and running at the nostrils. I at once separated the affected ones, but it was no use, and one after the other I had to chop off their heads, until my flock was reduced to a very few, and principally culled at that, and these I made up my mind to get rid of also.

I now see, or at least think I see, the cause of this disaster, viz: keeping them in a drafty house, with a roof that leaked with every shower of rain.

If course I feel very sore at my bad luck—I may use the term,—perhaps mismanagement would be more correct; but I am not quite discouraged, I am going to make a fresh start on a new plan, and with first-class stock; and I want your advice on the subject; while it benefits me, I am sure it will also be accepted with pleasure by many another novice who has met with a similar experience.

In the first place I shall erect a warm, comfortable poultry house; and this time I shall try the heavy varieties, but being ignorant of the peculiarities of the different breeds, I do not know which will suit me best. I have been thinking of trying Cochins; but I am told Cochins are most inveterate setters, and waste much time in this way that would be more profitably employed in producing eggs. The Brahmas, I believe, are not quite so bad. Then Plymouth Rocks, I understand, are objectionable on account of breeding so many imperfections. I have seen it stated in print by a prominent American poultry judge and breeder, that in order to get two or three pairs of exhibition birds it is necessary to breed a score or more of chicks.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have related my difficulties, which I am sure are not very dissimilar from those of other novices, and trust to you and the contributors to the Review to give us articles from time to time containing such information as will prevent a repetition. Apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space, I will sign myself

GREENHORN.

Toronto, Oct. 30th, 1882.

We are very sorry indeed that the Review should even appear to neglect beginners, for this is the class to whom we hope to make it most useful. We are thankful to our correspondent for the hint, and it shall be acted upon. Space will at once be set apart for beginners, and hope our correspondents will assist in making it profitable to them. We will also commence a series of articles detailing the merits and demerits of each of the principal varieties, accompanying which will be good

illustrations of the breeds treated on.

With regard to your present position, we would say that you are now in proper trim to go to work successfully. Experience has taught you one of the most useful lessons the beginner can learn—that fowls, like all other stock, require good care and shelter in order that either pleasure or profit may be derived from them.

There are a few strains of the different varieties of Cochins that are not much addicted to setting, but the majority are. Light Brahmas were nearly as bad in this respect ten years ago, but constant selection for breeders of those least addicted to the habit has so reduced the desire to incubate that many strains may now almost be classed with the non-setters. We have no doubt but that selection with the same object would in a few years remove, to a great extent, this objectionable characteristic of the Cochin family.

The Plymouth Rock is a good variety, but has the objection referred to, which is a very serious one with those who, for want of room, are unable to raise chicks in large numbers. The American judge and breeder has not libelled the great majority of yards in his estimate of the number of show birds from a score of chicks.

We would be glad to hear frequently from our would-be verdant correspondent.—Ed.

An Important and Excellent Ordinance.

The Board of Aldermen of New York city has adopted the following ordinance, and it has been approved by the Mayor:

SECTION 1. That no turkeys or chickens be offered for sale in the city unless the crops of such turkeys and chickens are free from food or other substance, and shrunken close to their bodies. That all fowl exposed for sale in violation of this ordinance shall be seized and condemned; such of them as shall be tainted shall, upon examination, be destroyed, and the rest which are fit for food shall be used in the public institutions of the city.

SECTION 2. Every person exposing for sale any chicken or turkey in contravention of this ordinance shall be liable to a penalty of five dollars for each chicken or turkey so exposed for sale.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect on the 1st day of October, 1882.

We would recommend the passing of a by-law somewhat similar to the above by every city and town in the Dominion. It seems to be the regular practice with farmers to gorge their fowls with pease or some other grain immediately before killing, in order to increase their weight, and then endeavor to sell the whole for poultry at so much per pound. There certainly is profit in this with grain at 1 cent or so a pound and poultry at from