

laid by the present day fowls), how much more satisfactory will that margin of profit be when their fowls lay double the number of eggs per year and are still better market types?

#### WHY NOT NAME OTHER VARIETIES.

It may be said that there are varieties—other than those named—which are also excellent layers and market types. Why not name them? I reply, because they are not in such great numbers throughout the country as the varieties I have named, and in consequence, are neither so well known, or easy to procure. The Barred Plymouth variety beyond doubt is held in the greatest number by the farmers of the country to-day, and deservedly so. I have always given them first place on account of their merits as egg and flesh producers. Farmers can readily purchase at a cheap price from one another Barred Plymouth Rock eggs or stock, while other varieties are comparatively scarce and held at higher prices. The starting of the farmer, or, other poultry keeper right is a matter of very great importance. This, I am sure, you will readily admit.

#### THE PROPER FEEDING OF POULTRY.

Experience of many years in the feeding of poultry by the writer, and that of many correspondents warrant him in coming to the conclusion that the greatest drawback to successful winter egg production throughout the country is lack of variety in the composition and manner of feeding the rations. Experience has made it very plain to me that variety in the composition of rations is as important as the rations themselves. The following rules in relation to the proper feeding of poultry will be found beneficial:—

Variety in composition of rations is necessary to successful winter egg laying and health of birds. Feed regularly. Where there is variety in rations and a constant supply of grit, broken oyster shells or other form of lime, roots or green food, and pure drink, there is not likely to be egg eating or feather picking.

That pullets will do well on rations, which, if fed in same quantity to old hens of the Asiatic or American breeds, will end fatally.

That the long continued feeding of one kind of grain, or, of other food is likely to lead to ailment of some kind.

#### *A Suitable Winter Ration.*

The following has been found an effective winter egg-producing ration in our poultry department for several years:—

Morning.—Wheat, sometimes buckwheat, in proportion of 8 to 10 pounds to 100 fowls. Scatter in the litter on the floor or house or scratching shed attachment.

Eleven a.m.—Steamed lawn clippings, or clover hay, three or four times per week.

Noon.—If found necessary, oats in proportion of 5 pounds to 100 hens. Scatter in the litter on the floor to keep the fowls busy.

Afternoon.—Mash, composed of such ground grains as are in most abundance. Feed in quantity of 3 or 4 ounces to each fowl. When mixing the mash add a small teaspoonful of salt, and another of black pepper, or ground ginger. Occasionally mix boiled potatoes or turnips in the mash.

Cut green bone or other form of meat should be given in the proportion of one pound to 15 fowls, three or four times per week in lieu of the steamed lawn clippings, clover hay or noon ration.

(Should the hopper system of feeding be adopted the same ground or whole grain can be put in the hopper.)

I again emphasize that it is requisite in any system of feeding that for the good health of the fowls and to prevent egg eating and feather picking the rations should be varied and regularly fed.