

his utmost to deal justly by all, he can please the average egg customer as well as he can most people in other of our regular business. It is impossible almost to give complete satisfaction to everybody. As a brother fancier once said to me on this subject, "A customer not only experts thirteen prize chickens, but he would like to find a P. O. O. for the prize money left in the egg shell when they hatch." Still in the egg business, I think, many are greatly benefited, because they can get good thoroughbred birds in this way if their means are limited, and they could not perhaps procure them at all if they were compelled to pay the price of such stock in the fall.

The breeding season is at hand, and now the most risky time for the stock is close on its heels. I would say to all, endeavor at any cost of trouble or time to give the birds that are used for breeding a few hours of fresh air daily and lots of exercise. MR. EDITOR, I am a crank on the exercise question; it is too little understood, or estimated by many fanciers. If you have not done so, begin now to add the precious "Douglas Mixture," to the drinking water, twice per week. If there is sourness of crop, or too relaxed state of the bowels, add lime water to the usual drink, *but not when using the "Douglas Mixture."* The lime water can be used on the days the other is not allowed. It is a splendid remedy.

Friend ERMATINGER'S article has lots of serviceable hints, especially as to forcing the breeding hens to lay; it is disastrous to their success as breeders of vigorous stock. Most hens will be greatly benefited for their coming work by the addition of a little boiled meat about twice a week, and also a good cabbage to peck at. The latter are rich in sulphur, and much needed as the stock season begins. If the damp weather of spring causes catarrh or throat affection, the best thing (in my humble opinion) is to fumigate the hen house. Take a pan of red-hot

coals or embers, and throw on them say three handfuls of flowers of sulphur and about a desert spoonful of carbolic acid; place in the centre of the house if possible, and shut the doors, ventilators and other holes, or apertures to keep in the fumes; let it remain till it dies out, but be sure to remove it before you retire for good in case of accident. Of course this is always done after the birds have gone to roost, it is very easily done, and not only benefits any birds that you can see are suffering from colds, but also cures many incipient cases not advanced far enough to be noticeable. One man I told of this plan, put the sulphur on the coals, and then undertook to carry the pan into the poultry house, but he did not get there as fast as he thought he would, nor so comfortably as he might, if he had taken the trouble just to do a little "think" for himself.

The following is from J. C. WARD'S book, for making the Douglas mixture. It might benefit many beginners to know how to make it, perhaps you can find room for it.

Eight oz. sulphate of iron, sulphuric acid,  $\frac{1}{2}$  fluid oz., put one gallon water in an earthen vessel, add the sulphate of iron, when it is dissolved, add the acid, stir a few times, when clear it is ready for use, pour off and bottle; keep from the frost; a gill to every 40 head twice per week.

[Personally we think the acid quite superfluous, and prefer the iron alone; we find a few drops tincture of iron in the water the best and easiest to give. — ED.]

#### A SURPRISE,

On Friday evening, March 2nd, a deputation from the Bowmanville Poultry Association, consisting of Messrs. J. M. HERN, JOS. JEFFERY, J. W. DUTTON, D. DAVIS, J. ARCHIBOLD, G. WRIGHT, T. SMELT, S. OKE, and J. J. MASON surprised Mr. A. HOBBS, the President, at his residence, and

presented him with the following address, accompanied by a beautiful carved ebony cane, mounted in silver. On one side of the head of the cane is the cut of a Dominique, holding in its beak a sickle feather; and on the other side, the following inscription: "Presented to A. HOBBS, Esq., by Sec. of B. P. A., 1888."

ESTEEMED FRIEND HOBBS.— It gives us great pleasure to be able once more to congratulate you on being the winner of the prize presented by the Secretary of the Poultry Association, Mr. J. M. HERN. It is our earnest wish that you may be long spared to use it, and that it may prove a firm support to you as age comes on. Hoping that you may be long our President and a Director of our Association, and that you and your partner may enjoy length of days and good health, is the united wish of the Directors of the BOWMANVILLE POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

Mr. HOBBS replied as well as his feelings would admit of, thanking his numerous friends for their appreciation of his services. Just as he had concluded, another surprise greeted him in the arrival of a beautiful trio of Andalusians, from Norfolk, England. A sumptuous repast followed, after which the remainder of the evening was spent in songs, speeches and a good time generally.

#### EXPERIENCE.

BY A. A. W.

The question asked by friend BULLER, in the February REVIEW, introduces a very important subject "Experience." Why don't more of the poultry fraternity give us their *actual experience* and not some pet theory of theirs which is better on paper than anywhere else. What we (amateurs) want is the result of actual practice, whether successful or unsuccessful. Don't hide your light under a bushel, but let it shine that others may see the rocks and shoals as well as the haven.

In answer to friend BULLER, I have had no experience with the small mills