

found more effective, in shorter time, than feeding whole grain. Another ration which was used last fall with great success in fattening 36 chickens, in our poultry department, was composed of

- Two parts finely ground oats ;
- One part ground barley ;
- One part cornmeal.

The whole was mixed with sweet milk. At the end of the second week beef suet in the proportion of one ounce to each group of 4 chickens was added to the ration and with good effect. The suet was cut up or rather chopped into very fine pieces. The milk was made hot before being used. In France, ground oats and cornmeal are sometimes the only constituents of the mash, and again, ground barley is preferred. In England, the favorite fattening ration, which is always fed with cramming machine, is ground oats, as fine as machine can grind them, with a small quantity of tallow. This latter ration is fed twice per diem, and in a semi-liquid condition. In all cases grit and water may be given. Milk in some shape is the favourite liquid wherewith to mix the mash.

*Let a superior quality of Poultry be produced.*

The above are a few points briefly given. On another occasion how to kill, pluck, dress and place on the market may be touched on. But our farmers must first produce the superior quality of poultry required and so much sought for by Montreal dealers. Just fancy, two leading poultry dealers in Montreal, telling me one after another, that they could not get from the farmers the superior quality of poultry required by their best customers ! And what more sure in result, or more easily raised than Plymouth Rock, Wyandotte and Brahma chickens. What is required is a little energy and enterprise on the part of our farmers. How can we expect to take advantage of the limit-less British market, if our farmers do not produce the superior quality required by our home markets ?

A. G. GILBERT.

Central Experimental Farm,  
Ottawa, August 15th, 1899.

**THE POOR MANS' FRIENDS.**

The combination of poultry and small fruits as a profitable business is a subject upon which I have thought a good deal, and I do not now think of a combination or of anything that a poor

man with limited means who has the pluck and vis, and is willing to work, can take up as a pursuit with as small an amount of capital and grow with it into a good business as can a man who has a love for poultry and small fruits where he uses good business judgment and will make a study of the business.

The raising of poultry and small fruits are both very profitable and can be handled together without one interfering with the other. It has surprised me very often that there are not more in the business ; there are hundreds of men who are capable of making both a success, yet they will drudge along year after year, working for other people, either in offices or some manual labor, receiving of course sufficient to support their families, yet they never get ahead or can save up a copper for a rainy day. But if they would take the courage to start out into the poultry and small fruit business using the usual amount of good judgment and common sense they do in looking after their employers' business, they would make a success of their venture and be independent.

Every man should be worthy of his hire, but he should also look out and lay up something for a rainy day, but for lack of capital many men toil year after year, giving their employers' good service too, but all the time paying him for the privilege of working. A certain amount of what they create has to go to their employer ; is this not so ? just think of it for a moment. Do not drop your jobs now and rush into the poultry and small fruit business, but just think how pleasant it would be to owe five ten or twenty acres near some good town or city, a very little cottage, four or five hundred well bred chickens, five or ten acres of small fruits which if handled rightly the chickens and fruit ought to give a revenue of from \$500 to \$600 per year and perhaps more. I know of some parties making \$700 to \$1,500 a year, and as you grow up into the business you can make it produce even more than that you need not give up your situation at first, commence by getting a few of the best you can get ; do not expect to get the best for a nominal sum you cannot do it, you must not stop short of the best (which you will have to pay well for if you get them) then you will have a lever on the purchaser as he will want the best from you, \$10 birds do not grow in every yard, but you will find that every man really wanting to buy will want the best and as soon as it is known that you have the best, you