

be a short and unsatisfactory one. It would be well enough for each one to bear in mind that there is always time enough for him to do well all that he is called upon to do at all. If he undertakes more than this he does an injustice both to his work and to himself. On the other hand, if he wastes the time which is entrusted to him, let him not hope to atone for it by extra haste and hurry. When we have learned to avoid wasting time on the one hand and crowding it on the other, we shall begin to appreciate its true value.

The greatest mistake made in feeding is over feeding. Hens are gorged with food which makes them fat instead of providing those elements which go to make up the egg. Corn consists almost wholly of starch and oil, and while it is a good food for fattening fowls it is one of the worst of all foods for producing eggs. No one food contains all the needed and a mixture of several kinds should be given.

In packing dressed poultry for market use clean dry straw free from dust or rust for the bottom. Between the layers fine tea paper is better, as it does not leave any stain or marks on the flesh.

The swelling of the sole of the foot in fowls is called bumble foot. It contains a cheesy matter, resulting in the disorganization of the tissue caused by inflammation. It is most common in heavy fowls, and is probably caused by injuries to the feet in jumping from high perches. It is easily cured by opening the swelling to its full extent, when the contents may be turned out in a soft, adhesive mass. By putting a little turpentine in the wound, and binding it up to keep out the dirt, it will heal quickly. There is a form of the disease in which pus

forms and the swelling is soft. In that case open and discharge the matter, wash it out and apply the turpentine and bandage.

Fowls are liable to take cold as well as members of the human family, and the symptoms are very nearly the same sort. Look after it before it develops into roup.

The way to be happy is to keep yourself innocent.

### POULTRY TOPICS.

BY F. M. CLEMAN, JR., MECHANICS-BURG, OHIO.

**PEDIGREES**—As far as pedigrees are concerned poultry breeding will never be brought to such a point as is the breeding of horses, cattle, swine and all the larger and less productive animals. The large number of poultry breeders, the great number of fowls bred, the frequent introduction of new bloods and other causes which are readily seen, prevent accurate pedigreeing. It is not difficult to keep an accurate register of a line of sires, but when it comes to keeping a register of the maternal side it is not so easy. This would make necessary the practice of keeping each female of the breeding pen in an enclosure to herself so that the eggs could be marked and set separately, and each chick be given a peculiar mark to show the source from which it came. Few breeders could afford such expensive or laborious methods of breeding, and indeed such a method would be superfluous. Individual quality rather than pedigree will always be the standard for judging fowls, and the basis on which the breeders skill will be judged.

**THE POULTRY-HOUSE FLOOR**—The best floor for the poultry-house is gravel filled in eight inches or more above the level of the surrounding ground. This

floor is cheap, dry, makes a good dust bath, and affords a supply of the material the fowls require for grinding their food. There is nothing better in every way.

**HENS FOR SETTERS**—Nearly all fancy fowls are yet hatched by the natural process and I think will always be so hatched as no artificial process can hatch and rear fowls of the highest type in feather and form. Select hens of a quiet gentle disposition for setters. This is a very important quality and has received too little attention from breeders. The hens best suited for setters and mothers are tame and not too pugnacious and "fussy." They should be so tame as to be easily handled and taken from the nest and replaced when it is necessary to do so, without being frightened. They should be of medium weight, not heavy and clumsy. Nothing is more provoking than to find valuable eggs destroyed by a clumsy setter. The medium sized breeds—Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks, Javas, Dorkings and Games, are the best in size and disposition for the purpose. There will always be lots of individual specimens superior to others, even of the same breed, as setters, and the breeder will do well to keep all such hens as long as they can be made useful as mothers.

### OUR ILLUSTRATION.

RED CAPS.

We give this month an illustration of Messrs. C. A. Sharp & Co's. Red Caps "Buffalo Boy" 1st cockerel and "Rosalie" 1st pullet at the late Buffalo Int. Fair. Messrs Sharp & Co. have now 600 Red Caps and have imported of this breed alone, nearly 300 birds.

### TORONTO BANTAM, PIGEON AND PET STOCK CLUB.

Toronto, November 19th, 1889.  
On the above date the Toronto Ban-