

bring them a return of percentage that cannot be obtained by thousands of invested capital in other pursuits. Where, or what business, other than poultry, will return you over twenty-five to fifty per cent on an investment of from ten to twenty dollars, but poultry will do it every time. And so if you expend two or three hundred dollars in your stock and buildings do not expect to get enough to retire on the first time you draw a balance sheet, and do not expect that every one can make it a success without any previous experience with poultry. If they go into the business on a large scale they must have had some practical experience with such stock, or employ a person possessing that knowledge, if they would expect a good return for capital invested. It is far the best that the poultry-man be his own hired man, for you will find like Mr. Punch of immortal fame that "if you want anything done you had better do it yourself." And this is particularly true of the poultry "bis." With a capable, active, steady, careful person at the head of the concern I am quite certain that from twenty-five to fifty per cent on capital can be easily secured in the business of poultry raising and he who will make most at it will be he who does not expect the stars to fall, or the clouds to rain gold on him, just because he has gone into the chicken business.

There is one quality a manager must have in unlimited supply, and that is he must not be afraid of soiling his hands. Let me tell you "mi swet frend" that you can't be a dude and attend to a few hundred fowls at the same time. In fact a few hundred fowls will take all the dude out of you, or you will give them over to the great majority in a very short time, if your dudeness is incurable. So be quite sure that you can give up those patent leather boots and that surpassing whiteness of collar for the best part of each day. If it is ever your lot to go around visiting poultrymen in their working hours you will see some suits that will astonish you, especially the hats. I often have wondered at the style of those and speculated as to their original shape. They are wonderful indeed. In fact taken as a whole the out and out chicken man's rig is—it really is far easier imagined than described.

Don't forget too that 500 hens does not look much on paper, and is not much trouble that way either, but, 500 hens, to have every-day dealings with, is a different thing altogether, and represents considerable time, labor and expense, in feed and housing. In short if you are "going into chickens" be as rational a creature as you would be on entering into any other responsible position as manager of a business. Try to learn all you can of the feeding, care and habits of the stock by beginning on a small scale first of all. Take some of the leading poultry journals—"the more you takes the more you wafts," as our old friend "Medicine Jack" says. I think a fancier half lives on his poultry papers, the day of issue, anyway I am accused of that awful crime sometimes.

Also, if you are beginning, get thoroughbred stock at any cost, study it, learn what it should be by the Standard, attend the poultry shows, talk to the breeders, and if you do not get interested by these last means I give you up.

Don't begin at all if you are a hasty, irritable person and unable to control your temper. That sounds hard to you don't it; and the worse temper you have the harder it hits, but it is good advice nevertheless. For "a hen is a contrary quadruped and one wot won't be beat at the bizness nuther, and if yer don't berlieve it jist try to coax her to do suthin wot she don't want ter." Y'es, hens "is tryin' to the feelins," so you want a little stock of good temper and patience to be a poultryman to begin with.

To be Continued.

DISINFECTANTS.

DISINFECTANTS are a very valuable assistance to the poultry keeper, but are too frequently used in a reckless and useless manner. A bad smell is not necessarily made innocuous because another more powerful odor is set up. Too often when from want of proper attention to cleanliness, or in consequence of over-crowding, the nose is offended by bad smells, it is thought to be sufficient if some strong disinfectant is used. Disinfectants are good, but they have their proper place, and whilst they will do a great deal in the way of purifying, they must not be