

poultry, as compared with meat. I have tested this carefully. In fact I know that the difference is greater than this, because I have frequently sold poultry at 14d. and 16d. per lb. live weight, or more than three times the price of meat. When we sell a chicken, the purchaser pays for the head, skin, feet, entrails and all but feathers (which sell for more than the carcass per pound), but, when they buy meat, the feet, skin, blood, entrails, etc., are all removed, and called offal; consequently, it needs no conjurer to convince heads of families that poultry is dearer food, by one hundred per cent. than meat.

But should poultry be so dear? I answer decidedly not, if we, as farmers, did our duty to ourselves, our land and our country.

The demand is evidently in excess of the supply for both poultry and eggs, for we import immense quantities, and, in addition, 500,000,000 eggs annually. Of course your poultry breeder must understand the business, as must the breeder of other farm creatures. The edge of the fields is the proper place for juveniles, and not cooped up in yards and sheds. Mine are not fancy poultry. I breed from pure stock on each side; say Game, Cochins and Brahma, all running and mixing together. I like Dorkings, but they will not thrive on our stiff clays. Every two or three years I change the male birds, paying 21 s. each for young, well bred ones. We send them to the wholesale salesmen in London, ready plucked. The hen-houses should have asphalted floors, be kept clean, well ventilated, and occasionally lime washed; the slated roof lime-washed in hot weather. A farmer never grudges barley by the load for his pigs, and cake and corn for his other stock: why should he regret feeding his poultry? We should consider that poultry manure the land the same as any farm animal. It is well known that many a farmer's wife clothes herself, and her numerous family, by the proceeds of her poultry. In some cases that I know of, one of the farm hands receives a pint of beer, when the governor is at market, to carry in a sack of barley, on the sly, for the use of the poultry, so as not to shock the farmer's excessive and unreasonable prejudice about the unprofitableness of poultry. The hen-house floors being asphalted and swept daily, and, having no open farm-yard knee deep in straw, we know nothing about fleas.

ESSEX GAZETTE.

In Breeding.

We give an article on in and in breeding from an old breeder which may prove interesting to our readers. He says. "I have been endeavoring to make some advances in this very important subject for the last few years with varied success.

My specialty and favorites being the white-faced Black Spanish, which I have kept for the last fifteen years, and still feel disposed to hold on to my old friends, notwithstanding they have been cast aside by so many for new aspirants to favor with the poultry breeding fraternity.

In the first few years of my experience, I adopted the universally accepted theory of crossing the flock, by the introduction of a male bird from some noted breeder, only to find I had made a mistake, my birds turning out inferior to the previous year's breeding—with white tipped primaries, red feathers on the back, loss of velvety white in the face &c., although none of these blemishes appeared in the parents, evidently showing that, in bringing the two strains of blood together, a very radical change had been made, but made the wrong way. Now all this is very annoying and vexatious when, after a certain amount of expense and a great deal of labor, you looked for improvement and found deterioration, and had to begin again, to endeavor to regain the ground you had lost.

Thus, my faith in the theory of out-crossing was greatly shaken, as far as my own experience took me, so I thought I would try in-breeding, as my attention had been drawn to an article in an English publication, giving the name of a party who had bred the Malay fowl for thirty years without a single introduction of new blood, and was the acknowledged champion of that variety.

He evidently believed in in-breeding, or, in other words, keeping pure blood when he had it. I must confess, that I am beginning to lean that way and if I succeed for the four years to come, as I have in the four years that are past, I shall tumble over altogether. Four years ago, I procured a Black Spanish cock from England and bred him and his sons alternately with my flock since; and I have to-day as fine a lot as I ever possessed. I intend to continue this course as long as I produce first class specimens.

Of course, the selection must be wise and judicious, and a good deal of judgment must be exercised in the matter.

There is a growing conviction in my mind that the thing can be done to a much greater extent than it is.

It would necessitate the forming of three pens at least and breeding alternately from each pen. This method is only open to those who have plenty of room, or keep but few varieties. I should be glad to see this subject ventilated, by those who may have had some experience in it, for the benefit of those interested.

PURE BLOOD.

Montreal, May 5, 1879.

Large egg trade.

To give some idea of the business done by egg dealers in the United States, we quote from the Scientific American.

The egg trade in this country is estimated by competent authorities to equal \$80,000,000 a year. The barreled eggs received yearly at New York reach over 500,000 barrels, valued at \$9,000,000, and this is but one branch of the trade. It is said that Philadelphia consumes 80,000 doz. eggs a day. The receipts in Boston for the year 1878 were over 6,500,000 dozen. Between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 dozen are annually exported from the country. The millions of dozens consumed throughout the country without passing into dealers hands, it is impossible to estimate.

GOLDEN RULES FOR FRUIT GROWING.

Fruit growing has become one of the great interests of the Country. In spite of the great activity of Pomologists, Nurserymen, Provincial and County Fairs, and Planters themselves, the demand seems to increase in a far greater ratio than the supply.

It is true that apples have partially failed some seasons, but, in seasons of full fruitage, they pay for transportation for hundreds of miles, and give good profits to growers. The demand is for fine fruit, and there is no probability that the market will be overstocked for generations to come. The consumption of fruit is increasing in a far greater ratio than the population, and the recent method of canning has immensely increased the demand for summer fruits, as well as the public demand for large supplies. This is a change most favorable to the health of our people, and no one need have any fears that fruit-growing will, in his day, or in that of his children, fail to return large profits.

We say to every one who owns a patch of ground, or a farm, if you have a corner in which a tree can stand, or a spot, however small, in which fruit can grow—lose no time in turning it to account. We say to the larger land owner, who has not all kinds of fruit growing: lose no time in sup-