

pecking and worry which occurs when chickens first go among the hens; any place that is safe from vermin will do by placing a few sticks for them to roost on, as their welfare is the same in a common shed as in the finely built poultry-house of the wealthy, and very much greater than in many gentleman's places where the range is limited. Where great numbers of cattle are wintered, the buildings are extensive and the premises have litter, horse dung, &c., here and there in different parts—it is at such homesteads poultry may be kept ten times as numerous as where they are restricted to particular quarters, for it is their own droppings which to them poison the ground and the atmosphere, but the more of other animal manure they have access to, and the less of their own lying about where they feed and resort, the better.

Don't coddle the young turkeys too much; don't have any kind of fowls always round the kitchen door; a few steps further to feed will be well taken, and don't begrudge food and give too much sop to young or old. The digestion of poultry is stronger than a millstone. — *Country Gentleman*.

APIARY FOR THE WINTER.

Bees that have been kept in the cellar, or in a special room, may be removed to their summer stands, from the first to the last of the month, varying with the degree of latitude. If the weather is very severe during the month, or the locality is far north, perhaps it would be better to wait until April before setting them out. Let them occupy the old stands as far as possible, as some of the old bees will be apt to remember their former location. But if the bees were crowded near together, it will be better to give them more room. Better not place them less than six or eight feet apart. Choose a warm, still day to remove them. Set out the hives that are to stand a considerable distance apart first. After they have nearly ceased flying, place out other hives between those already out, if the day is still fine. Large numbers of bees set out at one time, and placed near, often become confused, and enter the wrong hive. Thus some hives will get more than their share of bees, while others may be nearly depopulated. If there is snow on the ground that is not firm enough for the bees to get a good foothold, it is better to wait until a warm day has settled it. If a light

snow falls, shade the hives so that the bees will not be tempted out and lost. On a cool pleasant morning, quietly remove all the filth from the bottom-boards and about the hive. If the bees are disposed to be irritable, quiet them with a very little smoke, while performing the operation. While you are doing this, it will be well to examine and see whether they are still well provided with honey. In movable comb-hives, it is easily ascertained by lifting out the combs. In bar-hives look between the bars at the top of the hive, where it can usually be found. Box-hives invert in a cool, bright sunshine morning, letting the rays of the sun fall directly between the combs. If there is still a supply you will usually see the ceiled honey near the top and sides. We have sometimes ascertained, by running a knitting needle down into the combs, through the holes in the top, or honey-board. If any sealed honey is found, there is little danger of their starving for ten or twelve days. The cold of the past winter, and the poor season (in many localities) for 1863, will be quite likely to render the supply of honey altogether too short to carry them safely through, and furnish a supply for raising brood. The inexperienced should avoid feeding as long as possible, as it may induce robbing, and increased production of brood, which may cause the destruction of the stock. After you once commence feeding, repeat the operation from time to time, as the needs of the hive demand, until the bees get a supply from the flowers.

How to Feed.

Place honey, in combs, in the cap or top of the hive: strained honey or sugar syrup, in empty combs or shallow dishes. If dishes are used, place cut straw or shavings on top of the honey, to prevent drowning. If the weather is very cold, bring into a warm room to feed, confining the bees with wire-cloth, or thin sheeting to give plenty of air.

To prevent robbing, close the fly-hole so that only one or two bees can enter at a time. Also incline the bottom-board. In this condition, bees will usually defend themselves.

To equalize stocks, let a strong stock change stands with a weak one. This will usually make all right, the bees mixing peaceably.

Many bee-keepers claim that early breeding can be assisted by furnishing the bees with unbolted rye or wheat flour as a sub-