

Poultry Yard.

The Best Form.

To feed bone matter to poultry is, for young chickens, to mix it with their soft food, as meal; for older fowls it serves best in the granulated or coarser shape.

For laying fowls it is an excellent stimulant, and for growing stock it furnishes the materials that go to form strength and stamina in the limbs and muscles.

Ground bone, bone meal and fine granulated bones are all merchantable articles now-a-days, and large quantities of this economical provision for poultry are used by those who understand its value.

Hens Eating Their Eggs.

We saw in the *Cottage Gardener*, last year, a figure of a laying-box, with a description of the same; and as, perhaps, many of our readers have hens addicted to the above habit, we thought a copy of the description might be published in the *ADVOCATE* for their benefit. The plan consists simply in an improved nest or laying-box with a false bottom, forming an inclined plane, down which the egg rolls as soon as laid, into a receptacle beneath; and, of course, before the hen can have a chance of pecking it the egg is beyond her reach. Neither hay nor straw must be used in the nests; but if the surfaces of the inclined plane are covered with smooth matting, a piece of old carpet, or sack- ing, every purpose will be answered.

Another advantage of this laying-box is, that where several hens use the same nest, the eggs are not soiled by their dirty feet in wet weather.

Preserving Eggs.

The following is taken from the *Ladies' Pocket Magazine*, bearing date 1795, Vol. 1, pp. 11, 12:—"Curious Method of Preserving Eggs.—The following easy and simple process for keeping and preserving eggs of hens, turkeys, geese and ducks was invented by Mr. William Jayne, an ingenious confectioner of Sheffield, in Yorkshire (England), to whom a patent was granted Feb. 8, 1791: Put in a tub or vessel one bushel (Winchester measure) of quick lime, thirty-two oz. of Cream of Tartar. Mix the whole together with as much water as will reduce the composition to such a substance as will cause an egg to swim with its top just above the liquid, then put and keep the eggs therein, which will preserve them perfectly sound for the space of two years at least."

Better Allow Them to Sit.

You had better allow hens to sit once a year; but if you desire to "break up" any particular hen that may be broody, avoid the too common practice of abusing the poor creature, as many do, unthinkingly, by souping her in cold water, tying her to a stake by the leg, shutting her up in a darkened box or barrel, etc. Place her in an open slatted box upon the ground, feed her lightly on dry food, have a water-can handy, and, after three days of such management, introduce a young male bird to the cage. You can thus "break her up" in a week.

Feed Well From the Shell.

There can be no dispute about the fact that it is wisdom and economy both, in fowl breeding, to "feed well from the shell upwards. If your birds are intended for the market only, they are always in readiness thus for killing; if for breeding, they are thus always in the best condition for the purpose; if for the show pens, there is no fattening or forcing to do at the last hour to render them presentable. So we recommend good care, good feed and good quarters for poultry all the time.

VERMIN ON FOWLS.—Sprinkle Scotch sluff on setting hens; it is effectual. Put sassafras poles in the poultry house for fowls to roost on. Vermin do not like sassafras. If the fowls should become infested, get the oil of sassafras, cut it with alcohol, and sprinkle on the poles.

Stock Notes.

SHORTHORN SALES IN ENGLAND.

Forty cows and heifers, and seven bulls, from the herd of Mr. George Garne, at Churchill Heath, Chipping Norton, were sold. There was a good attendance, and the day was fine, yet the prices realized were not up to general expectation. The summary was: 40 cows and heifers averaged 45/ 5s 8d—1,771/ 7s; 7 bulls, 46/ 7s—324/ 9s.

The herd of W. H. Brown, comprising 42 cows and heifers, and 10 bulls, was sold at Brookfield, near Stourbridge. The cows and heifers averaged 30/ 8s 3d; the bulls, 21/ 13s 8d.

At the Smithfield Sale, 32 cows and heifers were sold at an average of 57/ 2s 6d, and 8 bulls averaged 30/ 3s 9d.

At the Marshall Sale, Mr. Thornton remarked of Queen Mary that she is the best Shorthorn in England, and said he had himself offered Mr. Kennard 1000 guineas for her for exportation to America, but he, like a true Briton, refused, that his own country might have the honor of her.

At the Berkely Castle Sale there was a goodly company present, and of the number were Mr. Croome, of U. S., and Mr. F. W. Stone, of Canada. Eighty-three animals were sold in three hours and a half. The top figure obtained was for Lady Wild Eyes, 555 guineas. The amount realized for the cows and heifers was 4,107 guineas, and for the bulls, 1,833 guineas. Mr. Stone was the purchaser of Lady Adela in calf, for 40 guineas, and of Damsel 2nd for 70 guineas.

An agricultural exchange (England), says:—we are informed that Duke of Thorndale (31298), with four females—two of the Acorn tribe and two Barringtons—from Mr. Style's fashionable herd at Beaumont Grange, England, have been bought for exportation to the Bow Park herd, belonging to the Hon. George Brown, of Toronto, Canada. The bull, it is said, cost 1,500 guineas and the five averaged £692 a head.

At the Marshfield Sale of a draft from the R. B. Kennard Herd, 18 females fetched 827/ 8s, or a little more than 43 guineas per head. The average price of the bulls was about 35 guineas each. The herd was not sufficiently numerous to draw breeders from a distance. The weather also was unfavorable.

Mr. John H. Holden, Belleville, purchased a lot of stock last week from the herds of Mr. Andrew Allan, Landerston Stock Farm, Montreal, that were fed from her Majesty's Shaw Farm at Windsor; also from the herds of Mr. T. Irving, successor to Sir William and James Logan, Rockfield, Montreal; Mr. N. S. Whitney, the Hill's Farm, Montreal; and very valuable animals from General Curtis, Odgersburg, one of the most noted breeders in the United States. These purchases make a very valuable addition to the stock of Mr. Holden.

F. W. Stone, Guelph, Ont., has made the following recent sales, viz:

SHORTHORN BULLS.

To P. De Geer, Queensville, Ont., 2nd Seraph 24805. To J. R. Pettit, Grimsby, Ont., Seraph 24804. To John Coutts, East Wawanosh, Ont., 2nd Earl of Cambridge 17008. To F. Hanton, Puslinch, Ont., King of Athelstane. To T. G. Grieve, Lakefield, Ont., Grand Duke of York 23357.

HEREFORD BULLS.

To, J. K. Shaw, Westfield, N. Y., Prince Charming. To C. C. Bridges, Shanty Bay, Ont., Defiance (4507).

COTSWOLDS.

To Dr. L. E. Brown, Eminence, Ky., one imported 2 shear ram; one imported ram lamb; two ram lambs and one ewe lamb; also one Southdown ram.

BERKSHIRES.

To Jos. Bale, Adams' Mills, Ohio, one boar and one sow. To John Wynard, Arkell, Ont., one sow. To Dr. L. E. Brown, Eminence, Ky., one boar. To J. T. Garrison, Mansfield, Ohio, one boar. To J. M. Jamison, Roxabell, Ross Co., Ohio, one boar and four sows. W. L. Samuels & Sons, Deatsville, Ky., three sows.

YORKSHIRES.

To Dr. L. E. Brown, Eminence, Ky., one sow. To J. J. Maxon, Gallipolis, Ohio, one sow.

Mr. Wm. Lang, of Downie, reports as having made the following sales of shorthorn cattle:—A red bull calf, Sir Archie, to Mr. Riddle, of West Nissouri, got by imp. Tambour (4131), dam, Lady Bertha, by Duke of Magdala (1282), 7976; also the bull calf Duke of Avon, to J. & J. G. Jopling, of Downie, got by imp. Tambour (4131), dam, Ginevra 2nd, by the pure Princess Bull Oswald Gray (514). The bull calf Crimson Duke, to the Messrs. Wade, Parkhall, got by imp. Tambour (4131), dam, Crimson Flower 2nd, imp. by Refiner (22662). Also the yearling heifer Lady Beatrice, by imp. Scotsman 2nd, (see No. 3. vol. C. H. B.), Lady Bertha, by Duke Magdala (1282).

The Durham Lawn herd of shorthorns, the property of Col. Holland, of Alexis, Ill., were sold at Dexter Park, Chicago, on the 25th of May. The following stock was purchased by Canadians: Duchess J., calved January, 1875, by 17th Duke of Airdrie, dam, Zoe-Mon 3rd; J. R. Craig, Burnhamthorpe, Canada, \$925. First Rose of Sharon of Durham Lawn, calved August, 1875, by Grand Airdrie, dam, Rose of Sharon of Durham Lawn; John Hope, Markham, Canada, \$3,200. Sanspareil, 12th, calved March, 1873, by Proud Duke, dam, Sanspareil 10th; George Brown, Toronto, Canada, \$1,000.

DEATH OF TWO VALUABLE COWS.—A valuable Shorthorn cow of the herd of Col. J. B. Taylor, for which he had a short time before been offered \$4,000, died from fever taken after calving. The calf she has left he values higher than her dam. Mr. R. Gibson, of London Township, well known to the breeders of pure bred stock, has also lost a valuable cow from a similar cause.

Mr. J. & P. Brooks, of Whalen, inform us that they made more profit from 14 sheep than they did from all the rest of their farm, containing 250 acres well cultivated. They have taken 12 first prizes for the best flock of Leicester sheep during the past 10 years. They are preparing for the Centennial.

Mr. Thomas Grey, Sydenham Farm, Oshawa, has sold to Smith & Nichols, of Nevada, two yearling Ayrshire bulls and the yearling heifer, Red Lily; to K. Foley, Darlington, yearling heifer, Rosy; to D. Lick, Harmony, yearling bull, Sims; and to J. H. Holden, Belleville, cows Cora 3rd and Medora.

Messrs. J. Snell & Sons and Mr. W. T. Benson, Edwardsburg, announce a sale of Shorthorn stock, selected from leading herds in England and America, and bred with care, to be held at the Provincial Fair grounds, Toronto, June 11th.

Mr. R. Gibson, London Township, has sold the fine young bull, Baron Percy, of the Uraline family, to Mr. Nicholson, of Sylvan. The Baron is of the same family as Uloras Oxford, formerly sold by Mr. Gibson to Mr. Nicholson.

A large sale of thoroughbred stock took place at Lougue Point, on the farm of Mr. A. Allan. The prices for Alderney cows ranged from \$115 to \$225. Several superior Ayrshires were sold for about the same prices.

Col. Chas. O'Malley, of Wardsville, purchased at the stock sale of Mr. He's herd, at Springfield, Ill., Louan 7th (heifer) of Emgrove, two years old, for \$325; and the bull (2 years old) Col. Reid, for \$300.

Messrs. W. Lang and Hugh Thomson announce a sale of Shorthorns at St. Mary's, Ont., on the 17th of June next. About 35 females of popular families are to be offered for sale.

Capt. Chambers announces a sale to be held at Springvale Farm, E. Oxford, June 13th, of Shorthorn cattle, Cotswold sheep, Berkshire pigs and a pair of matched bay mares.

A joint stock company has been formed for the purpose of importing and breeding stock on the Bow Park Farm, and to make it one of the greatest shorthorn farms in the world.

Messrs. A. & A. Stewart, of Lobo, and Col. J. B. Taylor, of London, have lately purchased 6 and 7 Duchess of the Valley from the herd of the late Mr. Carter, of Connecticut.

Mr. R. S. Robson, of London Township, purchased of Mr. S. M. Rosman, Waynsboro, Va., a fine cow of the Elvina family; also a heifer of the same class.

The Canadian Shorthorn Herd Book for the year 1875 contains the records of 1,854 males and 1,233 females, with their produce.

The Hon. D. Christie is appointed as one of the judges on shorthorns at the Centennial.