



Published for the Department of Agriculture for the Province of Quebec, (official part) by
EUSEBE SENECAI & FILS, 20, St. Vincent St. Montreal.

Vol. VIII. No. 8.

MONTREAL, AUGUST 1886.

\$1.00 per annum, in advance.

NOTICE.—The subscription to the *Illustrated Journal of Agriculture*, for members of Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, as well as of Farmers Clubs, in the province of Quebec, is 30c annually, provided such subscription be forwarded through the secretaries of such societies.

OFFICIAL PART.

Table of Contents.

The Poultry yard.....	113
Food.....	114
Silage, at the London Dairy-show.....	115
Remedies for the cabbage worm.....	115
Misery and comfort in calf-feeding.....	116
The Sheep Gad-Fly.....	116
De Omnibus Rebus.....	117
Whiffletrees.....	120
Horse rations.....	120
Our Engravings.....	121
Hackney Stallion.....	120
Correspondence.....	121
Letter from J. M. Jocelyn, Instructor in butter and cheese making.....	122
Basilage on an English farm.....	124
Sheep washing.....	121
Complete foods.....	126
Grass Lands.....	127
Plaster.....	127

THE POULTRY-YARD.

The Rearing of Chickens.

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—The point in which the majority of chicken raisers fail is in respect to the feeding. One of the most difficult matters to instil into the minds of poultry keepers is, that the feeding of their stock must be very carefully and systematically done. Overfeeding is the cause of nearly all the diseases to which poultry, both old and young, are subject. Thus it will be at once apparent that if it is important to feed adult fowls in the right manner,

it is especially so in the case of young chickens. The former may, under certain conditions, throw off the evil effects of bad feeding, but this is scarcely possible in the case of young and growing stock at the time when the frame is being formed. The very desire to feed the birds sufficient very often leads to the giving of either too much or too rich food. The delicate stomachs of the little things need food that shall be of a suitable nature, and full of nourishment. This very fact often leads to error. Rich food is not necessarily nourishing, and *vice versa*.

Chickens do not need any food during the first twenty-four hours after they are hatched. The contents of the yolk-bag, which bag is absorbed into the stomach immediately before hatching takes place, contains sufficient nourishment for the first day, and any attempt to compel the chick to swallow other food is likely to do more harm than good, by the derangement of the digestive system. There will be no difficulty in getting the chicks to eat, if they are simply left alone for the first twenty-four hours after they make their debut into the world. All such practises as the giving of a peppercorn to the newly hatched chick are most objectionable indeed, and are founded either on superstition or ignorance. Such pungent things as peppercorns must be very trying indeed to a delicate organ like the stomach of a young chick. That still most objectionable practice of tearing off the horn or scales which nature has placed on the beak of chicks to enable them to break open their prison house, combines cruelty with other things, for this scale will drop off itself within a few days. The less chickens are interfered with, the better, during the early stages of their growth.

The first food should consist of hard-boiled eggs, chopped fine, and mixed with twice their bulk of bread crumbs. Those eggs which have been sat on for a week, and proved to be infertile, answer capitally for feeding the chickens. Failing