

PESTS OF THE POULTRY YARD.—Your contributor "W. J. P." gives an account of the damage done by crows to broods of young chicks (p. 7). At the present time I am having both chickens and ducklings taken by rats. If the little ones are with the hen in the daytime, the rats will pounce upon them from under a log of wood, or anything that affords a hiding place. At night they burrow under the coops, and take them from under the hen. Last night a chicken was heard in great distress, and on going to see what was the matter with it, a great rat was just coming from under

the coop, and escaped. It had bitten the chicken through the leg, and skinned its neck and breast, but the chicken was alive; it was a month old. This morning another fine pullet, 12 weeks old, and a duckling are missing. Can you or some of your correspondents inform me as to the means of exterminating the rats? I have shot many; traps they will not go into, and I have tried poison; but the seem to increase rather than diminish. Information will oblige your perplexed correspondent.—*C. H. T. Ag. Gazette.*

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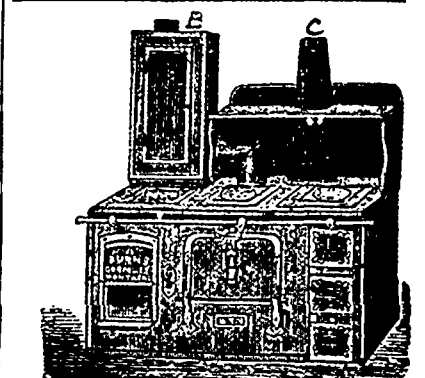
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