

the ground a liberal manuring with well decomposed dung, and if to this is added a mixture of muck or chip dirt, it will help the matter. Of course the plowing and harrowing must be thoroughly done. Sow in drills two feet apart, if for horse tillage; if done with the hand, at less distance. Sow when the soil is a little moist, and press the earth firmly over the seed.

As carrots germinate slowly, look out for the weeds as soon as they appear, or they will get the start of the carrots and overshadow them. If this seed is drilled in, two pounds to the acre will be sufficient; if sown by the hand, three or four will be needed. Thin the plants at each hoeing, until they are four or five inches apart. By good management a crop of 500 to 700 bushels to the acre may be expected. The Long Orange is generally considered the best variety; though the White Belgium is very nutritious and is most easily harvested.

To have Eggs in winter.

The question is often asked, "Why cannot hens be made to lay as well in winter as in summer?" They can to a certain extent; but they require, as a condition, that they be well provided with warm and comfortable lodgings, clean apartments, plenty of food, pure water, gravel, lime, fine sand, and ashes to roll and bathe in.

There seems naturally to be two seasons of the year when hens lay; early in the spring, and afterwards, in summer; indicating that if fowls were left to themselves, they would, like wild birds, produce two broods in a year.

Early spring hatched birds if kept in a warm place and fed plentifully and attended to, will generally commence laying about Christmas, or

even somewhat earlier. In cold and damp weather, this is not to be expected, and much may in different seasons, depend on the state of the weather and the condition of the bird.

It is a well-known fact, that from November to February, the very time when we want eggs the most, they are to be made a bill of expense without any profit. To promote fecundity and great laying in the hen, it is necessary that they be well fed on grain, boiled potatoes given to them warm, and occasionally animal food. In summer they get their supply of animal food in the form of worms and insects, suffered to run at large, unless their number is so great as to consume beyond the supply in their roving distance. I found it advantageous in the summer to open the gates occasionally, and, give the fowls a run in the garden and in the field adjoining their yard, for a few hours in the day, when grasshoppers and other insects were plenty. I had two objects in view; one to benefit the fowls, and the other to destroy the insects. It will be found that the fecundity of the hen will be increased or diminished according to the supply of animal food furnished.

Hens moult and cast their feathers once every year, generally commencing in August and continuing till late in November. It is the approach, the duration, and the consequences of this period, which puts a stop to their laying. It is a critical time for all birds. All the period while it lasts, even to the time when the last feathers are replaced by new ones, till these are full grown, the wasting of the nutritive juices, prepared from the blood for the very purpose of promoting this growth is considerable; and hence it is no wonder there should not remain enough in the body of the hen to cause her egg to grow.