

keep one hundred hens in his barn, and allow them free liberty to trample over his hay-mow, set where they please, and lay where they please—and get fewer eggs than one who has a department especially for his fowls, and keeps but half as many, and furnishes them with corn, lime, water and gravel, and who takes care that his hens are not disturbed about their nests.

“Three chalk eggs in a nest are better than a single egg. Large eggs please them. Pullets will commence laying earlier in life when nests and eggs are plenty, and other hens are cackling around them. A dozen fowls, shut up away from the means of obtaining other food, will require something more than a quart of Indian corn a day. I think fifteen bushels a year a fair provision for them; but more or less, let them always have enough by them—and after they have become habituated to finding enough at all times, they take but a few kernels at a time, except just before retiring to roost, when they will fill their crops. But just so sure as their provision comes to them scantily so surely will they raven and gorge themselves to the last extremity and will stop laying. One dozen fowls, properly tended, will furnish a family with more than 2,000 eggs per year, and 100 full grown chickens. The expense of feeding the dozen fowls will not amount to eighteen bushels of Indian corn. They may be kept as well in cities as in the country, and will do as well shut up the year round as to run at large—and a grated room well lighted, ten by five feet, or larger if you can afford the space, partitioned off from the stable or other outhouse, may be used as a hen-house. In the spring, (the proper season) five or six hens will hatch at the same time, and the 50 or 60 chickens give to one hen. Two hens will take good care of one hundred chickens, until they are able to climb their little stick rosts. They should then be separated from the hens entirely. They will wander less, and do better, away from the parent fowls.—Chickens put in the garden will eat up the May bugs and other destructive insects; but for my own part I much prefer four or five good sized toads; for they are not particular about their food, but will snap up ants and bugs of any kind, and will not, if a good chance offers, refuse the honey bees, but will down them in a hurry. In case of confining fowls in summer, it should be remembered that a ground floor is highly necessary, where they can wallow in the dirt, for they like it as well as the hog likes muck.”

Veterinary.

The Progress of Veterinary Science.

The following is a brief report of the introductory lecture, delivered by Mr. Andrew Smith, Veterinary Surgeon to the Board of Agriculture.

at the commencement of his course of lectr on Veterinary Science the present winter:

In commencing a course of study and systematic enquiry into the details of a profession, it is desirable and interesting to know a little of the early history of such profession. I will, therefore, first endeavor to give a slight outline of the progress of the Veterinary. During the last century, the study of the diseases of the lower animals may be said to have begun in a somewhat scientific manner, although not until previous to that time, even before the Christian era, that celebrated and eminent practitioner both human and veterinary medicine Hippocrates, the most eminent physician of times, wrote an elaborate work on the art and practised the healing art indiscriminately both man and beast. During the 17th century numerous treatises on the lower animals and their diseases were brought before the public number of them were but of little value, all tended to direct attention to the diseases of these animals.

In 1761, the first public school for the teaching of the Veterinary art was established at Lyons, under the patronage of the French Government, which institution had for principal the celebrated Bourgelat, well known to the Medical profession by his writings on Anatomy and Medicine. A regular course of Veterinary Medicine was there taught, under which students acquired an acquaintance with the various diseases of domestic animals. A few years later was established the present school at Alfort, near Paris, which is still supported by the Government. The course is in a most flourishing condition. Subsequently, schools were established in Prussia, Germany, Austria, London, &c.

About the year 1780, St. Bel, a Frenchman, came to London, and made proposals to give lectures on Veterinary Medicine; however, his propositions did not meet with success and returned to France. Two years afterwards, Bel made a second attempt to found a school in London, and this time he was taken notice of by the Agricultural Society of Odeham, an institution was founded, called the Veterinary College of London, of which St. Bel was principal and Mr. Blain assistant. However, St. Bel was not spared to see the fruit of his labors brought to maturity, being suddenly cut off in the midst of his usefulness. After St. Bel's death, it was necessary to appoint a person to fill the vacant chair. Mr. Clarke, of Edinburgh, the King's Farrier for Scotland, was asked to come forward as a candidate, but declined. Morecroft, an eminent practitioner of the Veterinary who had written a treatise on Lameness in the Horse, and who also had studied the Veterinary Profession, and afterwards learnt the Veterinary Science in France, was next brought forward and also Mr. Coleman, who had somewhat distinguished himself by some experiments