

and a feed of mixed grain at night. I keep pure water always before them, and warm it in cold weather. I feed ground bone every other day—all they want. I don't think they will eat too much. I also keep them well supplied with grit. I find that my hens pay me well for all the feed and extra work. If I neglected them they would have to be fed a certain amount anyway, and I would get no profit.

T. A. Cox.

Brantford.

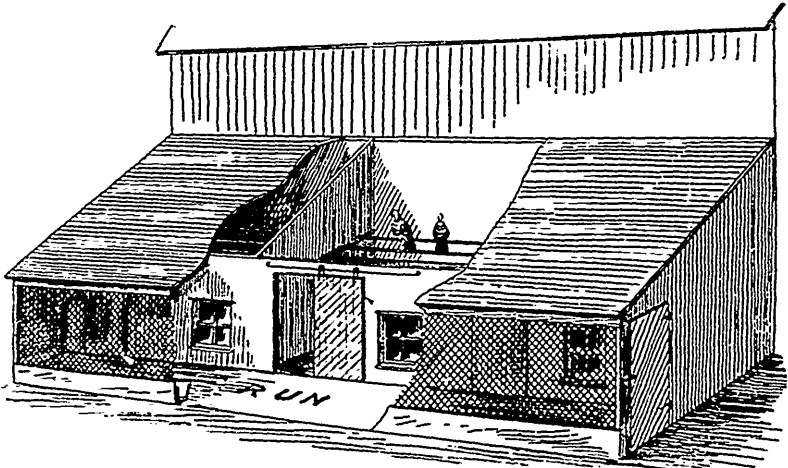
[I am very glad to hear from Mr. Cox. Pork scraps are the finest food I know of for giving birds a nice glossy color. It is also an excellent article of food for laying hens. I wish more of our readers would give their experience. FARMING has room for all those who feel disposed to give us some practical account of what they are doing. Let us hear from you.—ED.]

they will all lay well for that length of time when looked after properly. Later on in the spring some will become broody, and some will not. That all depends on the breed. But, if the early hatched pullet, the March hatched pullet of any variety, is taken in hand the following December and her laying capacity estimated, she will lay pretty much all winter and not get broody, regardless of breed.

These are facts worth considering, and, as the season of the year is now at hand when we should outline our spring plans, it would be well to shape matters so as to get out a good lot of early chickens, and so have a big flock of pullets to put in the laying yards next fall.

Fertile Eggs.

C. B. Cochrane, Alta: (1) How long has a rooster got to be with hens to fertilize the eggs?



View of a Compartment in Mr. Bell's Turkey House.

STRAY FEATHERS

THE early pullet is worth striving for. She will be the most valuable fowl on the place the next fall and winter. If all pullets were hatched in February and March, the work of making them lay in winter would be reduced one-half. It doesn't matter much what breed she is. If she is hatched early, she is a source of profit to her owner.

MARCH to November inclusive is nine months, and a pullet of that age is old enough to lay, and she will lay if not too much exposed to the rigors of winter.

True, the breed is of considerable importance when we estimate the laying capacity for twelve months, but it is not of much consideration during the first four months that a pullet lays, because

(2) How long after the rooster has been removed will the eggs remain fertilized?

ANS.—(1) In order to ensure the fertility of eggs I always leave the male in the pen for seven days prior to setting.

(2) I have known eggs to hatch which were laid ten days after the male had been removed from the pen.

Egg Markers.

J. W. S., Oshawa, Ont.: Where can I purchase the egg marker referred to in the January number of FARMING?

ANS.—Any rubber stamp with changeable dates will do. These can be had from any rubber stamp manufacturer. I merely marked the eggs with a pencil, but, of course, a stamp is preferable.