same at home. All that can be done is to use every means to have the eggs fertile; pack according to best plan in light basket with handle; apprise the carriers by conspicuous letters on package of the care required in handling and give the consignee to understand that he is to share a certain amount of the risk.

THE CHICKENS, THEIR GROWTH AND TREATMENT.

On the chickens hatching, they were allowed to remain for 24 or 26 hours under the hen until they were completely "nest ripe." With the mother they were then placed in coops of improved pattern specially designed for the poultry department. The mothers were confined to the coops, but the chickens could run at large, or return to brood at pleasure. The coops became the homes of the chickens until they were removed in the fall to winter quarters. On the chickens feathering sufficiently to keep themselves warm by nestling together at night (generally at the age of four or five weeks,) the mother was removed to her quarters in the poultry house to resume laying, and each colony of chicks returned to their own coop without hesitation. The coops were so arranged that on being closed for the night the inmates were secure against all enemies in the shape of rats, weasels, skunks, &c., while proper ventilation was not lost sight of. In rainy weather a double roof on each coop was drawn forward and made an excellent shelter. It could also be used as a shade in the hot season Care was taken to prevent lice on the chickens. These pests are insidious and deadly foes to the young chicks and cannot be too energetically guarded against. A great deal of this precaution can be well observed at the time of setting the hen, by ridding her body of all such tenants. (See setting hens, above.) In the early summer of the year 1888, two methods of feeding newly hatched chickens were tried, viz., the dry (hard boiled eggs and bread crumbs) and the wet (bread and milk), but with one or two exceptions in the past year the bread and milk system was adopted, and with excellent results. This method is particularly adapted to farms, where large quantities of butter are made and there is plenty of curdled milk to feed. The bread was put into milk, squeezed nearly dry and so fed. It contained moisture enough to do for drink, and in consequence, water was not given to the chicks until they were several days old. Sour milk was left for them to take when desired and was always enjoyed with great relish. Feed was given as frequently as they would eat and as much as they would take. Too much importance cannot be attached to the fact that the first few weeks of the chicken make the future fowl. A chicken half starved or stinted from any cause in the first five weeks of its existence never regains the loss afterwards. Chickens for table use should be pushed from the first day they are able to eat. As the chickens grow up, the last feed in the evening was gradually changed to wheat and crushed corn, and pains were taken to see that every chicken went to its coop with a crop full. The bread and milk gave way to shorts, cornmeal, ground oats, bran, and other suitable materials mixed in boiling water with a handful or two of ground meat to the chickens which could not get grasshoppers, or other form of insect life. The mortality among the earlier chickens did not reach beyond 5 per cent.

The growth made by the chickens of different breeds is shown by the following table:

WEIGHT OF CHICKENS.

Plymouth Rocks—A cockerel hatched on 7th April, Weighed, on 7th May (one month afterwards), 1lb. 6ozs.; on 7th June, 2lbs. 15ozs.; on 12 July, 4lbs. 12ozs. (making 4¾lbs in 3 months). On the 24th of the same month (July) the same bird weighed 5lbs. 8ozs.; on 15th August, 7lbs. 1ozs., and on the 18th October, 8¾lbs. Another Plymouth Rock, hatched on the 30th May, made equal rapid growth, showing a weight of 8lbs. 4ozs. on the 30 of October (5 months from date of hatching), thus making weight of nearly one and three quarter pounds per month.

Brahmas—Four chickens, hatched on 2nd May, from setting of eggs from London, Ont., turned out pullets, so in this case we have to take the female; one, grew at the rate of 1lb. 2ozs. per month, weighing at the end of October 7lbs.; another, at the same date, weighed 6lbs. 8ozs. A Brahma cockerel, hatched on the 21st May, weighed, on 21st August (3 months later) 2lbs. 15 ozs., showing a gain of a little over 15 ozs. per month.

Buff Cochins—Two cockerels, hatched on 21st May, weighed, on 21st August (3 months afterwards) 3lbs. 6ozs. and 3lbs 4oz., making progress at a rate of 1lb. 2ozs. per month.

Wyandottes—Chickens hatched on 21st May, weighed 3lbs. 7ozs., on 21st August, (three months latter), gaining a little over 1lb. 2ozs. per month. A white Wyandotte made the same gain during the same period. Eleven Wyandottes hatched on 13th July, did not make quite such rapid progress during the hot term, showing, on 20th August following, only 13ozs., but on 23rd September, cooler weather, reaching 1lb. 5 ozs., and, on 23rd October, 2lbs. 14ozs.

Houdans—Hatched on 1st May, showing a gain of 1lb. per month.

Game-Cross—Two cockerels of a cross between a black-breasted-red Game male and black Minorca hen, and hatched on the 22nd and 28th of May respectively, weighed, on 22nd August (three months), 3lbs. 7ozs. and 3lbs. 4 ozs., making almost 1lb. 3ozs. per month.