

two feet long being nailed in across the center to complete the framework of the foundation (Fig. 2.) A part of one side of the box was removed and fitted with hinges to be used as a flap door, and two round-topped holes were cut in the front part of the box for doors between the back and front of the pen. On the foundation in front, a floor of four foot boards was nailed, projecting a little beyond the framework. Strips like those used for the foundation were nailed in the same manner about the top of the box and floored over. On this framework five pairs of one by two-inch rafters, cut for one-fourth pitch, and projecting four inches, were securely nailed. Four strips of one and one-half by one inch stuff were bored at intervals of one and one-half inches with a one-fourth inch bit, and of these the front cage was constructed by inserting one-fourth inch round iron rods cut to fourteen inch pieces, the strips being securely nailed at top, bottom and corners. The middle pair of rafters supported a partition in the roof with a hole between the compartments. Another hole for ingress to the attic was left in the floor in the back room. The roof was sheathed with three-fourths inch boards, and a cornice fitted on eaves and gable. It was then shingled and a neat cresting added to the comb. The back gable was boarded up with vertical pieces, and fitted with a small hinged door. The front gable was finished by nailing on vertical slats with pointed bottom ends, made of one-half by three-fourths inch pine. A pit was dug one-half by three feet in size and two feet deep, and lined with boards around the sides. The back part of the pen was placed directly over the pit. (Grown rabbits could jump easily from the pit into the front cage, and the little ones remained in the pit until too large to get through the wires. Rabbits dig down in the pit and construct their own breeding places in burrows beneath the pen. The pen proved to be warm in winter, cool in summer, and well adapted for keeping rabbits. With a long-handled shovel all refuse could be easily removed from the pit through the trap door, and the pen never became offensive. With a pair of white rabbits and their young, the pen was a pretty sight at the back of the lawn, and was always attractive to visitors. It was painted with dark red mineral paint and trimmed with white, which harmonized well with the bright green lawn and the dark foliage of the shrubbery.

#### Improved Farm Gate.

In making a gateway for a fourteen-foot roadway the gate should be twenty feet long. This allows for six feet to balance that part of the gate over the roadway, and in opening, a person merely takes a portion of the weight of the gate and slides the same a couple of feet, when it is balanced and can be opened as easily as if swung on hinges. This arrangement is shown in the illustration from a sketch by F. C. Farnham, of Washington. It is best to make a little roller with a three-fourth inch bolt, over which to run the gate. That part of the gate which slides on rollers should be made of double thickness of inch stuff. The gate should shut in between two posts set far enough apart to admit the end of the gate readily. This prevents the wind from moving the gate, which is as solid as any part of the fence. Make the rail of the gate, which runs on the roller, one foot longer than the others; and nail to the two posts last mentioned a cross-piece, so that when the gate is shut the latch end will hang clear of the ground on this supporting piece.

#### Pasture Springs.

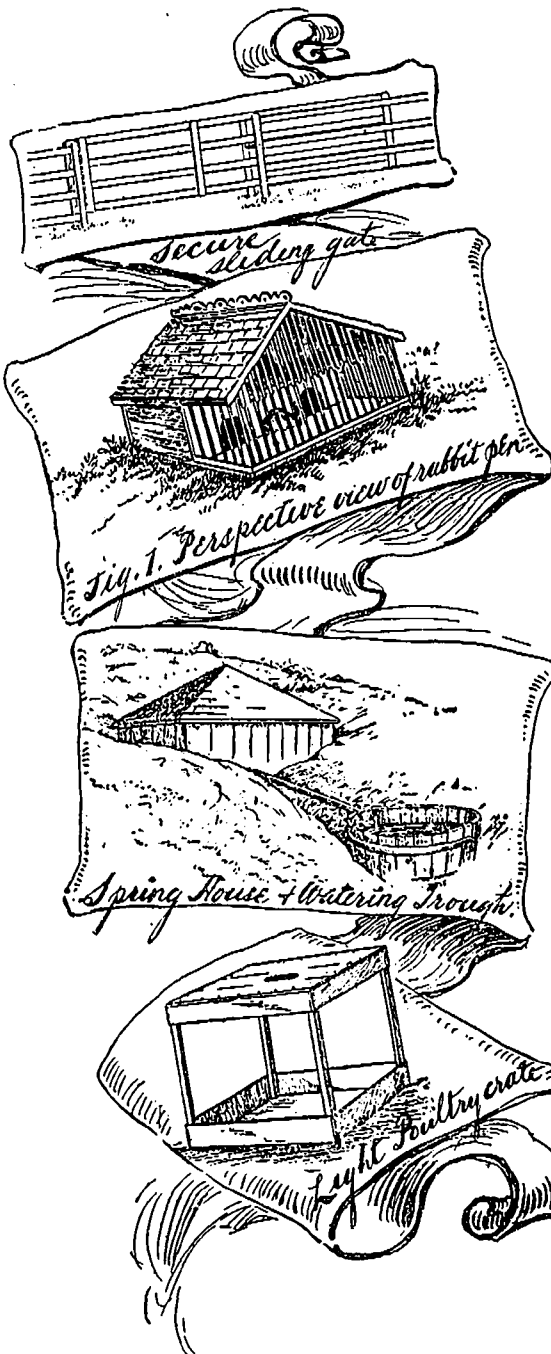
ONE of the vexing questions which confront the farmer is how to keep the pasture spring pure. Contaminated water is injurious to stock, and especially so to dairy stock. To keep a spring pure it should be completely closed and roofed over and the water conveyed in a trough as shown in the accompanying illustration. Such a plan serves to keep the water cooler in summer and warmer in winter.

#### Pig Stock.

A GOOD brood sow is either suckling a litter or growing a litter to be farrowed; be liberal in the treatment of them. Hold on to the old ones, and breed but one or two young sows at a time if you are making a business of pig raising.

BECAUSE the retail beef and pork trade in the large cities has fallen off materially to dealers and butchers during late years, they have been compelled to supplement their sales with mutton; therefore the mutton has grown in favor all the time.

Use well matured sows for breeding purposes,



and keep them as long as they are good breeders; a profitable sow should produce a large number of pigs and raise them.

In feeding, remember that a hog attends to his wants first, and lays on fat afterward. Do not make the mistake of carrying more than can be well fed; do not try it at all without good shelter.

A HOG pen often becomes a source of disease to the hog and the owner because it is not kept properly clean; cleanliness has much to do with the character of the meat, for filth taken up with food must injure the quality of the flesh produced.

DIVIDE the hogs into different lots, according to age and size; less feed will be required and better results procured. If wheat is fed, soak thoroughly for 24 hours and scatter on a tight floor, that they may eat slowly and masticate better.

UNDER the caption "Honesty the Best Paying Policy," the *New York Tribune* reprints from *Hoard's Dairyman* the following paragraph: "Take note that not a single 'filled cheese' or skim is cheese made in Canada. This is the reason why the Canadian cheese has beaten us in the English market and now it is rapidly absorbing our best home market. There are so many factorymen and patrons who would rather get one dollar by cheating than ten honestly, that honest consumers who don't wish to be cheated must go elsewhere for their cheese, it seems. It is a galling shame that this is the case, but the facts stare us in the face. There will be no cure for this state of affairs until the cheese factorymen and patrons 'right about face' and stop this idiotic business of cheating the customer, and thus destroy their own market in the end. Congress has reduced the tariff on cheese and we shall see what we shall see."

#### The Poultry Yard.

##### Shipping Crate.

It is desirable, in order to keep down expenses of transportation, to make the crate in which poultry is shipped, as light as is consistent with strength. The illustration shows a capital framework for such a crate. An empty grocery box of the requisite size may be sawed in its middle making the top and bottom of the crate, though if the box is at all high some three or four inches only, of the top and of the bottom should be taken. The corner post of inch and a half pine should be well nailed to the box, and the sides and ends then covered with burlap or cotton cloth. The top may be of slats or of boards, as shown in the sketch. If of the latter, a hole should be cut both for ventilation and for convenience in handling. Straw should be placed in the bottom for the comfort of the birds.

THERE is a greater demand than ever for White Fantails.

LIME water in the loft and feeding from clean boxes is a preventative of cancer in pigeons.

A LITTLE sulphur sprinkled on soaked stale bread will help your pigeons to feather well.

TOBACCO stems put into hen nests are good to keep them free from vermin.

ANOTHER very popular remedy for roup is kerosene and lard rubbed on the fowls heads and pushed down their throats.

FEED your fowls a hot breakfast and after that make them work, and you will have healthier hens and more prolific layers.

DRY earth sprinkled plentifully under the roosting perches daily is deodorizer and also preserves and increases the value of the manure made.

YOUNG turkeys are more likely to die the third day after being hatched, and when they throw out what is called red head which happens when they are about six or eight weeks old.