

suggestions are observed with regard to cold and wet. Exposure to these is the cause of more loss in young chickens and turkey—than all other causes combined. If one is ambitious to produce the nicest article in the market, and one which will bring a very high price, painstaking may be profitably observed.

We think that turkeys can only be profitably raised on farms where there are pretty large grain crops harvested, and where the flock can ramble at will and glean what the harvesters have left. This manner of feeding is agreeable to their habits, and they find a suitable amount of animal, to mix with their vegetable food. Under such circumstances the cost of fattening is so trifling that there is a handsome profit in raising them.

Their rambling habits render them unsuitable for small farms, or where neighbors are quite near each other. No strictly conscientious farmer will allow his stock of any kind, turkeys, hens, cattle or swine, habitually to enter upon the premises of another.

### Chickens vs. Green Fly.

THE subjects of which the two parts of this journal treat—gardening and poultry keeping—are usually supposed to be antagonistic. Poultry are gardeners' detestations, for they believe that their trim gardens are sure to be spoiled by them. Build up the wall of separation high; let not the fowls, the awful fowls, into the sacred garden; they peck, they scratch, in short, "My good sir," exclaims the gardener, "don't, please, even name the horrors to me: I shall dream about them, and wake in a fright."

Now for many years I have held, up to a certain point, an opposite theory, and carried it out in practice by keeping a few bantams, which have access to every part of my garden, being quite sure that they do more good than harm. As a case in proof—the other day I was walking among my 11-year-old budded roses, brushing off the green flies with a painter's brush (the best and most efficacious thing I know; indeed, I usually carry a short one in my pocket for the purpose,) when some six-week-old chickens happened to be near, and first one and then another tried a green fly or two, and they settled that they were very good eating. I encouraged the chickens to follow me; so I went from rose to rose, brushing the tender shoots and buds, and finally, before leaving each tree giving a shake of the stem, when down rolled the already-disturbed troulblers from the leaves, to which in their perplexity and distress they were clinging; once on the ground they were eagerly eaten by the chickens. Pleased with my success, I then went to another part of my garden, to my old standards calling to me another brood of chickens of a similar age. The same scene was again enacted, and in addition I threw every grub I found, green, or white, or brown, to the old hen, which accepted my offerings with manifest delight. Thus I managed to dislodge and put beyond all power of re-appearance some thousands of green flies, at the same time giving a treat to my chickens. WILTSHIRE RECTOR, in *Collage Gardeners*.

**IMPORTATION OF EGGS.** It is a startling fact, that in fourteen years the importation of eggs into this country has increased more than one hundred and sixty-nine millions. In 1849 there were imported 97,715,819, and in 1863, 266,929,680. The wholesale price in France is 6s. for ten dozen.—*English Paper.*

**PRESERVATION OF EGGS FROM INJURY WHEN TRAVELLING.** A correspondent, "*Ostrum Faber*," who forgets alike our rule and his name, suggests that the railways should make a special provision for conveying eggs for hatching. Such a proposal is quite Utopian, but if eggs are packed in a hamper with abundance of soft hay, they may be sent thousands of miles without injury. One of the very finest birds that ever took prizes in this country came in an egg across the Atlantic. It is by no means so easy to damage the organisation of an egg by shaking as some people imagine. There is an old trick of making any egg stand on its large end on a smooth table—we do not mean as Columbus did it, but without breaking the shell. It is done by breaking the connections and coverings of the yolk by the most violent shaking and those only who have tried the experiment know how violent and sudden the concussion must be to derange the internal organisation of this piece of nature's perfect handiwork. However, when the yolk is broken it will sink to the part of the shell held lowest, and the egg may then be balanced on its large end like a tumbling figure.—*The Field.*



### The Household.

#### Uses of Ice.

IN health no one ought to drink ice-water, for it has occasioned fatal inflammations of the stomach and bowels, and sometimes sudden death. The temptation to drink it is very great in summer: to use it at all with any safety the person should take but a single swallow at a time, take the glass from the lips for half a minute, and then another swallow, and so on. It will be found that in this way it becomes disagreeable after a few mouthfuls. On the other hand, ice itself may be taken as freely as possible, not only without injury, but with the most striking advantage in dangerous forms of disease. If broken in sizes of a pea or bean, and swallowed as freely as practicable, without much chewing or crushing between the teeth, it will often be efficient in checking various kinds of diarrhoea, and has cured violent cases of Asiatic cholera.

A kind of cushion of powdered ice kept to the entire scalp, has allayed violent inflammations of the brain, and arrested fearful convulsions induced by too much blood there. In croup, water, as cold as ice can make it, applied freely to the throat, neck, and chest, with a sponge or cloth, very often affords an almost miraculous relief, and if this be followed by drinking copiously of the same ice-cold element, the wetted parts wiped dry, and the child be wrapped up well in the bed clothes, it falls into a delightful and life-giving slumber. All inflammations, internal or external are promptly subdued by the application of ice or ice-water, because it is converted into steam and rapidly conveys away the extra heat, and also diminishes the quantity of blood in the vessels of the part.

A piece of ice laid on the wrist will often arrest violent bleeding of the nose. To drink any ice-cold liquid at meals retards digestion, chills the body, and has been known to induce the most dangerous internal congestions. Refrigerators, constructed to have the ice above, are as philosophical as they are healthful, for the ice does not come in contact with the water or other contents, yet keeps them all nearly ice-cold. If ice is put in milk or on butter, and these are not used at the time, they lose their freshness and become sour and stale, for the essential nature of both is changed, when once frozen and then thawed.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

**LAMB Pudding.** Take the breast and remove the big bones; cut it crossways, season lightly; have some veal stuffing ready, and lay the meat and stuffing in alternate layers in the pudding, with a gill and a half of water to every pound; boil one hour and a half, serve with melted butter over the pudding, and a little chopped parsley on the top—it has an inviting effect. Any part of the lamb may be done in the same way.

**VALUE OF OATMEAL.**—In Scotland, the nourishing quality of oats, both with respect to man and brute, is well known. With respect to oatmeal, the people of England seem to have fallen into an egregious error respecting its qualities; from its producing in some a sensation of heartburn, or heat at the stomach, they have condemned it as heating; and from a mistake in regard to the nature of diseases, have supposed it to give cutaneous affections—not more frequent in Scotland than in other countries; and which, indeed, arise from no peculiar ailment, but always from a contagion communicated from one person to another. Besides the most eminent French physicians speak of oatmeal as cooling, and consequently prescribe it in fever; and the inhabitants of the East and West Indies prefer it to arrow-root, when labouring under inflammatory diseases. Though oats be the food of horses in England, yet the people of Scotland live principally upon it; and in no country in Europe do we find a more healthy and vigorous race of men. Oatmeal porridge is the best food for children; and, as an old author has justly observed: "It is the king of spoon-meats, and the queen of soups, and gratifies nature beyond all others."—*Dr. Willaue.*

### Miscellaneous.

#### Transportation of Fish Ova to the Antipodes.

THE following extracts from letters on the transportation of valuable fish to the Antipodes, the first explaining the method adopted, and the second the result, are of sufficient importance to persons interested in Natural History pursuits to be worth recording in our pages. The original letters were addressed by Mr. James A. Youl, to the *Times*:—1. Jan. 21, 1864. "Notwithstanding all the efforts made by the fishermen, we were unable to obtain a single ripe fish so long as the severe frost lasted, which appears to have prevented the spawning fish from leaving the sea and ascending the tributaries of the larger rivers to deposit their spawn. This bears out the opinion expressed very recently by Mr. Frank Buckland, 'that the salmon is a very knowing fish,' and would not, therefore, quit the estuaries so long as the spawning beds were frozen and unfit for the reception of the ova." Ripe ova were obtained from Scotland, Lancashire, Worcestershire, and Wales, from fish which had ascended the rivers a few days after the breaking up of the frost. The ova were received between 5 A.M. and 10 A.M., and were placed safely in the ice-house of the Norfolk by 4 P.M. "The boxes in which the ova are packed are made of inch pine, 11½ inches long, 8½ wide, and 5½ deep, perforated with holes top, bottom, and sides, to allow the water from the ice as it melts to flow into the boxes, and percolate through the moss and ova inside. The manner of packing is as follows:—A couple of handfuls of charcoal are spread over the bottom of the box, then a layer of broken ice, after this a bed or nest of wet moss is carefully made and well drenched with water; the ova are then very gently poured from a bottle which is kept filled with water; the box is now filled up with moss, and pure water poured upon it, until it streams out from all the holes; another layer of finely pulverised ice is spread all over the top of the moss; the lid is then firmly screwed down. As soon as this process is completed, it is most desirable, in my opinion, that the boxes should be placed in immediate contact with ice. One hundred and sixty-four boxes containing above 99,000 ova so treated, were firmly packed at the bottom of the ice-house, covering the entire space. Upon these a solid mass of ice was piled, to the height of 9 feet, so that as long as any ice remained the ova would derive benefit from it."—2. June 4, 1864. "I have just received a telegram from my friend Mr. Edward Wilson that the salmon ova by the Norfolk arrived safely at Melbourne, and have been transmitted to Tasmania, and were showing signs of life in the breeding ponds of the River Plenty."

#### Flax Movement.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

SIR, As the cultivation of flax is now engaging the attention of the farmers of Canada, I would beg to say that the farmers of this Township are fully alive to the importance of the subject, believing that this Township is as well adapted for the growing of flax as any in Canada. A meeting was called by the Reeve of this Township, John Fisher, Esq., to take the matter into consideration. It was held on the 17th inst., and was well attended, considering the busy season of the year. John Fisher, Esq., was called to the chair, and having stated the object of the meeting, wished those present who were in any way acquainted with the cultivation of flax and the proper course to pursue in order to obtain a market for the sale of the raw material, to address the meeting.

John Mutholland, Esq., said that from the long experience he had had in Ireland in the growth of flax, and also in the manufacture of it, he was convinced that the Township of Haldimand was very well adapted for the growing of flax, and felt convinced that it would be a source of profit to the farmers here if a market could be obtained for the sale of the raw material in the Township. Mr. Thurston Fish gave some very good statements in regard to flax raising, and urged the necessity of the farmers turning their attention to this matter. Joseph Flynn, Esq., said he had been communicating with a party in Massachu-