

2nd. His fowls have not access to enough of gravel, broken crockery, or even small pieces of cut glass.

Now, a great many of your readers may laugh at my "old woman" remedy, but let our friend from Whitby, Ont., try my medicine, which is not costly, and I am sure he will be pleased.

If the crop is hard, and if the food is *dammed up*, give one teaspoonful of common *salt butter* at night, and in the morning, if food has not started to move.

Feed stock at regular hours and never give them more than they can eat. Common sense will tell you that if you leave your stock go hungry, they naturally will gorge themselves when fed abundantly. Hence the filling up of the crop and over taxation of the digestive organs, which is, from my point of view, the very reason why the crop retains the food, hardens, and eventually kills the fowls. Try my "salt butter" remedy and I am sure you will be pleased.

P. T. H. ERMATINGER.
Montreal, P. Q., Nov. 9th, 1886.

MR. GOFFATT,

suggests the following :

If the case is stubborn, strip sufficient feathers off the crop, make a slit through two inches long downwards, use the handle of a tablespoon to remove the congested stuff. After it has been pretty well cleared out, holding the bird head down, squirt warm water into the crop to cleanse it out, then sew up nicely the two skins; in 15 minutes the bird will eat of its own accord. That is our experience. We can perform the operation in 10 or 20 minutes. It is the best method when case is obstinate. Tough grass is often the cause.

USE LIGHT COOPS.

Editor Review :—

Believing that the readers of every Poultry Journal should be a kind of mutual association and each give his experience for the benefit of the others,

I will relate part of mine. In September last I ordered seven fowls from a breeder west of Toronto, and received them in due time, together with more lumber than I care to express that distance. Result :— Express charges \$2.70, or about 40c. each. Again in October I ordered five fowls from W. C. G. Peter, who resides about the same distance north of Toronto as Mr. — does west, these also arrived in due time and in a light but strong canvas coop. Result :—Express charges \$1.00, or 20c. each. I believe such cases as the above should be made known and let the patronage fall to whom it belongs ; also as a reminder to breeders who do not study to please. Fowls in both cases about same weight.

A. A. WHITTEKER.

Morrisburg, Nov. 20th, 1886.

LATE ITEMS.

Mr. Geo. E. Peer, Secretary of the Rochester, N. Y. Association, writes us that they expect to have the biggest show of the season and have already collected over \$1,000 in special premiums. Prize lists will be ready early in December.

We learn through one of the directors of the Ontario Association, that the special list already amounts to over \$275.00 and they hope to be able to double that amount. The probabilities all point to a large and successful show.

The Toronto Association have secured a store on King Street West, the principal thoroughfare in the city, for their show, the building will be lighted with electric light and visitors are expected to be more numerous than at former exhibitions.

As will be seen by Mr. Wilson's letter the Seaforth and Stratford Associations are offering prizes of \$1.50 for first, and 75 cents for second, right through. We know from past experience that any fanciers visiting Seaforth will be treated right royally.

The Listowel Association have decided to rest there energies for this year but hope to come out with redoubled *eclat* next season.

HENS VS. PULLETS.

WHICH ARE THE BEST FOR BREEDING PURPOSES.

Cor. Game Fanciers' Journal.

Pullets will generally lay more eggs than hens. Hence the very frequent advice to kill off the old hens each year and keep only the pullets, is followed to a very great extent. This advice is no doubt very good to those who intend to raise and market eggs only. But it is entirely unsuited to the game breeder and would lead him into a peck of troubles. It would soon weaken and destroy the stamina of the stock. A game hen is valuable as long as she will lay a half-dozen eggs each season ; for, as a general thing, the chicks from old hens are more vigorous and thrifty, than those from pullets, other things being equal. The finest birds that I have raised this year are out of a six-year-old hen. True, she has laid few eggs as compared with other hens and pullets, but they seem to contain stronger and more vigorous germs. So, where one has a fine old hen she should be kept till she dies, and she will well repay the cost of her keeping. Unless forced to do otherwise use the pullets for eggs for use, and the hens for breeders.

A two year old or a three year old hen will probably lay a smaller number of eggs, but it is very doubtful if she produces a less weight of eggs. Each egg will be larger than those laid by her in her first season, but the smallness of the number will be offset by the greater size. These large eggs will be more suitable for hatching. The hen is fully matured, she is in robust health, she has her full strength, and the chicks will inherit from her these characteristics. There being in the egg a greater quantity of white out of which the chick is formed, and also a