

July 17 '901

THE HEN HOUSE.

To succeed in poultry culture dampness must be kept at bay.

If you must have a cold hen house, have it, but never have a damp one. In other words, a damp house is a hundred times worse than a cold house. It is the damp house that always has ailing inmates. Colds and roup make sad havoc there. In short, there never has been and there never will be a damp hen house in which the bird will be at all satisfactory.

Sick, moping fowls never are able to do anything in the way of filling the egg basket. So, my friend, if your hen coop is not situated upon a dry site, at your earliest opportunity proceed to rectify the error. Dig out the dirt from the bottom, lay a foot or two in depth, then fill in with rocks, large ones first, then smaller and smaller ones, cover top with a few inches of gravel and then you will have a dry house, providing any outside water has a good chance to drain away.

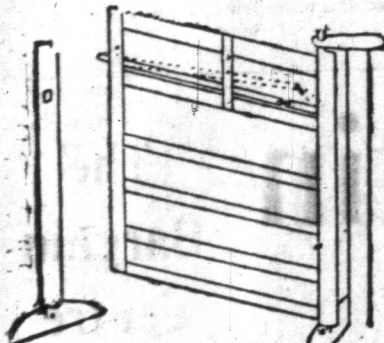
Frequent use of dry coal ashes will serve to absorb any moisture accruing from the droppings of the birds, the coal ashes also serving to fix ammonia and therefore keep the air of the house pure and wholesome.

Too often we find the coop or run where the little chicks are penned, from one cause or another, sadly damp. This will not do. Chicks, even more than hens, require dry quarters. And even ducklings and goslings in their first tender days are peculiarly susceptible to dampness.

We, as poultry keepers, must keep dampness at bay, or we shall fail of success in poultry culture.—M. Sumner Perkins, in National Rural.

A Farm Gate.

In this engraving (a) should be double for strength and for the latch to play through. The nail in (a) above the latch should be close to the edge and the gate should shut close to the post, so the gate cannot be lifted before lifting the latch. When the latch



strikes the nail in (b) the gate will begin to raise out of the slot at (d), which is about two inches deep. (e) is an old post sunk in the ground flush with the surface. The heel of the gate turns in an auger-hole in (e). Wagon-grooves keeps water from freezing in this hole. (d) should be three by six by twenty-four inches, and spiked to the post. One or more barbed-wires should be used on all farm gates. The long bar of the latch should be about three feet or longer.

Stop Egg Eating.

The habit of eating eggs is one that all fowls will indulge in. It is one of the habits of idleness for which the owner or keeper is to blame. Often an egg that is left too long in the nest will burst open, or when proper nests are not provided, the hens will lay on the floor, or an egg will be dropped from the roosting-place and be broken. All these mishaps are largely the result of idleness among the hens, and from these causes they soon learn to destroy every egg they see as long as they are confined to their houses. This habit can be prevented to a large extent. The most simple way to prevent this habit is to keep two or three china eggs lying about the floor of the hen-house and in the nests. The hens will soon learn the uselessness of pecking at them, and as all eggs look alike to them, they find no comfort or return from their attack, and soon let the real egg alone. Some persons buy quantities of egg shells from the baker and spread them about, but you will find china eggs better.—Country Gentleman.

A Halter to Fit Any Horse.

Take a rope of convenient length and thickness, and make a small loop at one of its ends, and another small loop about four inches away from it. The halter is completed by passing the end of the rope through the second loop. As this halter runs through both loops it will fit a head of any size. Its special disadvantage is that it requires to be kept constantly tight in order for it to retain its position. This objection can be obviated for any particular horse by making a knot at each of the small loops, after determining the respective length of the head-piece and the nose-band.—London Live Stock Journal.

Pollination in Orchards.

1. Scarcely one fruit blossom in ten sets fruit, even in the most favorable seasons and with the most productive varieties.
2. Trees making a very vigorous growth may drop their blossoms.
3. Brown rot, apple or pear scab, and pear blight may kill the blossoms.
4. Frost injury to blossoms is of all degrees. Even flowers which appear to be uninjured may be so weakened that they cannot set fruit.
5. Rain during the blooming season prevents the settling of fruit chiefly by destroying the vitality of the pollen, injuring the stigma, or by preventing fertilization because of the low temperature. The washing of pollen from the anthers seldom causes serious loss.
6. The main cause of self-sterility is the inability of the pollen of a variety to fertilize the pistils of that variety.



Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and perseverance in its use will work wonders for the most hopeless woman. If Mrs. Newton, whose letter is given below, had not persisted in its use, she might never have known the happiness of perfect health. Perhaps the reason for her persistence was because she used "Favorite Prescription" as a "last resort." Physicians had failed. If "Favorite Prescription" could not help there was nothing to hope for. It did help. It always helps and almost always cures. It establishes regularity, dries weakening drains, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. It imparts strength and elasticity to the organs of maternity and makes the baby's advent practically painless.

"When I consulted you in April, 1899, I was in poor health," writes Mrs. E. H. Newton, of Yonkers, New York. "I had been sick all winter, and to add to my trouble was on the road to maternity. I was almost discouraged; did not expect any help, but thought the end was only a matter of time, and—oh! my two poor, little, motherless children."

"It was in this condition that I began the use of your valuable medicine. On receipt of your letter of April 6th my husband purchased six bottles of 'Favorite Prescription' and I used it as you directed. When you wrote me words of encouragement on April 27th I had received no benefit from the medicine, but determined to use it as you directed. I am now taking the thirtieth and last bottle. I have a lovely, fat three weeks old that weighed 12½ pounds at birth. My baby and I are enjoying perfect health, thanks to your wonderful medicine, to which I believe I owe my life."

Dr. Pierce's Pills stimulate the liver.

No Great American Scholars.

It has been said that just as England has no great composer America will never have a great scholar. I do not believe that. Says Professor Hugo Münsterberg in The Atlantic. At the middle of the seventeenth century all the nations of Europe had great philosophers—England, France, Holland, Italy, and only Germany had the reputation of having no talent for philosophy. It was just before Leibnitz appeared on the horizon, and Kant and Fichte and Hegel followed, and Germany became the center of philosophy. As soon as the right conditions are given, here, too, new energies will rush to the foreground. In carefully watching year after year the students here, I am fully convinced that their talent for productive scholarship is certainly not less than that of the best German students. Compared with them American students have an inferior training in hard systematic work, as their secondary school education is usually inferior. And, secondly, they have infinitely poorer chances for scholarly work in their future, as I have fully pointed out. With a more strenuous preparatory training behind them and a better opportunity for productive work before them these students would be the noblest material from which to develop American scholarship.

A Mistake.

"I've horribly misjudged my new neighbor," said Mrs. Van Sickle. "Really?" said Mrs. Jones. "Yes. The first day she hung out her washing I sent little Bessie to peek through a hole in the fence to see what kind of clothes the family had."

"Well?"

"Bessie reported that they were perfectly lovely."

"Ah?"

"And now it turns out that she does washing for other people."

"And the good woman picked up a magazine and tried to seem absorbed in an examination of the half tone reproductions of 'great paintings of the century.'"

"For the first three weeks after it gets born a baby looks 'most as red and uncomfortable as its father."

Wouldn't Hang the Jury.

An old negro named Ephraim, having been sworn on the jury in a murder trial in one of the southern states, for some time stubbornly resisted a verdict of guilty for no other apparent reason than his strong aversion to capital punishment in general. Finally the foreman explained to him that it was a question either of hanging the prisoner or hanging the jury and that it all depended on him. "Fo' gracious, suh," replied Uncle Ephraim, "on dem reasonments de prisoner am sho' guilty."

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Time heals all wounds. Money is also a great healer.

Mercy to the guilty is often cruelty to the innocent.

Woman may be the weak vessel, but man is often broke.

There can be no course of true love if true love never dies.

You can't prevent the sun from setting by stopping your clock.

Man is the only animal with a chronic longing for the unattainable.

It's well to begin at the top of the ladder and go down—in case of fire."

The theorist is all right until it is time to make a practical demonstration.

Every husband hears a good deal about the saltlike actions of other husbands.

HERE AND THERE.

One-third of the people who go mad are said to recover their senses.

In some parts of Berlin, there are special public houses for women.

Elephants are fond of gin, but, it is said, will not touch champagne.

A large paper house, with sixteen rooms, has been erected by a Russian gentleman at his country seat.

Ulm's cathedral spire, which is 531 feet high, is to be used for a meteorological station.

It is calculated that 10,000,000 photographs of the Queen and the Princess of Wales are produced annually, and find a ready sale all over the world.

An army officer at Washington has made the very "pat" remark that "General Otis" jurisdiction in the Philippines extends 1,900 yards beyond the outposts, with sights up."

The late Dr. Campbell Black, of Glasgow, clinical lecturer, was fond of saying that "medicine is no more an exact science than millinery."

A modification of the church fair idea is a plan of a Methodist Episcopal church in Chester county, Pa., to have an auction of farm stock and implements, the animals and goods to be solicited.

In Sullivan county, last fall, more than a hundred men were engaged in digging ginseng root for exportation to China. They traveled from fifteen to twenty miles daily, and earned from \$1 to \$4 a day. The root is becoming scarcer every year.

An artificial volcano is to be one of the attractions at the Paris exposition. It will be 100 meters high and 150 in diameter, its outside surface will be sodded and planted with trees, and the summit will be crowned with bona fide flames and molten lava.

"Classical music," said the ecstatic young woman, "leaves me in a transport." "Well," said the young man, "that's the reason I naturally avoid it. I was in the army, and I don't feel like taking chances in transports of any kind."—Washington Star.

A Chicago syndicate owns a ranch in Texas which contains 5,000 square miles. Its herds of cattle aggregate 120,000 head, besides 1,500 horses, and the calf crop branded in 1897 exceeded 31,000. Surprising as it may seem, all the work of the ranch is done by 125 men, one man to every 24,000 acres.

The city building of Philadelphia is the largest building in America, not excepting the capitol at Washington, being 466 feet in length north and south, and 470 in width east and west, covering an area of 4½ acres exclusive of a courtyard in the centre of 400 feet square. Around the whole is a grand avenue 205 feet wide on the northern front and 135 feet on the other. It contains 520 rooms beside the offices of the city government. Surmounting the structure is a central tower, which rises to an altitude of 537 1/3 feet, and terminates in a colossal statue of William Penn, which is 36 feet in height.

NOTE OF NOTABLES.

Joel Chandler Harris is said to be the richest newspaper writer in the United States. His charities are in proportion to his means.

Both President and Mrs. McKinley are extremely fond of young people and more has been done at the White House for the pleasure of the younger members of society than since General Grant was President.

Jacob Gould Schurman, president of Cornell, who has just been made chairman of the Philippine commission, began life as a country grocery clerk; received \$30 a year and board. He saved money and worked his way through college.

The British are indeed a grateful people. On recommendation of A. J. Balfour, Dr. Joseph Wright has been granted a pension on the civil list of \$1,000 per annum. Dr. Wright has been editor of the English dialect dictionary, and it is possible, says Literature, that this honorarium of \$1,000 a year is the tribute of a grateful nation to one who has enabled it to understand the subtleties of a recent English fiction, in which the authors have, as far as possible, avoided the use of the English language.

President Jordan of Stanford University has returned from a five weeks' tour in Mexico. He was the head of a party of fourteen college professors and their wives, and had unusual opportunities for studying the social and economic problems of the country. He spoke highly of President Diaz, and characterized him as "without question the greatest ruler of any nation, who has given to his country during his twenty years at the head of its government, nearly everything it possesses of real stability."

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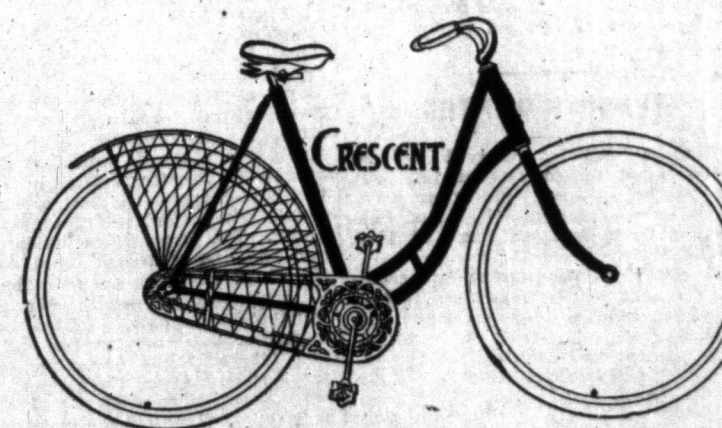
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