

double or hollow walls, and very few openings, or under ground cellars, neither of which would furnish sufficient light or ventilation, and without these requisites fowls could not remain healthy for any length of time. It is neither necessary nor advisable to attempt to make a poultry house impervious to the frost. A neighbor of mine last winter had a White Leghorn cock that in day time had the run of the barnyard, and roosted at night in a building the best part of which was the roof, for the wind and snow had free access at the sides, yet in the spring the bird's comb did not show the slightest injury from frost. So the great desideratum is pure dry air, avoiding direct draughts on the fowls. Have the floor and lower parts of the walls as close as possible, with sufficient ventilation at or near the roof to carry off the foul air; two openings, one at each end, are better than one, as they assist in causing a circulation. If possible have the windows in the south side, as in winter especially, they are greatly benefited by the sunlight, and will eagerly shift themselves around to bask in its rays.

Cleanliness must be observed. Fowls cannot long remain healthy if their droppings are allowed to accumulate, and any smell offensive to human beings must be injurious to them.

They drink large quantities of water, which should always be supplied to them fresh and clean.

Feed in moderate quantities, and at regular intervals, and never more at a time than they will eat up clean. If grain can be scattered amongst straw or dry earth, it will furnish them with exercise and assist in keeping them warm, but this should not be done unless their droppings have been removed. Employment in scratching for their food likewise prevents them from acquiring habits of pecking each other, feather-eating, etc.

This, no doubt, may appear to some to be a great deal of labor and trouble, though the genuine fancier never grumbles at the labor in caring for his pets, and we have to consider that without similar care we cannot expect a supply of eggs in winter, the time they are usually scarce and high in price, and also that after a long winter's confinement we expect to hatch next season's chicks from their eggs, and how can strong and vigorous chicks be raised from fowls debilitated by having been kept in damp, filthy, or badly ventilated buildings.

These are simply general hints, as no special rules can be laid down that will be suitable for all circumstances, as localities and buildings vary so much, and even the different varieties require different treatment or care, but the thoughtful, watchful owner will, even if a new beginner, soon learn to detect a want or an injury, and provide a remedy. If unable to do so let him state his case plainly in the REVIEW, and some of the older and more

experienced breeders will help him out of his difficulty. In passing over a rough field in a dark night the traveller is annoyed by striking his foot against a stone or elevation of the ground, or stepping suddenly into a hole or depression; the inequalities require his attention and occupy his thoughts, but he would pass over the same place in daylight and scarcely observe or think of them. Thus the veteran in poultry keeping, as in all other matters, has the daylight of his own experience, as well as that of others, to guide him, and avoids the mistakes he formerly made.

This is one of the great benefits of a live paper like the REVIEW. One contributor's views may only be suitable for a portion of its readers, but "many men of many minds;" when different persons state their views and experiences, all are benefitted.

So, friends, even at the risk of repetition, I again ask you to write for your paper. If you know a better method than those already published of rearing, mating, feeding, or housing, let us have it; if you have anything new to offer in regard to making nests, coops, water dishes, or other fixings, do not keep it back. If you are young in the business, tell us of your difficulties or discouragements, and no doubt there are plenty who have both the ability and will to give you the requisite information.

J. L.

Waterloo, Dec. 6th, 1879.

**KEEPING THE FOWLS WARM.**—A warm, comfortable poultry-house will pay as well as any other farm building. Hens will lay just as well, and as many eggs, in a plain structure with few fixtures, as in the most ornamental and expensive one—the essential requisites being comfortable protection from cold winds, suitable food in regular sufficiency, and good, pure water. The way to make farming pay is to produce that which sells best in your market at the highest prices, and the highest prices rule when the demand exceeds the supply. Small flocks of poultry are proportionately more profitable than large ones. Six hens will often produce as many eggs as twelve, each being kept in one enclosure. Such is my experience and observation.—W. H. W., in *Country Gentleman*.

He "houses" his farm implements in the corner of the fence; his fowls roost in trees during the storms of winter; his manure pile leaches into a roadside ditch, and wiping his nose on his coat sleeve, he makes plaintive complaint that farming don't pay.

The terrible—"Ma, is ladies ducks?" Ma—"Why, no, Willie, what in the world put that into your head?" Pa (at the window)—"Whoopee! Willie; come 'ere quick and see these yere dogs a fightin'. Jus' look at 'em though!"