

wood would be harder and better than if made of soft wood.—*Cor. N. H. Journal of Agriculturist.*

POULTRY AND POULTRY HOUSE.



Y plan for a poultry house is a plan which will be the most fitted for the easy management of fowls, as well as being the least expensive. For a hen house, it may be built on one side of the barn, or if you have no building suitable, get four posts, hew two sides; let them be, for the high side, say 9 feet; for the low side, say 6 or 7 feet, which will be enough pitch of roof, provided the house is not more than nine feet wide. Twelve feet by nine will be large enough for 20 hens. Plant your posts firmly in the earth, so as to keep your house firm and steady; get second quality pine or hemlock boards; nail them on lengthwise. If you do not choose to get plates, so as to have the boards run up and down, a shingle roof will be the best, though a good board or slab roof will do well enough, the slabs to cover the cracks between the boards. The house must have a window, with lath nailed across, to let in air and sunshine. The roosts or perches should be placed in the highest side, so as

to leave space enough for the convenient placing of the nests, which ought to be in the warmest part. Fit a tight door on with good hinges and a good lock, and you will have as nice a hen-house as you could wish for. The cost will not be more than eight dollars, with lumber at two cents per foot. A good feed or water trough is made out of a chestnut log, something of the shape of a hog-trough. The best breed of fowls in my estimation is the Poland or top-knot; they are excellent layers, and are of profit until five or six years old.—There are no better hens than the Poland to raise with. As a good, hardy breed, the English pheasants have no equal; they are good layers and are excellent for the table. Description: They are of middle size, with blue legs and double combs; the males are in color red, intermixed with black. A good feed for fowl is a mixture of corn, wheat screenings, oats, or any grain you can get, mixed together. Fresh meat is very good, but I would not feed on it altogether. To have hens lay through the winter they must not be affected by sudden changes of the weather. Hens that lay steadily through the summer do not lay in winter. Pure water is indispensable in poultry breeding.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

THE GREENHOUSE.



URING the summer months it requires some skill in keeping the greenhouse still looking gay. In the first place the glass has to be darkened, or no kind of plants will do. This may either be done by calico blinds made to work on rollers or by whitewashing the glass, just sufficient to break the burning rays of the sun. Common wash with a little salt added, is sufficient for florist's purposes, as by fall it will have worn off again, ready for the dark days of winter.

The next thing to be seen to, is to keep the house as moist as possible, by syringing morning and evening, and frequently wetting the floors. With such management, Fuchsias will grow and flower splendidly, and of themselves are quite attractive, and when mixed up with Begonias of the several kinds, and perhaps some few others, will keep the house gay until time to occupy it

again with the general collection of plants in the fall.

All kinds of bedding plants may now be planted with safety, and any greenhouse plants it is required to have of a larger size, or that have got into a bad state of health, should be returned out into the open border to gain strength. But the real winter flowers, as Camellias, Azalias, Abutilons, and all hard wood plants, should not be turned out of pots except as above. All but Camellias and Azalias should be pruned in pretty well, and re-potted into a size or two larger pots.

The place for plants of this description in summer, is the north side of a fence or building, but not under trees. Plunge the pots to the rim to save watering, as well as to keep the roots from being so subject to the hot, dry and changeable atmosphere.

For next winter's use sow seeds of Chinese Primula, in a month or two Cineraria and Calceolaria.—*Prairie Farmer.*