

FILTH AND LICE.

WHETHER filth can be said to stand in a causative relation to lice or not, it is certain that they usually "hunt in couples," and where you find the one, there is the other also. It is also a further fact that where lice are abundant eggs are scarce. And a still further fact is that where eggs are scarce profits grow exceedingly small and beautifully less, like the apples at the bottom of the barrel of a dishonest seller. The chain therefore is thus made: if you would have large profits you must have abundance of eggs; if you would have an abundance of eggs you must have a dearth of lice; if you would have a dearth of lice you must get rid of the filth in the houses. The moral is too obvious to require stating, but when you find a poultry man, who is making a handsome profit on his fowls, we advise you to make an inspection of his houses and see how neat everything is, how free from lice the premises are, and how happy and contented his fowls seem to be, as they go singing about their premises and inhale the fresh odor that arises from whitewashed walls, sanded floors and carbolic anointed roosts. These are matters that every poultryman should know, and, knowing should put into daily practice.

For the Poultry Weekly.

Turkey Laying Soft-Shelled Eggs.

HENRIETTA F. Buller.—We have received the following from Mr. W. J. Bell, of Banda, to whom we sent your letter. You will note he says it is not often the case for the turkey to lay soft eggs. I was speaking to another turkey breeder, and she expressed an opinion that it was a hurt to the hen's back. You could examine her for that. This lady says in many years experience she has not had one soft-shelled egg.

I give with pleasure my idea on turkeys laying soft-shelled eggs. When we used to have the old common turkeys we did not feed the hens any when laying, (very little any time for that matter,) and we had no soft eggs. The first two years we had the Bronze they were fed very sparingly and as they laid no soft eggs it is not the breed. The last two seasons I have fed shorts mixed with milk in the morning, and a full feed of wheat at night. For all those cases the range was unlimited. Well, last year I had a young hen, (and one this year) that after she had laid 7 or 8 eggs dropped three or four soft

ones and then went on laying hard ones. I think the hens should be fed very sparingly and ground bone added to the soft feed. I have only had the one case each year, did not notice the symptoms you name.

As to the cock—I think it was undigested food and that he was sick a good while before noticed. I had one sick myself. He was very lively for two months after he began to fail in eating, so that unless he was watched closely he would not be noticed. This gobbler you name had liquid in his crop while mine had hard matter, (crop bound.) I see it stated that the liquid is more fatal.

W. J. BELL,

Banda, Ont.

If the liquid in the crop of cock was a watery white, it may have been dropsy of the crop, but it is a rare complaint. No cure for it.

What Was He Thinking of?

DEAR Editor.—I see in Hamilton's Weekly of last week an article on "How to break up broody hens," which takes the cake.

Metbinks he forgot what he was writing about before he got through his article. He speaks of "cruelty to animals, whose owners should be put behind the bars," in the first part of his article, and then proceeds to say that he put his setting hens in a tub of water, presumably to cool off, and left them there over night. Well, well, did he think they were ducks? Didn't he know that hens would drown? Then again, he says, "When I find a hen that wants to sit, I take her very gently and put her into a coop and leave her from one to six days without food or water," and she is cured. Well, I should think she would be. So would the writer of the article or any one else without food or water for six days. Now, readers, this man that believes in putting others behind the bars for using other means for breaking up sitting hens advocates two remedies "that he knows by experience" to effectually cure sitting hens, which are first-class cases to put those parties that follow his advice "behind the bars" he speaks of. Cured! Well, I should say so. I know of a remedy that was published a short time ago as a cure for the Roup. It will save time and be more humane and will not be put down as cruelty, which I will warrant to forever cure any sitting hen. "Take the hen in question, lay her neck across a block and with a downward stroke of a sharp axe or hatchet separate the spinal vertebra just back of the head." This is much better than