

## SELLING EGGS BY WEIGHT.

BY E. H. PERRIN, NEWMARKET, ONT.

IN last month's REVIEW Mr. Essex writes there is nothing gained in selling eggs by weight. If we were all situated like Mr. Essex, and were able to take our eggs to a city store in from 2 to 10 doz. lots, or able to buy in the city or any town and pick as we wanted, this would certainly hold water. But as it is, city poultrymen are not able to supply the city trade, and therefore have to rely on the farmers through the country. These farmers are not able to sell in the city and have to trade at the country stores, and some bring large and some small eggs, and they get as much for one as the other, as much for white as brown eggs, and therefore cannot be induced to raise large eggs. These country merchants have in a week gathered together as many as 1500 dozen. Now, can any buyer go to these stores and assort these eggs, pick out the rotten, the broken, the white, the brown, large and small eggs? No. It would take a week to gather a large load. If buyers went amongst farmers Mr. Essex' idea would work, but this is not done, and cannot be. We have to buy our eggs from stores, and if we bought them by weight the raiser of large eggs would get justice as well as the small. We have to buy by the doz., and sell and guarantee them to weigh  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. per doz., and if not to this weight we have to cull and send the small eggs to Toronto markets. This is what keeps the price of eggs down in the city, whereas if farmers sent large eggs in there would be no culls to send to city markets, and farmers would be enabled to sell their large eggs to better advantage. Mr. Essex says there are prices for large, small, mixed, fresh, stale and colored eggs. There are not at the country stores where the packers all buy their eggs, and if it were not for the packers the cities would be overrun with eggs. Selling by weight there would not, or will not, be diversity in prices as a pound if only 5 eggs would be as good as a pound of 16 eggs, the weight would count every time. There would be no trouble weighing because of large and small eggs, if underweight put in a small egg, if overweight put in a smaller egg and so on, and in the end everybody satisfied, and it is the only correct way, and the sooner started the better. I do not wish to offend Mr. Essex in this article, but as I am continually buying and packing I know and have seen for myself and simply want to see justice done.

## PROFITABLE POULTRY KEEPING.

BY T. A. WILLIAMS, TORONTO, ONT.

(Continued.)

THE brooder shanty should be fitted with several movable roosts or perches, which may be placed in position when the chicks are getting large and nearly ready to be weaned from the brooder, they will soon learn to make use of them, and it will be seen that in such a shanty as this, chicks may be reared from the shell to maturity with the minimum of trouble and the maximum of comfort, safety and convenience.

If all these chicks are intended for the butcher they should be forced as fast as possible, for the purpose of making them as heavy as possible at the age of ten weeks, when they should be marketed as broilers. A friend of mine marketed white Leghorn chicks this season at less than ten weeks old, and they were eagerly purchased. Plymouth Rocks or Wyandottes of the same age, would, of course, be larger.

Now, let us pause a moment and reflect. Here we are marketing our chicks and putting the profit in our pocket in exactly three months from the day we placed the eggs in the incubator. Is there any other rural industry that will make such quick and certain returns? I think not, if there is I should like to know what it is. I fancy I hear some doubting Thomas saying, "it is all very pretty in print, reads well, but it can't be done in Canada." Permit me to assure all your readers that it can be done, *has been done*, and is still being done in and around this city. I will not say that it can be done by anybody, because I am quite sure that it cannot be done profitably by any Tom, Dick, or Harry, and it is a good thing for the expert broiler raiser that it cannot. Success in this business depends to such a large extent on expert knowledge, which can only be attained by practical experience, that I have no fear whatever of the business being over-done during the life-time of any of us who are now interested in it, and it has the advantage over many other lines of business in being free from the shackles of monopoly.

Now let us consider how it may be done. In the first place, you must learn to produce fertile eggs in winter, not simply eggs, but strongly fertilized eggs that will hatch well and produce vigorous chickens; the man who buys his hatching eggs takes tremendous chances, unless he knows exactly where they come from, and can depend implicitly