

the moulting period had a tendency to influence the new plumage towards a yellowish tinge rather than the pure white. The corn also influences, to a certain extent, the color of the skin. Skim milk, oats and buckwheat have an opposite tendency. Therefore we have, to a limited extent, a control of the color. Certainly it is impossible to overcome nature altogether. It is indeed much easier to produce the desired color from a fowl which has naturally these characteristics, yet we are obliged to face the facts that the British markets demand a brown egg, and these are not associated with light flesh fowls. We cannot influence the color of the egg by any process of feeding known to me, but we can the color of the flesh.

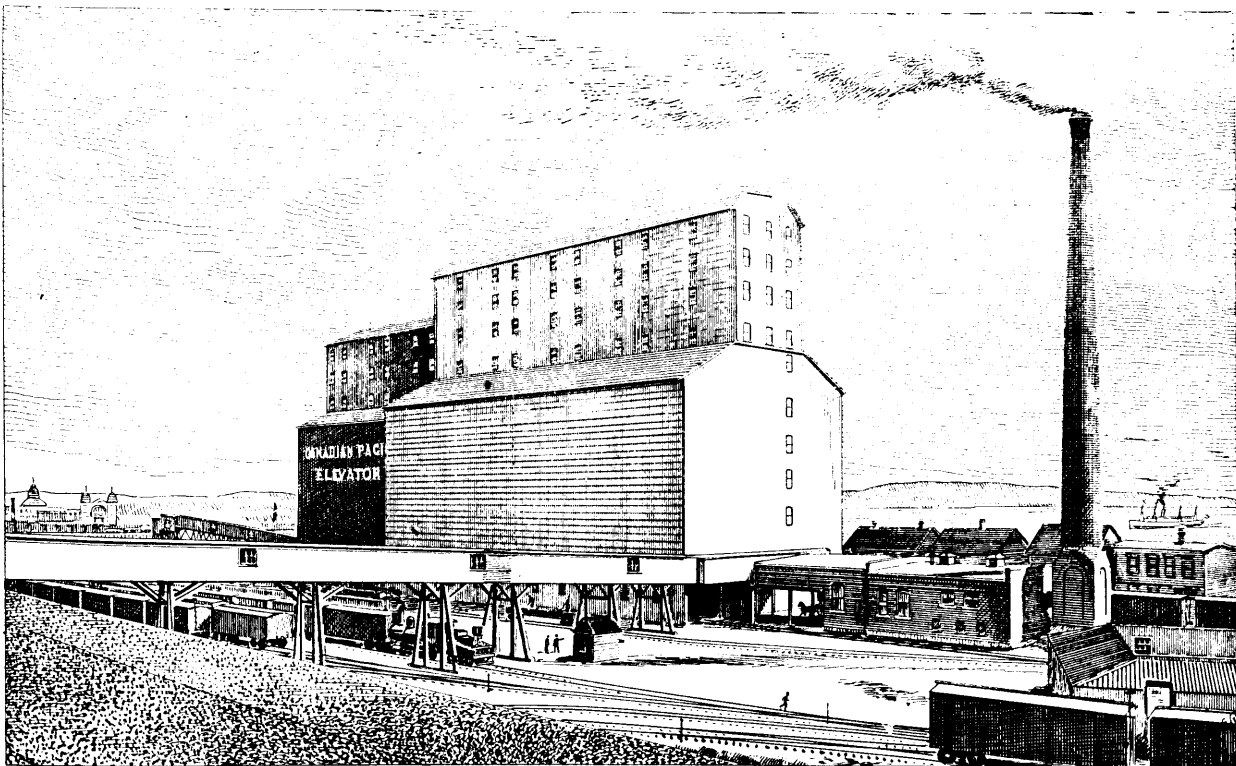
SUITABLE BREEDS

The breeds of chickens which are preferred in England for fattening purposes are the Dorking; the Dorking and Indian game cross and grade Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes. The Dorking is noted for its fine quality of meat, of which a large portion is found upon the breast. This

inches apart so as to allow the chickens to put their heads through for food, which is given in a small V shaped trough placed in front of the coop. The slats used in the bottom are placed about three-quarters of an inch apart, which allows the droppings to fall below on sand or other absorbent, which is placed there for the purpose. The coop should have a small sliding door in front, so as to admit of removing the fowls when required. The coops are generally placed on stands about three feet from the ground. They should be protected from the sun and rain, but not necessarily put in a building.

FEEDING.

The most satisfactory food is finely ground oats, the hulls being thoroughly pulverized. Mix with skim milk, sweet or sour, and feed in the V shaped troughs. They should be mixed thin enough so that when a spoonful is placed on a plate it will spread over the plate, or when it drips from the end of a small wooden paddle. Avoid feeding it thick. The chickens are fed rather sparingly at first,



C.P.R. Freight Terminus and Docks, St. John West, N.B.

breed is not apparently hardy enough for our conditions, but the Plymouth Rock and Wyandotte do well with us, and have the advantage of producing a brown egg. What is wanted is a good sized bird, with plenty of breast meat of a good quality. The Rocks and Wyandottes are well established, and we can, by careful selection, breeding from the best specimens only, please the buyer of dressed poultry and eggs.

Fowls which are intended for fattening purposes should weigh from 3 to 3½ lbs. each. Pullets are claimed to do as well as cockerels, but I prefer feeding the cockerels, as there is more room for growth. It will usually pay to feed them for about five or six weeks well. When fed for a longer period the gain is not often sufficient to pay for the food consumed and labor expended.

Twelve chickens are placed in a coop 6½ feet long by 16 inches square, inside measurement. Each coop is divided into three compartments, each compartment holding four or five chickens, according to their size. The coops are made of slats. Those used on the back, top and bottom run lengthwise the coop, while those used on the front run up and down. The slats are one inch wide and five-eighths of an inch thick. Those in front should be at least two

and if any food is not eaten within twenty minutes after it has been fed it should be removed. This applies during the whole fattening period. After the first few days feed all they will eat three times a day. Feed the above food until about ten days before killing time, when it will be necessary, in order to get the chickens fat enough, to resort to the use of the cramming machine. While using the machine add about one pound of tallow to the food of every 70 or 80 birds, gradually increasing it to one pound for every 50 or 60 birds. The tallow is melted and mixed while warm with the ground grain, after which the skim milk is added. The tallow increases the juices of the flesh, as well as its general appearance. Do not fail to give the chickens a drink of water, and give them some grit. Clean the coops and keep the fowls healthy. A pinch of sulphur placed under the wings and at the base of the tail is said to destroy all lice and add to the general appearance when plucked.

KILLING AND PACKING.

Before killing it is necessary to starve the chickens 36 hours in order to insure the crop and bowels being empty. This is positively necessary, in order to secure the landing of the goods in first-class condition. Food in the crop or bowels hastens decomposition. The killing is