

On the 12th of November the weights of the same chickens were as follows :—

	Lbs.	Oz.
Plymouth Rock.....	7	05
Wyandotte.....	5	12
Buff Cochins.....	5	02
Houdan (hatched 25th of May)	5	00

At date of writing, (January 20th, 1889) the same chickens weighed in breeding condition :—

	Lbs.	Oz.
Plymouth Rock.....	9	05
Wyandotte.....	7	00
Buff Cochins.....	7	12
Houdan.....	6	02

INCUBATOR TRIAL.

On the 10th of May last a Bessey Incubator of 100 egg capacity was put into operation with a small number of eggs for a first attempt. Twenty-eight chickens were the result. Three died soon after being hatched. The remaining twenty-five were transferred at the proper time to the brooder and made rapid headway.

CROSSES.

Among the chickens so hatched were five male birds of a cross between a Brahma cockerel and Plymouth Rock hens. The cross was made with the view of ascertaining what sort of market fowl it would produce, and was successful. A cockerel of this cross (hatched on the 31st of May) weighed 6 lbs. 2 oz. on the 17th of October following, showing a gain of nearly 1½ lbs. per month.

Another trial was made of a cross between a Brahma cockerel and black Minorca hens and resulted in the production of several very fine, dark pullets, which ought to make an excellent fowl for the farmer, embracing as they should the egg laying properties of the Minorca with the hardness and size of the Brahma. The pullets will lay in a few days.

NEW POULTRY HOUSE COMPLETED.

By the middle of November the new poultry house was completed and the chickens were removed into it. Briefly

sketched the building is 100 feet long, running north and south, with a middle compartment 20x20 feet, from which extend on either side two wings 40 feet each in length, each wing containing five pens 8 by 14 feet and capable of accommodating 20 or 25 fowls if required. There are four windows on the east (coldest) side of each wing and one window in each of the 10 pens to the west. The pens are separated by wooden partitions 2½ feet in height, and wire netting of 2½ inch mesh from this to the ceiling, giving the interior a light and cheerful appearance. Entrance to the pens is had from a roomy passage way four feet in width and through neat wire doors which swing inwards or outwards. The pens are furnished with platforms and roosts (which fold away in day time and are let into place again at dusk), nests of neat design, dust bath, box for oyster shells, gravel, etc. A slide operated from the passage way opens the way to the runs in the rear of the building. Two large ventilators in each wing are also controlled from the passage way. Above the wings are roomy lofts containing straw and chaff, which are let down to the pens beneath for the poultry to scratch in. A medium size base burner coal stove placed in the centre compartment heats the building as well as the water for soft feed, etc. The central room is also used for an office and for keeping feed. The upper room of the compartment is utilized for storage purposes and a portion is set apart for an hospital for sick fowls. A good dry cellar contains vegetables, gravel and other necessaries for the chickens, as well as coal for the stove. The building is substantially constructed, is fitted with double windows and storm doors, and answers the purpose admirably.

POULTRY LIST.

There are at present in the building birds of the different sorts as per following list :—

Left Wing.

Pen 1.—Black Minorca pullets, 10; White Leghorn do 9.	19
2.—Houdan pullets.....	11
3.—Black Hamburg pullets, 6; Blk breasted Red Game do, 3; Silver Pencilled Hamburg do, 2; Wyandote do, 2; Golden B. Polands do, 3; Dorking do, 3; Andalusian do, 2.....	21
4.—White Leghorn hens, 10; Plymouth Rock pullets, 6; Dirigo do, 1; Black Java do, 2; 1 mixed hen.....	20
5.—Buff Cochins pullets, 6; Brahma do, 2; Langshan do, 2; Brahma Minorca pullets, 5.....	15

Right Wing.

Pen 1.—White Leghorn cockerels, 8; Andalusian do, 8; Black Minorca do, 7; Brown Leghorns do, 2; B.B.R. Game, 1.....	26
2.—Wyandotte cockerels, 4; Buff Cochins do, 5; Houdan do, 5; Silver P. Hamburg do, 3; Blk Java do, 2; Black Hamburg do, 1; Dorking do, 1; Dirigo do, 2	23
3.—Brahma hens, 7; Dirigo do, 6; Black Minorca do, 1; Black Russian do, 3; Plymouth Rock do, 6.....	23
4.—Plymouth Rock cockerels, 5; Brahma-Plymouth Rock cross, 4, Single Comb Wyandotte,.....	10
	168
1 Dirigo cock; 1 Black Minorca do....	2
Pen 5.—Wild Geese.....	5
	175
In hospital.....	5
	180

WET AND COLD WEATHER.

The fall was marked by continuous rain, the month of October was unusually cold and both combined proved fatal to many of the tender varieties, which, pending the completion of the new house, were rather crowded in limited house room. Next to Indian Games and Red Caps, the black-breasted red Game, bearded golden Poland, and Dorking cockerels proved the most susceptible to the fall weather.

(To be continued.)