being killed. The crop will thus be entirely empty of food, which if left in the crop will decompose and ruin the carcase. If thought necessary, after plucking, the birds may be placed, on their breasts, in a V shaped pressing trough and gently pressed. This will give a compact shape to the carcase. Feathers should be left on the neck for about 3 inches from the head, and a few feathers on the wing-tips.

Some things to avoid.

Avoid having the flesh torn, bruised, or, marked with blood. Avoid having the birds look anything but clean, plump and inviting in appearance.

On no account should the birds be dipped into hot water to facilitate plucking.

For the Home-market.

For the home market, the birds may be killed with a knife with a long, narrow blade sharpened on both sides. The bird with its legs tied together is laid upon its back, its mouth is opened by the left hand and the point of the blade is inserted into the slit in the roof of the mouth, a firm cut is made into the brain, cutting it along its entire length. Allow the bird to hang until the blood has drained out. The plucking should be done while the body of the fowl is yet warm. It is so much easier if done at once. The wings should be twisted under the back and the legs tucked up.

What the aim should be.

The aim of our farmers should be to have the very best quality of poultry, not only for export, but for our home markets. With improved quality, the home market figures will doubtless become greater. The field is a very large one and we have the assurance of the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion "that no branch of Agriculture offers better remuneration, at present, than the shipment of dressed poultry of a superior quality to the British market." It is quite evident to the readers of this paper, that the farmers must first produce the superior chickens before they can be shipped. Will they do so?

Experimental Farm,
Ottawa, 7 Nov. 1899.

The Dairy.

TUBERCLE BACILLI IN MILK.

There is no doubt that, of those diseases that are communicable from the animal to man by means of the milk, tuberculosis is by far the most common. The importance of this disease with reference to public health and successful cattle breeding is so great that as full a consideration of the subject should be given as is possible. Tuberculosis, or consumption, is the term now used to indicate a number of apparently different maladies that affect warm blooded animals, and is caused by the growth of the tubercle bacillus. In this connection, I will but refer to the bovine type of the disease and the relation that this bears in milk and dairy products to the human race. It is now quite generally accepted that the disease is caused by the same germ whether it be present in the human being or the lower animal, and the danger of infection exists in the direct transmission of the virus from one to the other. The tubercle germ, *bacillus tuberculosis*, was discovered by Robert Koch in 1882. Many years previous to this the infectious nature of consumption had been recognized. Indeed experiments were made in 1868 which showed that tuberculous material was capable of reproducing the disease in a healthy animal if it was properly transplanted.

Koch isolated the specific germ able to cause this disease, and finally succeeded after many failures in cultivating it in artificial media. In this way the peculiarities of the species could be ascertained. This organism is remarkable for the narrow temperature limits within which growth will take place; the minimum being 86° F., while the maximum is 104° F. This is important, because there is then no danger of multiplication, if a few germs should accidentally gain access to a milk supply. This organism can withstand drying easily, in fact, by virtue of this property it is most widely distributed. In the later stages of consumption, tubercular material is thrown out of the living body. This dries quickly and is mixed with the dust; in this way the germs are easily blown about and gain an entrance into a new host. Dried material of this sort will often retain its infectious properties for several months. Putrefaction and decomposition, even, are said not to quickly destroy its vitality. Sunlight is,