

more than anything else to improve the poultry of our country. At every exhibition there is sure to be some one attacked with that incurable malady commonly known as "hen fever," and the persons attacked are generally those with a fondness for the brute creation, but in nine cases out of ten, without any idea of the mode of life best suited to them. They at once decide to become fanciers, and always start the job wrong end first. Instead of first erecting a warm, roomy, well-ventilated fowl-house, and then purchasing a breeding pen of well bred fowls, they generally buy the fowls first and think that any time before the snow falls will be soon enough to get the house. In the meantime the fowls have to content themselves with lodging in the woodshed, which is as hot as a furnace in the summer and as cold as an ice house in the winter, and has but one redeeming (?) feature, viz:—It is well ventilated, in fact much too well, for on a cold wet night in fall the wind whist! and howls through the spaces between the boards like a hurricane, and the rain drips through the roof in a dozen places, making things anything but pleasant for the poor unfortunate fowls inside, who previously no doubt led a life of comfort. The terrible hardships and privations with which they have to put up, soon tells on them, and roup shows itself—and I will say here that there is nothing, except cholera, that is so hard to cure. If roup once gets into the flock of a beginner he will almost wish he had never had anything to do with fowls. But with proper conveniences and ordinary care there is little or no danger of roup, or, in fact any other disease.

In the first place, build the fowl house and have the walls at least six inches thick. A boarded house, on a frame of 2 x 4 scantling, with the extreme width for thickness, filling up space between boards with sawdust, makes a good house. Let the roof be well shingled, and have a large double window facing the south; the sash should be about 6 feet long by 2½ or 3 feet wide. Ventilate the house well by boring holes with an auger in two of the walls opposite each other under the eaves of the roof. In excessively cold weather these holes can be plugged up with corks which are easily removed.

The house should always be erected on a raised piece of ground, to prevent damp during heavy rains, and have a good tight board floor. This should be covered five or six inches deep with dry garden loam, not sand; the loam destroys and deodorises the droppings, and your house will always be sweet, clean and dry. Of course this loam must be regularly removed and clean put in its place, and in order to have a supply of it to last all winter, several barrels should be stowed away in the Fall while the ground is dry, also a barr

of fine gravel and a barrel or two of oyster shells.

The perches should be 2 x 4 scantling with the extreme width to roost upon, and should be about a foot high if for Asiatics, or any of the heavy varieties, and not more than two feet for the smaller breeds.

The nest boxes should be placed a little higher than the perches. If placed on the floor the eggs are constantly before the hens, and this is a temptation to eat them. A large dust-bath should be provided, and if it is placed where the sun can shine into it the fowls enjoy it all the more; the house should be thoroughly whitewashed.

You will now be in a good shape to purchase your birds, and if attended to properly they will be a source of much pleasure.

A friend of mine, an old fancier of twenty years experience, recently sent me a prescription for chicken cholera, which he says has been very successful in his neighborhood. As I have not had occasion to use I cannot express an opinion of it, but will give it for the benefit of those readers of the Review whose fowls may be afflicted.

#### CURE FOR CHOLERA.

Take blue pill, a piece as large as a filbert, camphor gum, same quantity; the same of rhubarb; also the same of red pepper, and 20 drops of laudanum, mix it all together and make it into pills about the size of marrow-fat peas, using glycerine enough to make it mix well. Give the fowl three pills a day for two days. It will physic him, then give one tablespoonful of castor oil. Feed cooked food only.

Yours very truly,

T. A. WILLITTS.

Toronto, July 24th, 1883.

#### Another Experience in Hatching.

Editor Review.

With much interest have I read the correspondence in your excellent journal concerning the non-success in hatching which poultry men have had during the present season, and as Solomon hath said, "In a multitude of counsellors purposes are established," I propose to tell my experience also. The "hen-fever" attacked me about twelve years ago, and after keeping Houdans, Hamburgs, Polands, Cochins and Brahmas for three years, I concluded to try Brown Leghorns, and was so pleased with them that I have that variety still. Had I time so to do, I would give my reasons for my preference, but as I intended to say something of hatching, I will a fresh start take.

My better-half made pot-pie out of my culls last fall, and after selling all I could spare, I retained eight pullets for each cockerel. Corn, sound and solid, constituted their chief food until February,