

cry of the peacock is an indication of rain. But as they scream a good deal, the wet weather should be always with us—like the poor.

Every encouragement is to be given by the government to propagate the rearing of peacocks throughout France; that the new hobby is destined in time to become a remunerative pastime is accepted by many leading breeders. Of course, the best birds would be imported direct from their place of origin, namely India; where they are to be encountered in forests and jungles; some of the birds prefer a Western and mountainous district, others have a tendency for woodlands and river-banks. In the morning and in the evening, the peacocks retire in the interior of the land, as well as roam about in fields in search of food. During the hottest part of the day, they penetrate further and further into the jungle in order to escape the heat. In some parts of India, in the Neilgherryet, and other mountainous districts situated in Southern India, peacocks are to be encountered at heights of 6,000 feet; in the Himalaya mountains, they seek less elevated spots.

May the new French venture prove successful ultimately, and so lead to encouraging others to embark in the speculation. Time will prove whether or not the play is worth the candle. Being new, peacock-rearing will be successful for a time, but it is not at all certain that the new "toy" will last always, despite that a "thing of beauty is a joy for ever."

SHOULD EGGS FOR HATCHING BE TURNED.

BY GUS. A. LANGELIER, QUEBEC, QUE.

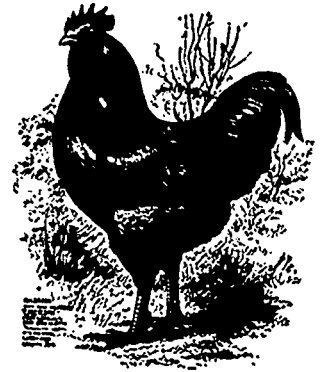
THIS is one of the very points on which experts differ in opinion.

Some pretend that eggs for hatching, before they are put under the hen or in the incubator, should be turned twice every day. This keeps the yolk in the centre, otherwise it always tends to get near the shell, because it is not as heavy as the albumen. If eggs are not turned, the yolk gradually gets on top of the albumen, till at last it adheres to the membrane which covers the inside of the shell. Thus situated, the embryo, away from its normal place, cannot receive in a uniform manner the heat necessary for incubation, or else sticks to the side of the shell, where its movements are paralyzed. Hence, laborious or irregular births, deformed and weak chicks, and even deaths in the shell. It is also stated, always by those who claim the turning of eggs necessary, that a hen left to herself, will turn every day the eggs she has laid and on which she is going to set; mother nature should be copied, they say, in this as in most of other things, if success is to be obtained.

Others (and they have at their head a well-known expert in such matters, Mr. Cyphers), claim that the eggs for hatching need not be turned at all.

Now, it is a fact that the general advice given is to turn the eggs twice a day before incuba-

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tion commences; and it is also a fact that the general rule in practice is not to turn them at all.

From a theoretical point of view, and from the scientific aspect of the matter, it seems better to turn the eggs for hatching purposes; on the other hand, general practice shows that good results can be had without going to this trouble. Can we, and will we have better results by turning the eggs?

Perhaps, somebody, who has made a series of continued experiments on this subject, may bring forth actual figures to show the superiority of our way over the other.

Pending this, some of your readers might give their opinion about the matter, which is certainly a very interesting one.

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