POULTRY.

The Little Chickens.

As the spring advances, the farmer's wife is anxiously awaiting the results of her egg-hatching. As yet, comparatively few of us use incubators, but rely on the faithful (not always) old hen. She is usually faithful if you

are equally so, but don't expect her to do it all. Of course, sometimes a hen will hide her nest away and bring out a healthy brood, but this is not a safe enough thing to depend I have usually good success with little chickens, but as yet this spring my hens are all laying, and not even the old "cluckers" seem inclined to sit. However, I am watching them, and shall do as I have done for a few vears, improving in any way I have learned by observation or by reading during the past year. I am not at all anxious to have little chickens before the 1st of May, because April is such an uncertain month, and we are so busy, as a rule, with housecleaning and oth-er spring work that if the little twitterers are around then they are liable to be neglected, and if a chicken is neg-lected during the first five weeks of its existence, it has a neglected look until the end of

is brooding, I let her sit a few days on china eggs, to be sure she will make a sitter. Before I set her for good, I take the box I wish her to sit in and wash it thoroughly, and if lice are around or have been, I paint it inside and out with liquid lice-killer or dust with insect powder, then I put in a piece of sod, and on top of the sod some fine straw. I make the filling high enough so the hen can step down easily, and not have to give a jump every time she gets on. Not that a jump would hurt the old hen, but often the little, tiny chickens that are to be are completely ruined by these repeated jerkings. Before putting the hen on the eggs, I dust insect powder among her feathers and rub grease around her head. Some may say this is a lot of trouble, but I would far rather do it than bother with the young brood. On each box that I set I mark the date of setting and the

day they should hatch, and in due time I get ready for the new family, and this is the way I do it:
A few days before, while the hen is off for her daily feed, I remove the eggs and wash them in lukewarm water, put in fresh straw, and sprinkle it with insect powder, if necessary. Of course, the eggs must be handled carefully. I always have a better hatch when I use moisture.

I do not believe in letting the chicks run wherever they will. I have lost too many from the depredations of cats, dogs, pigs, etc., and my losses have taught me a far better way, and one I would not willingly give up. I have frames made some ten by twenty feet or six by twelve feet, and higher at the north side. I do not like it too high, for the lower it is the warmer for the chicks. Over the top I tack cotton, and paint it well with linseed oil. This lets the heat and light in, and keeps the rain out. In one end of this runway coop I place the brood coop, made the

brood coop, made the same as I always have made them—A shape or half a barrel. The shape of the brood coop is immaterial. Do not let the chicks get cold and damp in the night, for by this one mistake whole broods die off or else they don't thrive as they should. I never set the coop on the ground; always have boarded floor, and on cold nights I put

down clean straw, but as the nights get warm I don't bother with the straw.

If I have a brood house for the hen and no coop

If I have a brood house for the hen and no coop runway as described above, I always cover the front of the coop with an old piece of carpet at night and on cold days or during a rain or wind storm. A windstorm hurts the downy little things almost as much as rain. Keep the little coops clean. I clean mine every day if I can possibly do so. I have heard some women say that little chickens did not need water, but that's a mistake. They need fresh, clean water every day, and on hot days twice a day. Fresh water kept in a shady spot will help them to grow fast.

Feed often, but feed only a little at a time, is the rule for young chicks — five times a day for the first six weeks. Don't leave food around for them to trample on; it only sours, and this causes bowel complaint. Bread crumbs moistened (not sloppy) is the best feed for a few days. Oatmeal porridge just the same as we eat for breakfast is the ideal food, and is not expensive chicken feed if one buys it by the barrel. This porridge fed alternately with the bread crumbs, and occasionally a little meat and eggs, and the rapid growth of the chicks will fairly astonish you. I often mix sand in their food, as I think even baby chicks need grit in their little gizzards to grind up the food. Lawn clippings are excellent green food for them, and it is an easy matter to sow lettuce broadcast over almost everywhere, as old hens as well as chicks relish lettuce.

When six weeks old, the dangers of chickenhood are past, and then begins the feeding either for market or the laying stock.

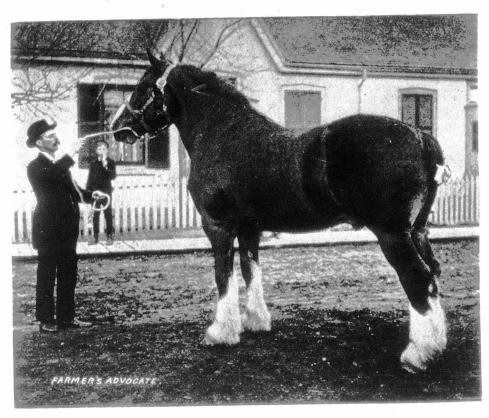
I forgot to mention that often the last few days that a hen sits she gets restless, and I have found it

that a hen sits she gets restless, and I have found it a good plan to hang up something dark before her, and she seems to enjoy "cuddling" her coming brood in the dark. I never meddle with the eggs until all are hatched. I do not remove the chickens as they appear. They do nicely without anything to eat the first day or so. I always give the mother hen a generous meal of corn before shutting her up in the brood pen.

CARRIE HOLMES.

Brooding and Housing Chicks.

Believing the readers of the Poultry Department of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE will be interested in a house which I know to be both cheap and practical for raising brooder chicks, I will give a brief description of the same. This house is 8 feet long and 6 feet wide, about 5 feet 6 inches high in front, and 4 feet high in the rear. The timbers used are 2 x 4 inch scantling, and it requires only five posts—one at each corner and one at the door. The door is placed at one corner, so that the corner post serves as a door-jamb. One good large window facing the south is sufficient. It is double-boarded up and down, with tar paper between. The roof may be shingles or galvanized iron. Also put in a tight-board floor. There is a good accompaniment to this house that we believe to be especially valuable, namely, two runners, both 8 feet long, or full length of the house; they are made of 2 x 4 inch scantling, slightly rounded up at each end, so as to run over slight obstructions. This allows one to hitch a horse to either end and haul it to any part of the farm. The house costs about \$5, and if once



KING OF THE CLYDES [2569] (IMP.).

First-prize mature Clydesdale stallion at Canadian Horse Show, 1901.

OWNED BY J. M. GARDHOUSE, HIGHFIELD, ONT.

placed third, leaving Messrs. Devitt's massive son of Sorby's old Grandeur in fourth place. This is the largest horse in the lot, weighing about 2,200 pounds, and he is not rough; in fact, he is well proportioned and of good quality.

thighs are of the bulging sort, his fore end matches up, and his back and barrel leave little to be desired, and he goes with a force and dash that

pleases. Harmony is a Scotch-bred four-year-old horse, by that good sire, Prince of Carruchan. He

is not a big one, but very nice in all his parts, particularly so at the ground, and possesses a depth of chest that indicates a great constitution. He was

portioned and of good quality.

The three-year-old class was a particularly strong one of eight entries, from the stude of Robert Ness, Howick, Que.; Robert Graham, Ringwood; Robert Davies, Toronto; T. H. Hassard, Milbrook; Bawden & McDonell, Exeter; and H. G. Boag, Churchill. The great Baron's Pride, that has sired so many Scottish winners since his stock has come to a showing age, was represented in two beautiful colts owned by Robert Ness. They are of the thick, filled-out sort that attracts the eye at once, and bigger than they appear. It was one of these (Copyright, a brown, with characteristic white on hind legs and in face) that won the lst award. He was a good one last autumn, but he has gone forward well since then, and his victory was gone forward well since then, and his victory was popular and deserving. A more upstanding colt, Lyon Stewart, shown by H. G. Boag, won second. He is by Lassudie Rover. He too was before the public last autumn, when he defeated Copyright at London. He is a flash colt, nice in all his parts and gaits, and will be a hard nut to crack when matured. Robert Graham's Sir Redvers, bred by Marquis of Londonderry, Seaham Harbor, Eng., and sired by Knight of Cowal, was the next choice of the judges. He is a very sweet, compact colt, of genuine Clydesdale character. Bawden & McDonell's Lipton, by the great St. Everard, wore away the reserve ribbon. He is a big colt, with quality, and of the upstanding type, and is full of promise, being one that will continue to develop along desirable lines. After the show he was purchased by one of the judges, Mr. Henderson, in whose hands and in whose district he will do much good.

Three colts foaled in 1890 competed, all bred in Canada, and all good ones. Mr. O. Sorby's Charming Lad, by Lord Charming, would have won had he not favored a hind quarter, the result of a temporary strain, as he trotted. He is fine and well developed, possessing the sort of pasterns for which his sire is noted. J. W. Cowie's Bay Chief, by Lord Wellington, was placed at the front. He is a blocky fellow, of good type. Mr. Ness showed Laurentian, by Lawrence Again, here winning second. He is a particularly neat colt, of the tidy sort. Just one colt showed in the class for Canadian-bred Clydesdales, a two-year-old son of Erskine Macgregor, exhibited by D. Carstairs. He is a stylish fellow, that could have stood competition.

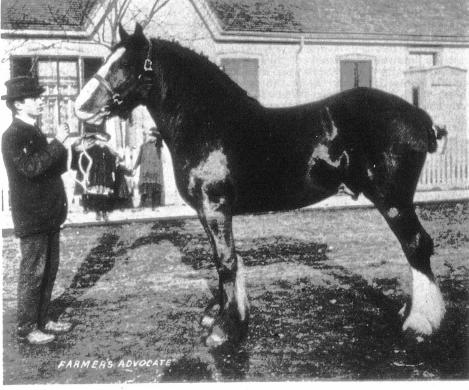
The remainder of our report will appear in next

Out of the Fullness of His Heart.

SIR,—I have only been taking ADVOCATE since 1st January. 1901, and am delighted with it, and think you have information in every number that every farmer ought to read.

Wellington Co., Ont. W. W. Scott.

It will be wisdom to sow some mixed oats and peas or vetches for soiling the cows in the stable in the heat of the dog days, when pastures fail and flies torment them, causing them to shrink in their milk.



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First-prize three-year-old Clydesdale stallion at Canadian Horse Show, 1901.

OWNED BY ROBT. NESS & SONS, HOWICK, QUE.

used will be found to be invaluable. They will accommodate from fifty to one hundred chicks until they are nearly matured.

Put your brooder into this house, and cover the floor to the depth of about two or three inches with cut straw. By scattering the grain in this litter the chicks will get necessary exercise. P.F.Doupe.