

Feeding Young Chicks.—No. 2.

FRIEND FULLERTON,—I promised you I would have a little more to say on the young chicken question this month, and although I am a little late I will make my promise good.

As I started out with the chicks just out of the shell, and left them at from four to six weeks old, I will take up the matter where I left it. As I said in my first article, at the age of six weeks, young chicks must have plenty of green food, and although a good grass run is the best of all, if you have not such you must supply the green food as I suggested. At this age, too, the young fellows should have finely cut boiled meat two or three times a week. If you will excuse the personal pronoun, "I," I will tell you the way I feed. I have a butcher's or soap-makers kettle, holding 15 gallons, set in a stove made for the purpose, fitting the kettle exactly. I get trimmed bones, heads, and general offal from my meat-market, and put the whole into this kettle and let boil and simmer ten or twelve hours, by which time all the marrow, jelly, &c., is boiled off the bones, and they can be "fished" out. As the meat is cooked almost into a jelly it can be crushed with the end of a stick. After it is thoroughly crushed and made fine put in your mixed feed, using for, say one eighth of the whole, bone meal—flour of bone—and if the weather is wet and chilly use a little pepper in it also; use salt while the meat is boiling. This the chicks will relish, and it will do them good. Of the use of bone-meal I will say, no one but those who have used it can know the advantage there is in its use. Especially for the Asiatic class and Plymouth Rocks. If it is used freely there is no danger of weak legs nor crooked breast-bones, and it will force a larger growth than any other food that can be used. I have had a very satisfactory experience from its use; and I do not confine its use to the larger birds but feed it to all my chicks except Bantams.

I may not agree with many fanciers when I say the use of bone meal will prevent crooked breast-bone in chickens, and I do not exactly mean that its use is all that is necessary to prevent that deformity; but I do mean that by its use, and the use of plenty of good, wholesome food, such deformity will not occur. I know many fanciers and some writers claim that mal-formed breasts are caused by letting chicks roost on a perch while young, thus causing the tender bone to be warped by the weight of the bird, &c. But this I do not believe. On the contrary, I believe it is caused by too little or improper food, and I think this is the experience of many besides myself.

Another mistake many fanciers make is in the size of the yards they confine the young chicks in; and I am satisfied that a yard too large is just as

bad as one too small. In a large yard the chicks wander too far from the *house and feed*, and in their pursuit of insects do not return for food as often as is necessary for their fullest growth. In a medium sized yard they will, in their wanderings, be brought often in the vicinity of the feed-box, and take a lunch every time they see an opportunity.

Of course plenty of fresh, cool water is as important as the feed, and no one who expects to have fine chicks will neglect to have a constant supply always where the chicks can get it. In very hot weather it must be supplied two or three times a day, and care must be taken to empty the fountain, and raise it out frequently, as the food sticking to the chicks' bills will be left in the water and cause it to become sour.

As a rule, I am not in favor of the use of any medicines, egg foods, tonics, Douglas' mixtures, etc., but depend entirely on good, wholesome food and clean water, with the proper amount of exercise and green food, to do the work of growing fine birds.

I do not deem it necessary to say more on the kind of food to be used as I think from what I said in a former article, all will understand fully my views on that point. Some of the "old heads" may think me a little prosy, and say, perhaps, they know all this, and more—and I have no doubt they do,—but some will read it with more interest as they are, perhaps, trying to grow a few fine chicks, and these last are the ones I am writing for.

JAMES M. LAMBING.

Parker's Landing, May 1st.

Homing Antwerp Stations.

The following gentlemen have kindly offered to receive, properly care for, and liberate as instructed, any Antwerps intrusted to their care:

Freeman, Ont.—J. Peart.
 Guelph, Ont.—J. E. Horsman.
 Paris, Ont.—J. A. Case.
 " C. B. Capron.
 Port Hope, Ont.—Geo. Hope.
 St. Catharines, Ont.—A. W. Bessey.
 Strathroy, Ont.—Dr. E. Nugent.
 " Jas. Fullerton.
 Toronto, Ont.—Chas. Goodchild.
 " Thomas Adams.
 Waterloo, Ont.—Jas. Lockie.
 Woodstock, Ont.—J. J. Spracklin.

This list will appear each month, and we hope to receive the names of all who are interested in this fancy, and can attend to the duties set forth above.

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 "GEN. GRANT," a Homer owned by J. Buckley, of Philadelphia, flew 20 miles in a storm in 39½ minutes, Easter Monday.