

OUR LETTER BOX.

CARBOLIC ACID.—(*Cleveland Correspondent*) writes:—"I use carbolic acid, say about one drachm (troy weight) of the crystals, dissolved in alcohol. Add this to a pail of water, and if your fowls are very bad, dip them in it; if not, syringe this water all over the house and in the yard, on the perches and on the boxes. Wherever it touches a "parasite" it kills him. In dipping the fowl, care should be used not to let it get into the eyes or mouth, and the bird should be placed where it can dry without taking cold. The remedy is harmless to the fowl, but certain death to insects."

INSECT VERMIN—(*GRASSHOPPERS.*—(*A Subscriber*) says: "About 200 head of poultry keep my farm clear of insect vermin; in summer they nearly feed themselves, and in winter they lay enough eggs to pay for their food. I have heard great complaints this summer about the ravages of grasshoppers. I think Guinea fowls and Aylesbury ducks an effectual cure."

MAL-FORMED EGGS.—(*E. H. S.*) says: "I keep Brahmas and Cochins in a medium sized yard, which sometimes lay singular eggs. Occasionally a Brahma will lay a very large egg or two, and then a small one, which, when broken, contains nothing but yolk. Lately one of the Cochins laid three or four eggs, having a hole at the large end, out of which protruded part of the inner skin, about one inch long, but which soon dried up and disappeared. There is no want of lime in the run, besides they have a small heap of gravel in the corner of the yard. Will you kindly tell me the reason and what I must do to stop it? (Disease of the egg organs is without doubt the sole cause. We have known of large fowls, such as our correspondent mentions, being similarly affected. The only cure we know of is change of food and feed sparingly for some time. Overfeeding tends to produce the disease. If the fowls were allowed a good grass run it would greatly benefit them.—Ed.)

AYLESBURY DUCKS' BILLS.—(*X. F. Z.*) The colour of the bills of the Aylesbury Ducks at the late Provincial Exhibition

was not perfect in any case. Some of them were quite yellow. It is quite true that in some localities the water has a greater effect on their bills than in others. For instance, water which runs off black muck or peat, water in stagnant ponds which receive stable or yard manure, and dirty water of every kind, are injurious to the colour of the bills. Nothing is so good as a clear running stream. Access to meadows or grass lands at daybreak when the grass is covered with cold dew or white frost, and the mixture of small pebbles or stones with the only water they have (where it is supplied artificially), are all beneficial to the colour. Gravel stones are very bad to mix with water.

WORMS IN DOGS.—(*C. King, Jr.*) We make the following extract from the Sportsman's Vade Mecum. B. Cowhage, half a drachm; tin filings, very fine, four drachms. Make into four or six ounce balls, according to size of dog. One daily, and a few hours afterwards a purge of salts or aloes. Powdered glass, as much as will lie on a quarter dollar, in hand. Repeat once or twice, alternate days. Finish off with one or two drachms socotrine aloes, rolled up in tissue paper. Mind, the glass must be ground into the finest of powder, else it will injure the coats of the stomach.

Advertisements.

IMPORTANT SALE OF POULTRY.—The undersigned having determined on giving up poultry-breeding, offers for Sale the following excellent stock:—

Game, Black-breasted Red, Light Brahmas, Dark Brahmas, Grey Dorkings, Golden Polands, White Polands, Black Polands, Blue Polands, Silver Polands, White Cochins, Buff Cochins, Golden Hamburgs, Silver Hamburgs, Black Hamburgs, Crève Coeurs, Silver Pheasants, Chinese Geese, Bremen Geese, Toulouse Geese, Large English Geese, Aylesbury Ducks, Rouen Ducks, Bronze Turkeys and Lop-Eared Rabbits.

A rare opportunity is now offered to parties desirous of procuring fresh blood for their yards, or establishing new ones.

The specimens for sale are all of the choicest and best kinds. JOSEPH LAMB, London, Ontario.
London, 1st December, 1870.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE,
a few Houdan, Light Brahma, and Grey Dorking Cockerels, fine and full bred birds.

WM. H. DOER.