

for? Ain't ye got any sense at all anywheres? Why didn't ye watch what I was doing?" and Mr. Spoopendyke grinned horribly through the slats.

"I supposed you were going to build a hole in it," faltered Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"So I am!" yelled Mr. Spoopendyke, jamming his leg through the structure. "Want any more holes?" and he kicked the side half way across the yard. Four chickens, four holes!" he roared and the laths flew in all directions. "Want any more holes?" and he smashed the roof out with the spade.

"Holes constantly on hand! If you don't see the hole you want, ask for it!" and he blew out the end with terrific energy. "New goods coming in at all times? Second-hand holes a specialty!" and he banged out the other end. "Parties wanting holes to send to the country will consult their interests by applying here before going elsewhere!" and he ripped down the rest of the coop with prodigious clatter. "Want any more holes in this particular coop?" he roared, rrenching out the posts and slamming them across the yard. "Does is hen coop begin to convey the impression of having a hole in it!" he demanded, stalking up to his wife

"Yes, dear," replies Mrs. Spoopendyke, soothingly. "I am so glad you got out, but where can we keep the chickens now?"

"Keep 'em!" replied Mr. Spoopendyke, with a horrible grimace, and grasping the wretched fowls by the legs, "who's going to keep 'em?" and he cut the fastnings. "S'pose I'm going to run my business just to gratify every whim of a woman?" and he jerked the chickens into the air.

"Never mind," cooed Mrs Spoopendyke, as the last bird slid over the fence and disappeared. "Chickens are a nuisance, anyway. We really didn't need any."

"Why didn't you say so before I bought 'em?" blurted Mr. Spoopendyke, as he dashed into the house.

"I didn't know it," sighed Mrs. Spoopendyke, looking round on the wreck, "and, besides, I don't believe we would have had many eggs, because these chickens were all roosters."

And Mrs Spoopendyke followed her husband, who stormed around the rest of the evening because she couldn't find the paper of January 12, 1879, which he had cautioned her to save because there was something in it he wanted to read, and which he had used next day, in conjunction with the back breadth of her new flannel petticoat, to clean his shoe-gua with.

The word character comes from a term which means to engrave upon or to cut in. In selecting pens it is advisable to see that the name of Easterbrook is stamped on them.

### Fowls that Weigh 175 Pounds, with Flesh as White, Tender, and Palatable as that of a Capon.

As in the breeding of animals, so it should be in the production of birds for domestic purposes, the largest and best should be hatched. It costs no more to rear a superior creature than an inferior one, and certainly there is an enlarged satisfaction in knowing that you are not wasting your time and means over common bipeds indigenous to a country.

This is the basis of our encouraging a poultry magazine; and we would like to encourage it too, until it drove every mongrel and common chicken into a pot-pie, to be superseded by those of a better record and a purer blood.

A common chicken will weigh one, two, three, or four pounds, as the case may be, when full grown. Our ideas at this moment refers to a chicken which weighs as many pounds the moment it is hatched, and which will go on increasing in size and flesh until it attains to the weight of a good large lamb, ready for the market!

Your readers, unaccustomed to the sight and rearing of large bird, weighing from one hundred to one hundred and seventy and eighty pounds, may smile at these ideas, but observation and experience combine to confirm their propriety; and all we have to do is to name the prince of birds, the

#### EMU.

Its present proper home is on the vast plains in the interior of the island continent of Australia. Away from the haunts of man, its habits and mode of life are yet not sufficiently known to enable us to speak positively in respect to them. When subdued and brought to civilized domains, the bird remains undeveloped, to a very great extent, in all of its characteristics save those of size and weight. Seldom, indeed, are more than two kept as ornaments for a park in Australia, and then both are as likely to be of the same sex as to be dissimilar. It has not occurred, out in that country, to those who have had an opportunity of encouraging their reproduction, that a commercial value can attach to the bird; nor has it occurred to them that in order to have the creature feel at home in a new style of existence,—in other words, that there should be a group or family of them placed upon an area of a few acres, that a sense of loneliness may not arise in the mind of the bird—if a bird can be said to have a mind—and that a choice may be exercised among themselves at the proper period of pairing off.

The result is that they are retained as creatures of curiosity instead of utility; they are sold as objects of wonder to travellers and circus-