

BREEDING CANARY BIRDS.

Those birds which are to be paired for the first time, should be placed together in a small cage or an open room for a week or ten days, to be wonted to one another. If two females are to be paired with one male, they must previously be accustomed to each other's society by being also kept together in a small cage; and the breeding cage should have two compartments, separated by a board, in which a sliding door has been made. In one compartment, a lively male may be inclosed with a female. About the cage or room, there should be placed some flax, soft hay, wool, hog's bristles, cow's hair, moss, pieces of thread, cut about a finger's length, paper, shavings, or other dry materials for building the nest, which usually occupies three days. When one female has laid eggs, the sliding door may be moved and the male admitted to the other female; and when they have both laid, this door may be kept open. The male will visit both females alternately, when they will not trouble themselves about each other; otherwise, without this precaution, jealousy would incite them to destroy each other's nests and throw out the eggs. In a room or aviary, a male has sometimes two and even three females placed with him; with one of these, he will more especially pair. But when this favorite is about to sit, the others will receive a share of his attentions, and from the latter usually the greatest number and the best birds are reared.—*American Bird Fancier.*

When you rub the knobs of your doors, use a piece of paste board as large as your two hands, with a small hole large enough to just encircle the knob, in the centre, and a slit in the paper to let it in. This slipped on, will keep off all soil from the paint, and is a nice way of doing it.

Save your suds for gardens and plants, or to harden cellars and yards when sandy.

In winter, settle the handle of your pump high as possible at night. When the weather is most severe, throw a rug or blanket over it, or it will freeze.

Smooth lips are often the servants of the most deceitful heart.

Some vegetables of rapid growth have a cavity where they should be most sound; so with some men, who expand in their own esteem until they have neither heart, soul, nor spirit left.