

Many bad chickens have been bred from excellent brood fowls, owing to not paying attention to not setting the eggs laid after the hens become broody, which eggs never produce good chickens, nor does the first egg of a clutch, as it is in general too small. The same brood fowls may thus have produced both very good and also bad chickens from this cause. Hatching too late, as in August or September, or later, may also produce an inferior brood or broods of Game chickens. I have never hatched later than the middle of July, and never earlier than the end of the first three weeks in March. April and May are the proper months to hatch Game fowls in, and most other poultry as well, for stock, as most breeders well know.

When very small Game fowls were required for making Game Bantams with, such were usually hatched in September or thereabouts, and in breeding bantams small they should not be hatched earlier than July, or later still, but cold weather must be avoided in such cases, if very late birds. It is also known that early Spring hatched birds will run longer in leg and in thigh, with less proportionate flesh, than the late hatched birds, which are shorter in leg and thigh, and also more fleshy, though with less bone than early hatched birds. For these reasons the shortest legged birds should be bred earliest, and the longest legged should be bred the latest.

No hen should have more than twelve chickens to take care of at the most, otherwise she will not do justice to them, and in cold weather eight or nine, or, as some say, only six, are quite enough, if choice chickens.

Some object to buckwheat, or "brank" as food, but I think it very good; but for young Game chickens, small wheat and dry stale bread crumbs, with insects and small worms, do best, without anything else, except good pure water in a shallow pan, and this often changed.

If breeding from old or oldish hens, they will seldom lay before February, even if placed together with the brood cock at Christmas, and this is early enough to have eggs for hatching; but if breeding from two year old hens, these may lay before their eggs are required for setting, and their first clutches of eggs will be their best eggs. In any case the brood fowls should not be put

together until Christmas, and some do not put them together until February, for fear of the hens laying their first clutches of eggs too early for setting. I think it is better, if convenient, to keep brood cocks from any hens, except during the breeding season, and the best brood hens from any cock during the same period, as from midsummer till Christmas, for instance.—*Newmarket, in Jour. of Horticulture.*

Dogs.

GREYHOUNDS.

This variety of dog is remarkable for its symmetry, speed, and keenness of sight. In many countries of the East, greyhounds are very numerous. They abound in Persia, and they extend into the countries beyond the Indies. They are in the possession of all the nomadic tribes of Western Tartary, who use them largely in the chase, and they extend northward into Siberia, westward into Asia Minor, Syria, Arabia and Northern Africa, and all over the temperate countries of Europe.

The Greyhound was the Grew-hunde or the Grig-hunde of the Anglo-Saxons, whence the English Greyhound.

Formerly the greyhound was principally employed in chasing the stag; in modern times, however, its use appears in the sport of hare-coursing. Swift as is the hare, the greyhound is swifter, and if the former ran in a straight line, it would be overtaken in a very short space. The instincts of the hare, however, teach it better. Its fore legs being very short, it is enabled to turn an acute angle with little diminution of speed; whereas the long-limbed and impetuous hound finds it impossible to halt or make short turns at will, and so is carried beyond his mark, as it were, and has the chase to renew, with a fair start for the hare. Should the latter once gain cover it is tolerably safe, as the greyhound hunts solely by sight.

The Irish greyhound measures full four feet in length, and is rougher and sturdier than the English greyhound. Like all dogs, he is peaceful enough when not angered or excited by the sight of game. When this latter is the case, his ferocity is terrible. There are very few of the genuine breed existing in the present day.