

The Workshop.



POULTRY AND PIGEON HOUSE.

VERY useful and by no means expensive house for poultry and pigeons, combined in one building, especially suitable for limited spaces in town yards or gardens, may be made as follows:—A space is measured off, and the whole is covered in with a sloping roof; one-half of the space, or nearly so, according to the height to which it is built, is devoted to a row of pigeon cages at the top, exactly under the roof, while the bottom part is devoted to the house and run for the birds, the house being a small enclosed space at one end, and the rest being devoted to the run. A very cheap house can be made thus:—The top of the roof 15ft. by 4½ft., the height at the back being 7ft., height in the front at the eaves 6ft., giving a fall of exactly 1ft. This 6ft. is divided into a space of 2½ft. for the pigeons and 3½ft. for the poultry, consequently a floor is built at the height of 3½ft. from the ground. Above this, three spaces, each of 5ft., are divided off, making three good compartments for three varieties of pigeons, and, if necessary, two pairs can be kept in each with ease and comfort. The three doors would be 2ft. wide, hinged to a stout upright fixed to each division, while the rest of the spaces would be covered with fine galvanized wire; pegs should be placed inside as perches, and also nest pans, together with sand and fine gravel, upon the floor, with a box for food and a small fountain for drinking purposes. The poultry house below should be 4ft. wide, thus giving 18 square feet of space, sufficient for four hens and a cock, or half a dozen bantams and a cock, to which this particular size of house would be more proper, as larger fowls would do better with a little more room. A door 2ft. wide leads into the roost house, and a small hole is made from it into the run, which is fitted up with a sliding door, attached to which is a string for pulling it up and down from the outside. Within the house is a perch for bantams, 2½ft. high, for other fowls, 1ft. high, together with two nest boxes, which can be reached by the hand from the outside through small shut-up openings made for the purpose. The floor of the run, as well as that of the house, is covered with 6 in. of broken bricks, oyster shells, chalk, or any heavy rubbish, this being the bottom layer, with fine gravel or sand at the top, and if it can be arranged that the surface soil or sand should be always soft, so that it can be raked weekly, so much the better. The front of the run has a board 6in. high along the ground, the top level with the top of the sand, above which is wire. By means of this 6in. of material the run will always be dry, being so much higher than the outside. The two ends of the building are, of course, of wood, and if tarred or painted it would be preferable. The roof should be lapped, and either covered with felt of the best quality (for the common is of no use) or with two or three layers of brown paper, each of which should be tarred as it is laid on. If care is taken in purchasing the wood, such a house can be built by any handy individual, will cost a very small sum, and provide him with the means of keeping fancy poultry and pigeons, or rabbits if he prefers, at a small cost and in health and comfort.

A DIFFERENCE.—A man will carry twenty sovereigns in his waistcoat pocket, but a woman needs a morocco portemonnaie, as large as one's fist, and too heavy to be carried in the pocket to escort five shillings, a couple of postage stamps, a receipt for making curry powder, and two patterns of dress goods.—*English Exchange.*

THE END OF HIS TROUBLES.—A Quaker told a young man just married: Friend thou art now at the end of all thy troubles. The bride turned out to be a vixen, and the young man came back with the upbraiding remark: "I thought you told me I was at the end of my troubles." So I did friend, but I did not say which end.

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General Correspondence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RULES

To be observed when asking Questions.

1. Write on one side of the paper only.
2. Write each question, if on a different subject, on a separate piece of paper.
3. Write name and address on the back of each query, unless they are to be published, when they should follow the question.
4. Do not send more than three questions at one time.
5. Do not mix up Editorial and business matter in the same letter.
6. Do not repeat a question before thoroughly examining the different departments, and the column "To Correspondents."
7. The full name and address of the querist must be given in all cases.

Note.—We cannot undertake to answer questions by post.

THE QUERIES TO WHICH REPLIES WERE GIVEN BELOW WERE COLLECTED FROM OUR SUBSCRIBERS AND THEIR FRIENDS DURING THE PAST MONTH.

Correspondence is cordially invited in all Departments

POULTRY AND PIGEONS.

(Answered by the Editor.)

X. Y. Z.—*Breeding for profit.*—You will find all the information you require either in the "Poultry Book," by W. B. Tegetmeier, or in Wright's "Book of Poultry," (Cassell & Co.) You are not, however, likely to reap much profit for a considerable time, unless you are acquainted with poultry breeding, and have had some experience in breeding and exhibiting.

IGNORAMUS.—*Fowls for laying and the table.*—Young Cochins or Bramas are the best winter layers. Minorcas or Andalusians would give you large eggs for the greater part of the year. The idea of rearing fowls in a confined run is a delusion.

DOGS AND HORSES.

(Answered by the Editor.)

TIP.—*Thrashing a dog for lying on his back when about to be patted.*—Most decidedly not. Thrashing does more harm than good in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. The dog is evidently nervous, and afraid of being hurt. He may probably have had rough usage. You must try and understand your dog, that is the first step to his understanding you. Try kind treatment.

Mrs. E.—*Water Spaniel eating eggs.*—We have published your letter (with reply) in "The Kennel," as we thought it might interest our readers.

LEGAL.

(Answered by a Solicitor.)

INQUIRER.—*Breach of contract.*—You can sue for return of the goods, or damages. He has no right to costs.

HOUSEHOLD.

(Answered by Miss Burton.)

WINIFRED ROSE.—*French polish losing its brilliancy.*—We should think the fault was in either the varnish or the polish, and if the furniture be valuable we advise you to let a practical French polisher look at it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

(Answered by the Editor.)

THE FIRST SUBSCRIBER.—*Sleeplessness.*—This is a very common ailment with persons of your age and temperament. The best remedies we can suggest are: plenty of fresh air and exercise in the open, and if practicable, a tepid bath before retiring to rest.

A VICTIM TO CIVILIZATION.—1. *Squeaking boots.*—The reason why your boots "squeak," as you express it, is, owing to defective leather in the middle sole. This only occurs in cheap or worthless boots. The remedy is to get your boots of the best quality and wear them with extra care; 2. nonsense; 3. soaking them in water will be productive of numerous evil results but no good ones.

CORRESPONDENCE is cordially invited on all subjects. Letters containing valuable information in any of our departments will be published in full in the department.

All letters should be addressed to the Editor of THE EXCHANGE AND MART, Room 7, 23 Adelaide St. East, Toronto.

Some years since Madame Zola, a Parisienne cantatrice, made a professional tour round the world, and gave a concert in the Society Islands. In exchange for an air from Norma and a few other songs, she was to receive a third part of the receipts. When counted, her share was found to consist of three pigs, twenty-three turkeys, forty-four chickens, 5,000 cocoanuts, besides considerable quantities of bananas, lemons and oranges.

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Testimonials that speak for themselves:

OTTAWA, Sept. 3rd, 1883.

A. NORMAN, Esq.—Dear Sir,—I have experienced considerable benefit from your Appliances, I feel stronger and better every day. Yours truly,

R. E. HALIBURTON.

PETERBOROUGH, Oct. 15th 1883.

A. NORMAN, Esq.—Dear Sir,—Soon after I commenced to use your Electric Appliances, they opened my bowels, cured my cough and cold, relieved my head, and considerably relieved my catarrh in consequence. The discharges from my head and chest are now easy, and I feel altogether better. My digestion has improved, my stomach is less sour and windy, and I am less troubled with dreams, I had previously tried almost all the advertised patent medicines without deriving any good.

Yours truly,

J. GREEN.

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