We take our example from Dr. Tripp's illustrations of the known relations between weather and disease. A high summer temperature is related to excessive mortality from diarrhœa, but the immediate cause of this disease as an epidemic is not known. Summer diarrhœa prevails to a greater extent in certain localities notably in Leicester, and though the cause has been carefully sought, it has not been detected. Recent researches, however, point to a kind of *bacillus* as the immediate cause, as it has been found in the air of water closets, in the traps under the pans, and in the discharges of infants and young children. Statistics show that great care should be taken in hot weather to prevent diarrhœa, especially in young children, by frequent washing with soap and water to ensure cleanliness, and proper action of the skin; by great attention to the food, especially of bottle-fed infants; by free ventilation of living rooms, and especially of bedrooms; and by protection as far as possible from heat and sun and from excessive exertion. All animal and vegetable refuse should be removed from the vicinity of dwelling houses, and should be burnt instead of being consigned to the dust-bin, and the drains should be frequently disinfected and well flushed out, especially when the mean daily temperature of the air is above 60 deg.

Profitable Experience in Poultry Raising.

To show how poultry raising may be made as profitable perhaps as labor in the workshop, here are the details of what the wife of a small farmer in my neighbourhood is doing:

She wintered 37 hens and two roosters, and during this time the flock laid nearly eggs enough to pay for the cost of their food. Early in March she began setting the hens as fast as broody.

By the middle of May she had 141 chickens, and had only lost two. She is going to keep on setting hens until July, when she will probably have at least 300 chickens. In June the earliest will be two-and a-half to three months old, plump and fat and suitable for broilers. For them she will obtain a high price. As the Summer advances, prices will gradually fall, but even through Autumn, chickens pay a fair profit, and during the whole time she will be selling eggs, perhaps enough to pay for the feed of the flock.

Now, as to the fixtures to carry on this business: There is a cheap, well-ventilated poultry house, and old flour barrels with one head taken out are chiefly used for nests and for coops. The chickens are weaned when six weeks old, and placed in the barn at night, where they sit safe and warm on the thrashing floor till morning. (1) They are given feed, a drink of skimmed milk, and left to wander around the ground at will. The barn door is left open to the south, so they can go in for feed and drink as often as they desire, and also for shelter if it rains; but as the hens have been let out of their coops since the chickens were a week old, they grow up quite hardy and don't mind a little rain (2).

The soil here is admirably suited for raising chickens, it being a light gravel, which dries immediately after a rain, and is consequently never muddy.

When setting the hen, a piece of dry turf is cut 12 to 16 inches square, hollowed out a little on the under side, so as to make a corresponding hollow on the upper, to safely hold the eggs. The turf is now laid on the bottom of the coop or barrel, grass side up, and the eggs placed upon it. A little sulphur is sprinkled around the neck of the hen, beginning close to the head, also on her rump and under the wings. This kills lice if she happens to have any. The turf has the advantage of keeping warm while the hen is off to feed, drink, and wallow in the dirt, and it also prevents the egg-shells from getting so hard and dry as to make it difficult for the chickens to pick themselves out. After hatching, the turf is removed and a peck or more of sand or loam is put in to keep it sweet and clean. This is renewed weekly.

I have seen the almost incredible statement recently, that over 60,000,000 eggs were imported the past year, valued at $700,000. If the women of our country could supply these, the above large sum would be a very acceptable item to divide among them, to obtain many little comforts of which perhaps they are now deprived.

(1) And a nice mess they must make on the floor!

(2) Turkeys should never go out until the dew is off.

BREEDS OF BRITISH SHEEP... V.

Leicesters.

As we go south into England we find no distinct breed of rich-land sheep until we come to the Lincolns and the Leicesters. There was formerly a variety of large, coarse sheep that originated in the fertile valley of the Tees, and was called the Teeswater breed, but these are no longer found pure. This valley has honor enough in having given the Short-Horn cattle to the world. Lincolns come before Leicesters, geographically, but the latter will be considered first because they have been so largely used in improving the former, as well as many other breeds.

Warwickshire is at the centre of England, and Leicestershire adjoins it. The greater portion of the county is in the basin of the Trent, and its chief tributary, the Soar. The surface is undulating, the climate is mild, and for so wet a country as England, the rainfall is very moderate. The soil is a rich clay loam, the valley of the Soar furnishing remarkably rich pasturage. The percentage of land in pasture is very large. The lighter soils upon the old red sandstone formation are productive for grain and root crops. A larger proportion of the land is farmed by the owners than in most other counties. Stilton, the richest of English cheeses, is extensively made in the northern part of the county, especially about Melton Mowbray.

The native sheep of this district were large, coarse, inferior animals. They fattened slowly, and were late in coming to maturity. As almost every one knows, they were improved to very great excellence, something over a century ago, by Robert Bakewell, who lived at Dishley in this county. The strain he produced was for some time called the Bakewell, and occasionally the Dishley. He had a genius for his work, and fixing in his mind his standard of excellence, he made his selections of breeding animals with the greatest skill for attaining it. He took blood from any breed that could furnish the qualities he desired. This could be successfully done only in the hands of a master. The result of his labor was the production of the most perfect mutton-sheep the world had seen. It was a long time before he received any financial encouragement, but at length the victory was won, and he realized enormous prices at his ram lettings. The