



FIRST PRIZE WINNER AT RICHLAND CENTRE, WIS., DEC., 1891. SCORE 96¼.

A SCARCITY OF EGGS.

BY H. S. BABCOCK.

THE experience of the present winter convinces me more fully than ever that it is folly to expect eggs in very cold weather if hens have their liberty. No matter how comfortable they may be at night, or what cosy nests we prepare for them, few eggs can they produce if they run out all day on the frozen ground. Their vitality is simply insufficient to supply heat for their bodies

and for egg production too. You can keep them healthy, active and in good condition, but you can't prevail upon them to lay eggs."

The above, title and all, I clip from *The Cultivator and Country Gentleman*, of Albany, New York. It forms the opening paragraph of a contribution from "A Farmer's Daughter," Logan County, Kentucky.

The writer lives in a much colder country than Kentucky, where ice and snow and frozen ground are the accompaniments of winter. His hens are allowed to run out of doors, on the frozen ground, at all times, except when the ground is covered with snow, and even then, if he can find time to