

of-the-way places evidently in quest of a secret spot for incubation ; for this instinctive dread of the male is not removed by domestication, nor has the male lost that antipathy to the eggs which is his characteristic in a state of nature. She should now be closely watched, and some management is required to induce her to lay in the nest assigned her. The nest should be made of straw and dried leaves ; it should be secluded ; and to excite her to adopt it, an egg, or a piece of chalk cut into the form of an egg, should be placed in it. When her uneasiness to lay is evident, and symptoms prove that she is ready, she should be confined in the shed, barn or place in which her nest (which should be in a wicker basket) is prepared, and let out as soon as the egg is laid. The turkey-hen is a steady sitter, nothing will induce her to leave her nest ; indeed, often she requires to be removed to her food, so overpowering is her instinctive affection. The hen should on no account be rashly disturbed, no one except the person to whom she is accustomed, and from whom she receives her food, should be allowed to go near her, and the eggs should not be meddled with. On about the twenty-sixth day, the chicks leave the eggs, and these like young fowls, do not require food for several hours. It is useless to cram them as some do, fearing lest they should starve. When the chicks feel an inclination for food, nature directs them how to pick it up. There is no occasion for alarm if for many hours they content themselves with the warmth of their parent and enjoy her care only. Yet some food must be provided for them, and this should be of course suited to their nature and appetite ; here, too, let the simplicity of nature be a guide.

The first diet offered to the turkey-chicks should consist of eggs boiled hard and finely mixed, or curd with bread crumbs and the green part of onions, parsley, etc., chopped very small and mixed together so as to form a loose crumbly paste ; oatmeal mixed with a little water may also be given. They will require water ; but this should be put into a very shallow vessel, so as to insure against the danger of the chicks getting wet. Both the turkey-hen and her chickens should be housed for a few days ; they may then, if the weather be fine, be allowed a few hours' liberty during the day, but should a shower threaten, they must be put immediately under shelter. This system must be persevered in for three or

four weeks. By this time they will have acquired considerable strength, and will know how to take care of themselves. As they get older, meal or grain may be given more freely. They now begin to search for insects and to dust their growing plumage in the sand. At the age of about two months, or perhaps a little more, the males and females begin to develop their distinctive characteristics.

In the young males, the carunculated skin of the neck and throat, and the contractile horn-like comb on the forehead assumes a marked character. This is a critical period. The system requires a full supply of nutriment, and good housing at night is essential. Some recommend that a few grains of Cayenne pepper, or a little bruised hempseed be mixed with their food. The distinctive sexual marks once fairly established the young birds lose the name of "chicks," or "chickens," and are termed "turkey-pults." The time of danger is over, and they become independent, and every day stronger and more hardy. They now fare as the rest of the flock ; on good and sufficient food.

With respect to the disease of the turkey, with them as with all other poultry, prevention is better than cure. The most important rules are, let the chicks never get wet, and encourage them to eat heartily by giving a good variety of food ; yet to beware of injuring the appetite by too much pampering. Taking a pride in them is the great secret of success in the rearing of domestic poultry.—*Louder's Domestic Poultry.*

ABORTION IN COWS—PREVENTIVE.

THIS malady, disease, or whatever it may be termed, is manifest to an alarming extent in many localities. In many of the large cheese-dairying communities in the State of New York, its prevalence is such as to excite the deepest anxiety. The loss it has already caused has nearly doubled the price of dairy stock within the past five or six months, and unless stayed, must ere long affect the price of dairy products. We also see mention made of cases in other portions of the country. In fact, an unusual number have occurred within the range of our own acquaintance. So far, the cause seems inexplicable—involved in mystery and speculation. Any light, either as to cause or remedy, will be eagerly sought by the consumer as well as the producer. A correspondent of the *Rural American* gives some practica