

### Hints for July.

Provide shelter for the fowls, old and young, both from rain and sun. A low shed-like structure will suit admirably, but the best shelter from the sun is found among bushes, growing corn &c., as here the chicks will be on the search continually for insects and worms, and are thus kept in exercise. Continue to feed regularly, good, wholesome food. If the chicks have not access to a grass run, give them green food often, grass, lettuce, &c. Give them all the weeds from the garden, and they will eat those that are palatable. Keep the drinking fountain in a sheltered place; fill it three times a day, putting a little Douglas mixture in the water occasionally. Keep fowls and houses free from vermin. Give animal food liberally when the chicks are getting their second feathers, but afterwards use sparingly, as when too much is given, it is apt to cause excessive growth of comb and wattles, and make the birds coarse throughout. Should chicks show signs of leg-weakness, give a table-spoonful of bone meal to each dozen fowls every morning in soft food, and put on grass run if possible. Bone meal should also be used as a preventive. If the chicks were hatched early, commence to cull now. First take all those certainly disqualified, and those having defects which you know age will not remedy. The young breeder must cull with care, as many varieties change greatly as they reach maturity, and those which appear to him the least promising now, may prove to be the best specimens in the fall. Some are very reluctant to kill off any of their pets at this season, but they will find that the improved appearance of the flock after being culled will give satisfaction.

DURING our stay in Toronto, in company with Mr. Geo. Hope, of Port Hope, we visited the pigeon lofts of Mr. McGrath, situated on Little Richmond street. Mr. McGrath was from home, but his lady, who is a great lover of fowls and pigeons, very kindly showed us around. The stock consists of a variety of pied Pouters, of beautiful marking and great length, stock imported from Scotland by Mr. M.; Black Carriers, Black Barbs, with excellent heads and eye-wattles; Short-faced Almond Tumblers and Kites. Mr. McGrath has lately changed his residence, and has not yet been able to get his lofts in order; when he has all in place a visit will give the pigeon fancier much pleasure.

MESSRS. Thomas & Campbell, of Brooklin, Poultry Yards, have a Toulouse goose which has laid this season, up to 26th June, 57 eggs, and is still at it.

Capons sell in the Philadelphia market for 8 cents a pound more than ordinary chickens, and often attain the weight of from seven to nine lbs. each.

Just before going to press we received a summons from the Secretary to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee of Ontario Poultry Society on Friday, July 12th. He also reports receipt of Government grant; consequently an immediate settlement of the affairs of the late show may be expected.

At the Poultry Show in Toronto we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. J. Black, of Montreal, who had a number of fine fowls on exhibition, which were very successful in taking prizes. His White Polands arrived too late for competition; had they been on time we believe they would have figured on the prize list. Mr. Black is an enthusiast on flowers, and a true poultry fancier. He will prove a valuable member of the Montreal Society.

### Flying Match.

(R. N.) I. T. R-STATE CONTEST, JUNE 14, 1878.

First and second Prizes of Honor and special prizes were won by two birds belonging to Joel Williard of Utica, time, 3 hr. 57 min.; the third and fourth, by birds of Newton Adams of Utica, time, 3 hr. 58 min. and 3 hr. 59 min., respectively; the fifth and sixth, by birds of Joel Williard of Utica, in 4 hours; the seventh special and first pool, by birds of Thomas H. Richardson of Green Island, N. Y.; the eighth and ninth specials, by birds of John Van Opstal of New York, in 4 hr. 32½ min. and 4 hr. 34 min., respectively. Distance, flown, 154 miles.—*Fanciers' Journal*.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Mr. R. Mackay, Park Yards, Hamilton. Not being able to find time to attend to them properly, he has concluded to dispose of his entire stock. His birds are first-class.

Vigorous, healthy fowls may almost always be detected by the rich color of the comb, which is a sure indication of health. The comb of a diseased fowl always loses color in proportion as the disease approaches its worst stages, and in some instances turning black. We would advise those who suspect disease amongst their fowls to give the matter of the color of the comb a close study. As an index it is to the fowlkeeper what the pulse of the human subject is to the physician.

Keep your fowl houses clean, and the floor covered with dry earth.—*American Poultry Yard*.