

jaundiced patient in the face. We killed her by cutting her throat, but could draw only a few drops of thick blood. Had she lived a little longer these would have been absorbed, and she would have died from want of blood. We have never seen young Spanish die in this way, but they have diseases of their own. They are not long lived; none of the non-sitters are, and few of the egg-producers reach the age of three years without more or less disease in the different organs having to do with the formation and laying of eggs.

**BRAHMA POOTRAS.**—(*Lex*)—There is no reason why a Brahma Pootra pullet, running with a three-year old cock, should not produce good chickens. Dead chickens in the shells arise from other causes; probably the hen did not hatch well, or that the eggs were stale, and were not sprinkled with tepid water during incubation.

**DO THUNDER STORMS KILL CHICKENS BEFORE THEY ARE HATCHED?**—This subject, and the reply given to it by us in our last number, has elicited several communications.

*C. W. Postlethwaite*, of Toronto, writes:

In support of your opinion as given in the first number of the CHRONICLE, that "Thunder storms do not kill chickens before they are hatched," I will give you my recent experience. On the 14th June, I set nine black Spanish eggs under a Dorking hen, one of which she shortly afterwards broke, leaving but eight eggs. Since that date we had in Toronto six severe thunder storms, besides several of a less degree. Indeed, as you will remember, hardly two consecutive days of the past fortnight have passed without more or less thunder. On the 20th day she brought off seven chickens, and this morning the eighth was hatched."

*J. Y. Bicknell, & Co.*, of Westmoreland, New York State, says:—"Do thunder storms kill chicks before they are hatched?" In reply to the article under the above heading, we would say that we have never had chicks killed by thunder storms, but our neighbours have complained on that account, and we always find that cases where chickens are supposed to be killed by thunder storms before hatching, are in nests placed on the ground, and as the earth is more or less charged with electricity during such times, our opinion has been that the electricity coming in contact with the egg, destroyed the life of the chick, and not the noise of the thunder. We never sit hens on the ground (contrary to all theory), and never have that kind of ill luck attend the hatching, as our neighbours seem to have; we have been of opinion that thunder storms would

kill chicks before they were hatched if the eggs were placed on the ground. Let us hear from others on the subject."

Another correspondent writes:—

"During the late civil war, I knew any quantity of chicks to be hatched in South Carolina, in the midst of the most terrific bombarding that probably the world ever saw, and yet I have repeatedly known chicks to be killed in the shell by only a slight thunder storm. It is a fact that cannot be controverted; it has happened too often to be ignored. Whether it is the jarring of the air that does the mischief, or some electrical phenomenon, I am not prepared to say, but my sometimes better experience has taught me to watch with dread for a thunder gust, when hatching valuable eggs in the incubator or under a hen."

**ROYAL JAVA FOWLS.**—(*Enquirer*)—Can you or any of your readers give a description of Royal Java fowls? I see no mention of them in *Tegetmeier*, from which fact I conclude them to be an American variety, or perhaps English with an American name, though that would not do, as they are Royal Java.

[We are unable to give the information above asked for, but no doubt some of our many American correspondents can.—Ed.]

**CHICKEN CHOLERA.**—(*Amateur, U.S.*)—Are the Canadian poulterers troubled with chicken cholera, and if so, what are the remedies? I have been experimenting for some time, and can soon give a complete course of treatment for prevention and cure. English writers seem to be unaware of its existence. [We are not aware of any disease peculiar to chickens known as "cholera," nor have we seen any mention made of it in any of the standard works on poultry. If our correspondent would describe the symptoms, we would be in a better position to give a reply. It is not, however, unlikely that it has been already described under a different name. Since the foregoing was written, we have seen in the *Country Gentleman* the symptoms and cure for chicken cholera given, which we recommended to a friend who had, out of forty young turkeys, lost over one-half by a disease in every way similar to that described, and with good results. The symptoms are—drooping, with little inclination to eat, drowsiness and weakness prevailing. Cure—three or four teaspoonfuls of sirong alum water, once a day for two days; mix the feed (say cornmeal) with strong alum water, feeding twice a day for two or three days; afterwards, once a week. Another writer gives the following remedy; "Take, say, two eggs, a table-spoonful of finely pulverized alum, and a