

own nobly against some of the most noted poultry men. The importance of poultry is well emphasized by recent statistics, which show that our exportations of poultry produce exceeded *nine millions of dollars* last year and are continually on the increase.

It is a well established fact that a farmer can make more profit in proportion to the outlay out of poultry, intelligently managed, than out of any stock he can handle.

### ORCHARDS.

EFFECT ON YOUNG APPLE TREES OF KEEPING AN ORCHARD IN GRASS DURING A DRY SEASON. The first Report of the Woburn Experimental Fruit-Farm, England, contains some striking results of the very common practice in that country of keeping orchards in grass for long periods.

The reduction in the size of leaves of young apple trees thus grown was 35 per cent. for dwarf-trees, and 41 per cent. for standards as compared with trees in cultivated ground, the loss of wood growth being 87 per cent. for dwarfs and 74 per cent. for standards; in the case of the dwarf trees, too, there was a reduction of 71 per cent. in the weight of the fruit crop. The ill effect of grass round the trees was much greater than that of weeds. The report states, however, that in a year of greater rain fall the ill effects of both grass and weeds would probably, be considerably less than in the dry seasons in which these investigations were held.

### CEMENT FOR REPAIRING CHINA.

An excellent cement for mending China articles when broken can be made by mixing flour with the white of an egg to the consistency of a paste. Hot water does not injure (as a matter of fact, it rather hardens) this simple cement.

(*The Farmers' Gazette*).

### The Poultry-Yard.

A. R. JENNER FUST, ESQ., *Editor of the Provincial Journal of Agriculture, Montreal.*

DEAR SIR,

I give beneath the weight of eight cockerels: Barred rocks, five months old, dressed and ready for table use. The total weight was 65 lbs. without

any special fattening, they were culled for the owner's use, as he does not believe in keeping unproductive stock; they were taken from a large flock of some forty young birds hatched in July and August 1898. The pullets, beautifully marked, are now laying and have been since December last: a pretty good record for weight. I saw the carcasses as they were being dressed; the flesh was a beautiful golden color. Just the thing to suit our American neighbors.

Now for the egg record of four hens of the same breed which were not quite out of their moult; they began to lay December 1st, and laid in December 94 eggs, and laid in January, 115 eggs, pretty good for four hens.

These hens are owned by Mr. Wm. Lee, Mayor of the parish of Notre Dame de Quebec.

S. J. ANDRES.

### QUALITY.

Low prices are more the result of lack of quality than anything else and as long as the farmers pay no attention to breeds and refuse to give attention to the quality of their stock, just so long will they fail to realize good prices for that which they send to market. There is no one "price" for any in market, but there are "prices," the difference being so great as to render it impossible to fix upon any sum as the average. A choice extra fowl may sell as high as fifteen cents a pound, while an inferior fowl may not sell for five cents a pound.

There is not a large sum as difference—ten cents—but it is large comparatively, and allows of a greater return from a superior fowl than is obtained from three inferior ones. It is the earning point of profit and loss, as the way to secure large profits is to sell only stock of the best quality, and to secure large profits and to secure choice stock, you must both *breed* for it and *feed* for it.

### FARMERS SHOULD IMPROVE THEIR FLOCKS.

How many farmers fully understand the proper way of keeping poultry?

Very few compared with their number and it may be said that it is not every farmer who even knows the different breeds. This is a condition of things which does not apply to any other class.