

but if you fix upon and pursue with attention any of those I have pointed out, you will see in proportion a much less number of chickens die than the chickens which are led and taken by the hen. You must not, however, entertain any hopes of saving them all. We have not the capacity of bringing all children to the age of men; thousands of them die in their infancy. Chickens have their illness as well as we, nor are we better physicians for them than for ourselves; they have ailments of which we cannot discover the causes. They have epidemic diseases which cause great mortality among them in some years, and which proceed from causes not always easy to trace or guess at, as that which I happened to find out, though it was not until it had occasioned the loss of a multitude of chickens for a fortnight or three weeks together; they eat very well and yet grow visibly lean and then died; all their illness proceeded from a kind of vermin which had prodigiously multiplied upon them, and which lay concealed in their feathers in form of spots. The vermin was a sort of lice, very different by their figure from the lice common to fowls; more like the figure of the insects upon the flesh of dirty men; others shorter, flatter and smaller, had a great resemblance to a kind of ticks found on rabbits and dogs that hunt much in woods and bushes, or to a sort of large reddish mites. I neglected to have one of my chickens drawn, imagining I should never want them, and destroyed them so completely I could find none to observe them under the microscope, but I have reasons to think it is the insect which Redi caused to be represented under the denomination of the hen-louse in the second plate, wherein he gave the figures of the insects that live on the larger animals. I suspected my chickens had received these insects from the fur wherewith the artificial mothers were lined, because upon examination of the fur linings, of which I opened the hair, I found on the skin spots of them larger than a sixpenny piece. They were so close to each other there that not the least vacancy could be seen. I caused all those in the mothers to die by exposing them to the heat of an oven which had been used for baking bread. This method is best of all to destroy the insects, and, by-the-by, there is nothing more effectual towards destroying bed bugs, which have fixed their habitations in the bedsteads and curtains, than by putting both the wood work and the curtains into an oven, not hot enough to burn the wood or singe the curtains, but warm enough to render its heat insupportable to insects. We might, if we were willing, improve this hint in a very beneficial manner, and preserve our grain against the insects which devour it in our granaries, which operation would be of greater importance than the rearing of

chickens. When all the insects of the mothers were destroyed, the number of those of the chickens diminished so fast that in a few days I could not find one amongst them.

MEMOIR VIII.

The sequel of the manner of bringing up chickens, and of the several kinds of food that may be given them.

The reader has judged, no doubt, that if we omitted mentioning in the foregoing memoir the foods which are fittest to be given to chickens, we did it with an intention to enlarge upon that subject in this. We never could rear any chickens if we did not give them wholesome food, or if we did not give them food to their liking. The food proper to give them in no way differs from that given to chickens hatched under hens, but what belongs to the manner of feeding them, either with regard to the method of rendering their food more beneficial to them, or with regard to the management and husbanding the foods they consume till they become to be hens, and even after that, deserves an examination, which is not to be expected from any of those who look after poultry yards, and of which we shall here give but an imperfect sketch, which afterwards may be improved by the experiments and observations others may be invited to make.

(To be continued)

Art. 23. Nature.

Editor Review,

According to promise I will now endeavor to show the advantages gained by the incubator (that is if you get the right one) over hens for hatching.

Experience has taught me that hens are like pigs; that is, very contrary. First you must wait until they get ready, or at least till they think they are ready, for very often after a few day's trial they find that they were mistaken; leave the nest, and bid your eggs farewell. What can you do with these eggs? Perhaps you sent to a noted breeder for a setting and paid \$5.00 for it; you will be at a total loss, unless lucky enough to have another hen ready to take them. The incubator for me; she can't leave the nest.

Take another hen. She is a steady matron when on the nest, but when she comes off she forgets to go back soon enough, and her eggs are chilled. The incubator will not do this.

Take another hen. She will stick to her nest so close that she only leaves it to eat and drink, and in her anxiety rushes back and fouls her nest. Reader, did you ever get a fine lot of chicks from such a hen? No, never! The incubator cannot do that.

Take another hen. She is a good steady hen,