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## ON THE FECUNDATION OF TURKEY EGGS.

Time and again has it been stated by writers of high repute that one connection is sufficient to render fertile all the eggs which a turkey hen will lay at one season, and numerous cases are cited in support of the assertion, while others hold the contrary opinion, and are equally positive of its truthfulness. Tegetmeier in his Poultry Book, quotes on this subject from the essay of Mr. Trotter, published in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society, as follows: "One fecundation is sufficient to render fertile all the eggs which are of one laying. This has been strongly denied by some, but the fact is undoubted; for, in this district, many people keep hens

only, and have to send them to some neighbor's cock. The hen is sent once only, yet, it is known that nothing more is generally required to insure the fertility of all the eggs of that laying;" and to this opinion it would appear Mr. Tegetmeier himself strongly inclines.

Again: Wright, in his "Practical Poultry Keeper," says, "it does appear indisputable that one visit to the cock is sufficient to render fertile all the eggs laid by a turkey hen." Other English writers whom we have consulted, are either silent on this subject or their language is so guarded as to be considered non-committal: nor are American writers, of any note, one whit more explicit on this point. The mode of treatment of young turkeys is sufficiently treated of, but little or nothing said about fecundation. It may therefore be considered an unsettled question, with a strong feeling in favor of but one fecundation being necessary for the laying.

We shall give our experience on the subject. In the fall of 1869, we purchased two common turkeys, one a bird of that year, the other an old hen, we do not know whether two, three or four years old. In the spring of this year, they were, before laying, placed with a wild gobbler, then the property, and in possession of Colonel Hassard, for a few days, but for some reason unknown to us, none of the eggs proved