

with inferior work, and often a very badly fitting dress, which becomes a source of irritation every time it is worn. Many and "sore are the complaints" on this subject.

SENSIBLE PEOPLE.—Owing to this, a good number of sensible people have taught themselves to make their own dresses. If at first the result is not quite as satisfactory as it should be, there is the satisfaction of knowing it has cost nothing but their own labor.

COURAGE TO DO.—It only wants courage, and determination to do well, and success is sure to follow after a few trials.

PATTERNS.—Patterns cost very little now, and a new one once or twice in the year will be all that is wanted. For this one can easily be modified a little to suit any change in style when not too pronounced.

CARE IN CARRYING OUT INSTRUCTIONS.—The great trouble with amateurs in almost everything is, they will not carefully follow out instructions. If good results are to follow, the instructions must be carried out in every detail.

CARELESS PEOPLE.—If tacking is mentioned depend upon it planning won't do. Some people think they can be accurate without so much bother, but after having to pick out a badly fitting lining a few times, they soon become converts to the careful carrying out of instructions, and in the end this extra trouble, caused entirely by their conceit or laziness, will prove the best teacher.

NECESSARIES FOR CARRYING THIS OUT.—A good pair of scissors, a tape measure, plenty of pins to hold the goods during the process of tacking, a small handy pin cushion, fine cotton for tacking, No 50 best. Use white cotton for coloured goods, (good needles) and, if any sewing is done by hand, No. 36 cotton is not a bit too coarse.

A good large table for cutting out on and tacking, careful attention to every direction with patterns. A determination to do the best you can, and the result of your best efforts I hope will prove satisfactory.

Written expressly for young beginners.

The Poultry-Yard.

Farmers' Institute Meetings — The Waste of the Farm—How to make and feed a warm mash—What sort of grain to feed—Two rations per day enough—How to utilise waste.

(A. G. Gilbert).

I had the honor and pleasure a short time ago of addressing several large gatherings of farmers at the pretty village of Lanark and surrounding districts, or rather representatives from those districts who attended the Farmers Institute meetings held in Lanark, Carleton Place and Almonte. The meetings in Lanark village were the first of the series. At these meetings, I made it a point to show what an important factor in the winter production of eggs, the waste of the house or farm may become. I was gratified after the afternoon meeting in Lanark to be accosted in the hotel by an intelligent and well

to do looking farmer who said, "You told us this afternoon just what my wife said to me the other day, that there was nothing better to bring eggs in winter than the table and kitchen waste." Of course I expressed my pleasure both at such practical endorsement of my advice and at meeting a farmer whose wife so successfully managed her hens in winter. This may lead to the query.—What is the waste of the farm?

THE WASTE OF THE FARM

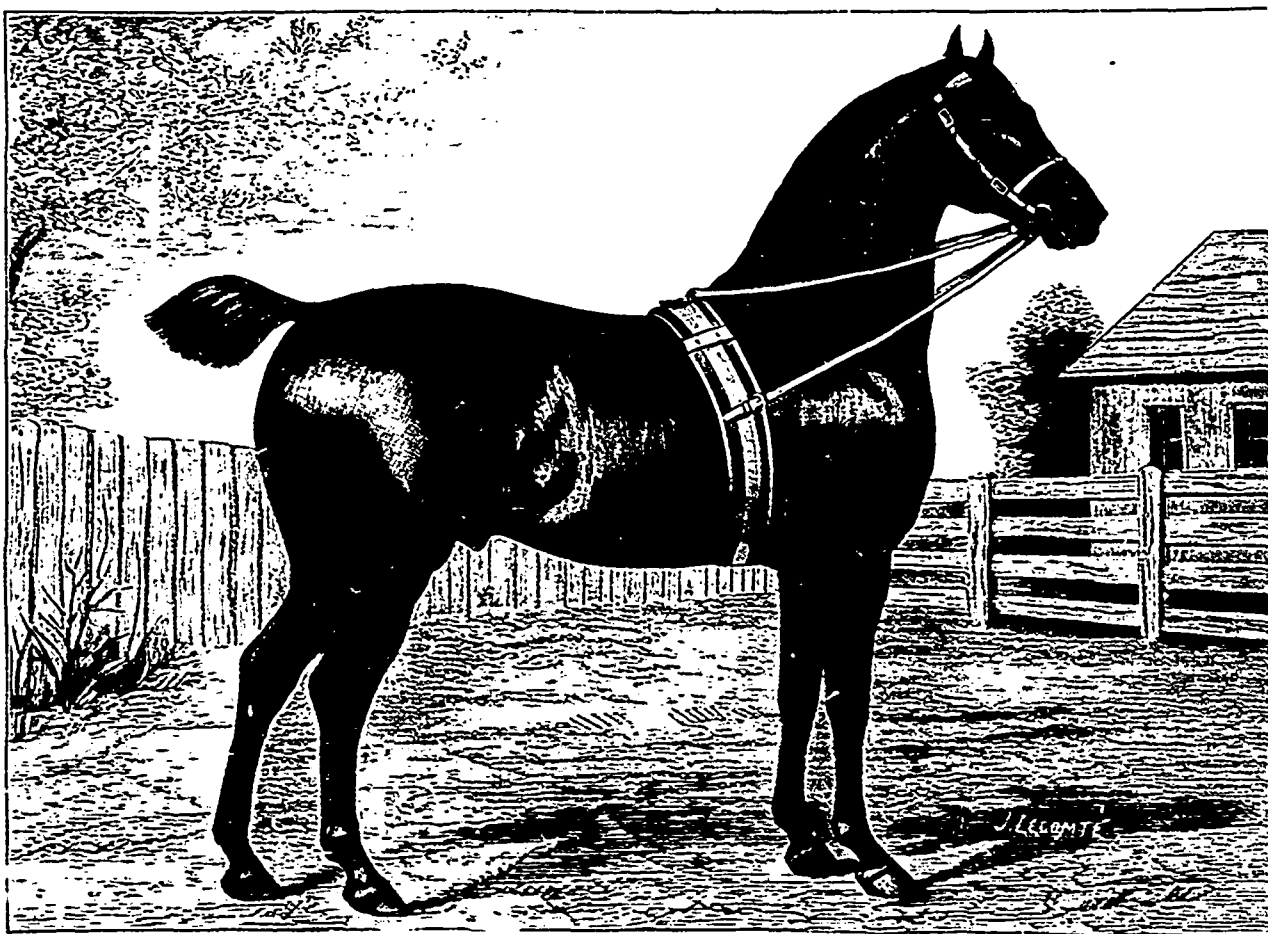
The waste of the farm may be composed of table and kitchen waste in the shape of uneaten pieces of meat, bread, vegetables, potato and other peelings, unmarketable grain, turnip, mangels, etc. The table leavings will be all the more valuable because they are cooked. Experience—which after all is about the best schoolmaster in connection with keen observation—has led me to conclude that cooked meat and vegetable

all is "crumbly." If it is convenient to thoroughly cook the mess, do so. I firmly believe it is better thoroughly cooked than half done. If red or white clover hay is plenty, and both are generally in abundance on the farm, a small quantity may be steamed and mixed into the mash. It should first be cut into quarter inch lengths. The mash might be mixed, into the water the clover was steamed in, provided the water was first brought to the boil. It is best to throw the boiling water over the clover at night, cover the pot with a cloth and let the contents steam till morning. It is astonishing how often the clover will come out quite green. If the fowls will eat the clover by itself after being steamed as described nothing will be better for them. Having made the mash so that it is quite "crumbly" and not too hot it should be fed in quantity enough to BARELY SATISFY and not to GORGE. About

the afternoon one is that the layers will go to roost with a full crop for they have a long night before them. This has been said before but it may bear repetition.

TWO RATIONS ENOUGH

Experience has taught that where vegetables are liberally fed or kept before the laying stock all the time that two rations "per diem" is all that is necessary. If cut green bone is in supply the mash should be fed only three mornings of the week and cut bone in the ratio of one pound to every sixteen hens on the other mornings of the week. On Sunday morning a grain ration may be fed. In most cases the laying stock are overfed with grain. Green stuff, which includes vegetables; cut green bones, or, boiled meat and exercise are the great factors in the winter production of eggs. A great deal too much grain is fed, and if overfed it is more apt to go into FAT than eggs. What is really



MAXWELL (Hillhurst Stallion)

rations are better any other. Even a ration of thoroughly boiled wheat, barley or oats is enjoyable and beneficial occasionally. Boiled turnips, carrots, or cabbages make an excellent combination with ground grain of some sort, for a warm morning mash. It is not imperative that all the vegetable or green stuff fed, should be cooked. It might be troublesome to so have it. But all the unmarketable vegetables in one way or the other may be used to advantage in the henery. So too, all the unmarketable grains may be ground up to be used in the warm morning mash.

HOW TO MAKE AND FEED THE MASH

An easy and convenient way to make the mash is to have a spare pot handy into which the table and kitchen refuse may be thrown during the day. At night or early morning pour some boiling water into the pot and mix into it whatever ground grains are most abundant and cheapest on the farm, until

a quart to every 20 or 25 hens. A farmer's wife who is very successful with her poultry says she feeds half a pail of warm mash to 50 hens in the morning. And she mixes plenty of green stuff in the mash. After the mash, throw a couple of handfuls of grain in the litter on the floor and endeavor to keep the hens in exercise all through the day.

SOUND GRAIN FOR AFTERNOON RATION

While a great deal of unmarketable grain may be utilised in the henery, it need not follow that the grain should be musty or in any way unfit for use. We have used frozen Manitoba wheat, ground up, with good effect in winter feeding. And grain may be small and yet quite sound. The afternoon ration should be a generous one and the grain should be of good quality. It should be fed early enough in winter to permit of the hens exercising in their search for it in the litter on the floor. The object in giving a generous ration for

wanted is a well balanced ration and such a ration embraces all that is necessary to make both SHELL and EGG. In the foregoing no mention is made of grit, dust bath, regular supply of pure water, which are all essentials.

UTILISE THE WASTE

Again let me urge the farmers to utilise the waste of their farms in some of the forms described. Surely it is worth while trying to convert comparative waste into eggs and at a time when they are worth all the way from thirty to forty five cents—and even higher—per dozen? I was very much gratified to see and, I am sure so were you, that my letter in your December number received the approval and endorsement of a correspondent of one of your daily city contemporaries, who heartily concurs in my statements as to the money there is for your farmers in the proper handling of their poultry. And it was all the more gratifying, because the correspondent was thoroughly posted in what he wrote about.