

feathers of the neck were thrown up, and a most gorgeous sight met our view; underneath the dingy brown was a galaxy of colors of the most brilliant hues, equalling the plumage of the humming bird or bird of paradise. We stood for a few moments entranced with the scene, when with the same pectus purring noise and the ruffling of the feathers, the splendid sight faded from our view as the ruff closed again over the neck and breast of the bird. Whether he became aware of our presence and was startled by us, or whether he considered his condescension had been sufficiently exercised to impress the female with his charms, I know not; at any rate, "Come," said Mr. Bartlett, "we need not wait longer, for if we stop here all day he will not gratify our curiosity again."

But perhaps your readers may say, what has this to do with the transportation of birds by sea? Well I confess perhaps not much, only that the conversation on acquiring of such splendid fellows as the Reeves pheasants, and transporting them from the hot climates of India to the humid and changeable climate of England, led up to the presentation of the pamphlet to your humble servant, who believes he is not breaking faith or trespassing on the good nature of Mr. Bartlett by making the means of transportation known to your many readers; some of them may, perhaps, one day feel disposed to make a trial of the means employed. Mr. Bartlett commences his remarks on "The mode of preparing and keeping live thrushes and other birds intended for shipment to and from the colonies." In attempting to carry out this subject the greatest attention to the wants of the birds is essentially necessary to secure success. They must be provided with sufficient good and suitable food, and with changes of food, and also with such cages as may best enable the persons who take charge of them to keep them clean and feed them with the least difficulty. By these means they may be preserved in good health during their captivity. Before obtaining the birds it is necessary to have a small room or aviary prepared for their reception, as follows: Place in and about the room perches of bushes, especially in the corners for the concealment of the wild birds; have a fine net strained over the window to prevent them striking against the glass; let the floor be sprinkled with grit or coarse gravel; throw about the floor fruit (apples and pears, and if decayed the better), chopped meat, bread crumbs, worms, snails, etc.; one or two shallow pans of water must be placed in the lighted parts of the room or diary. One or two thrushes (or other birds) accustomed to the food, will be found a great advantage in the rooms.

To be continued.

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Poultry Farming in Sussex.

Being anxious to investigate, as far as practicable, the conditions which have led to the failure of those poultry farms that have hitherto been established, I embraced the opportunity of inspecting one which was advertised for sale by auction on Wednesday last. It was known as "Byfleet," at Warnham, near Horsham, Sussex. Mr. E. S. Agate, the auctioneer—to whom I have to express my thanks for the unusual facilities he placed at my disposal for inspecting the property—published the following particulars: "It contains nearly five acres of rich meadow land, with the poultry buildings, which comprise an incubating room, fitted with large furnace and hot water pipes, small stove and piping, egg boxes, three incubators, two of which are capable of producing 2500 chickens; artificial mother room, heated with hot water pipes; turkey house, 34ft. by 18ft., with three 60ft runs attached; very extensive poultry house, 111ft. by 27ft., having 26 runs; feeding kitchen, fitted with coppers; cow house for three cows, coach house and stables, &c." In addition there is a cottage residence and productive garden, which, with 300 head of poultry and the household furniture, were offered in one lot.

On inspecting the property, I found that the above description was correct in all its details. The arrangements, however, had evidently been designed—as has usually been the case in those poultry farms that I have inspected—by someone totally ignorant of practical poultry management. The runs, in which I was informed some twenty fowls were usually kept, were about four feet wide by twenty in length, and totally destitute of grass or herbage of any description; and that portion of ground near the house was claimy with the manure of the poultry at large. The vendor of the property was described as the mortgagee selling under a power of sale, without the consent of the mortgagor.

In describing the property the auctioneer mentioned that the original tenant, who had erected the buildings and runs, purchased the incubators &c., and lost a great deal of money, and that since his succession the farm had been carried on by the vendor.

On endeavoring to effect a sale, which Mr. Agate did with much perseverance, not a single bid of any amount could be obtained from any of the company present, although the land was freehold, and eligibly situated, with good frontage to the village of Warnham. The assembled farmers evidently knew the result of the projector's poultry farming, which was very freely discussed and commented on; and they refused to make a bid for land so encumbered by buildings for which they