

ever, it is an exact likeness of this remarkable bird, but not in his best position.

After long experience Mr. James selected the "Essex" and "Drake" strains, as containing those qualities so essential to the breed, and after many years of careful breeding and mating has produced a strain which his numerous successes in the show pen stamps as second to none on the continent. This season Pilgrim has won honors which may be said to place him in the front rank in his class, viz: at Plymouth, N. H., 1st prize, with the almost unprecedented score of 95½ points, by the veteran judge, Mark Pitman; at the great national show, held at Worcester, Mass., where there were 150 Plymouth Rocks in competition, acknowledged to be the best collection ever seen, he took 2nd prize, score 93 points, by B. N. Pearce, lowering his flag for first honors by only half a point; at the Toronto exhibition he again carried off first honors, and was acknowledged to be the finest Plymouth Rock ever exhibited in Canada.

Pilgrim is a large bird, turning the scale at a fraction under twelve pounds, but is so well proportioned in all parts that he does not appear so large, and he is as active as a bird of eight pounds. He cannot fail, with the excellent females with which he is mated, to produce such stock as will give his owner, and those who secure eggs from them, the best of satisfaction.

### Egg-Eating.

One of the most annoying habits that fowls acquire is that of eating their eggs. The long steady winter and consequent close confinement seem to have aggravated the vice this year, as complaints are heard from all quarters. At the present time, when eggs are in demand for hatching, and bring a high price, it is very provoking to find them all going back to the mill that produces them, and a remedy is eagerly sought for.

The fancier himself is often to blame for his fowls acquiring this habit. Hens that are overfed, or not supplied with sufficient lime, are apt to lay soft-shelled eggs, and on these being broken, which they are sure to be if not soon removed, the fowls are sure to try their edible qualities, and finding them palatable, are ever after keen for them. Again, the nests are often arranged so as to be at all times in full view of the fowls, the eggs are not removed regularly, but allowed to remain until late in the day, and the fowls tumble them about until some of them are broken. When this once occurs they are always on the lookout for a second treat at the same place, and in a few days they will discover how to get it by breaking the shell with the beak.

Some claim that the habit can be cured by fill-

ing a shell with a mixture, of which cayenne pepper is the principal ingredient, but it will be found that a hen will learn very little from experience, she is always prepared to risk the hot dose for the chance of the palatable morsel.

Let those bothered with egg-eating hens try the following management:—Keep the fowls busily engaged in scratching among chopped straw, or better, chopped hay; supply plenty of clean, fresh water, old mortar, gravel and if possible, crushed oyster-shell. Give green food regularly once a day. Arrange the nests in a dark and retired place, and have plenty of straw. Put a procelain nest egg in each nest, and gather the eggs as soon after being laid as possible. If you find a hen eating her eggs as soon as laid, kill her at once, as she will never be anything but a nuisance. She cannot be trusted to hatch even, as she will be likely to empty the nest. Even if the best show bird in the flock you should not be deterred from using the hatchet, as her example will do more injury than all the benefit you will ever derive from her in the show pen.

### Gapes in Chickens.

It is much easier to avoid than to cure a case of the gapes. When it is first discovered, the patient is too far gone for any assistance. The outward symptoms are an extending of the neck with wide open bill, a gasp for breath, and when a chick does nothing else all day it will surely die. People of the North have learned to dread this disease, for they have contended with it for years. It annually sweeps away chicks at an alarming rate. Poultry-raisers have also in a measure learned how to manage it. Early chicks are not so much afflicted by it, from the very reason of their having better food and care. Herein lies the secret. The strength is increased, the growth promoted, and the little things out grow it. The distemper is always present at certain ages, but stimulating, heat-producing food masters it and keeps it down and it is not discovered. The chick has it, nevertheless, and passes through it without manifesting any sign, for the strength has been kept up.

Wet, sloppy food is sure to reduce the strength, and the birds sicken of it, refuse to eat and the distemper has its course. There is no remedy or cure after the fowl has been reduced to this extent. There are remedies by which the worms may be removed from the throat, but the chick is likely to die under the operation, or become a poor fowl, hardly worth raising. Fowls have gizzards which grind their food. The sooner young chicks are put on whole grain, either wheat or buckwheat the better. Young chicks should not be allowed to run all day and reduce their strength by fatigue,