

The supply at present is not equal to the demand for them.

For the Poultry Weekly.

The Rayson Floor Not Too Cold.

WELL Mr. Editor, I suppose you have been thinking I had forgotten you and your bright little paper altogether, but I assure you I have not and on looking over it this week I see that my opinion is requested about the flooring I mentioned some weeks since. The enclosed will show you what has been preventing me from writing sooner.

The floor is one highly recommended by Mr. Lewis Wright, and is the best and cleanest I have ever seen in use, but as I have no experience of it in cold climates I cannot speak with certainty on the points raised by friend Peterson.

In England it is reckoned a warm floor, resisting damp and frost well, and common sense teaches us that it would be warmer than stone and perhaps than brick also. The lime must however be well slaked. The clinkers well pounded and the whole well trodden and then I should not be afraid of the result at the North Pole even though I haven't tried it there. But I wouldn't litter it with anything. If served so, half the advantages of its cleanliness would be lost. Leave it bare and you can take up the manure daily with a housemaids dustpan and small hoe, and the most I would do would be to dust lightly with ashes or sand. Anyway try it without litter first. Then the litter can always be resorted to if necessary.

ENSILAGE FOR FOWLS.

With regard to ensilage. In small quantities this can be made very well in flour barrels, or any air tight box with a few small holes bored in the bottom. So nice and sweet does it come out of these small silos, that my dear mother suggested that I might keep fresh vegetables for table use in winter in this way. She imagines Canada to be a little better than the Arctic regions and I have great work inducing her to believe in the lovely scenery and hot summer weather. But that was a little too strong and I declined the suggestion with thanks.

LIME IN THE DRINKING WATER.

Has "Country Chemist" ever examined the water his poultry use? I have heard that story before—in Derbyshire where the water flows through the white lime stone and is as hard as—as a nigger's skull. Lime in some form or another the birds certainly do need, and they mostly manage to get it.

I am afraid I shan't get as far west as Toronto, but if there was a chance of seeing you or any of our poultry or bee friends at Ottawa, I would take the trip up on purpose.

ROBT. W. RAYSON,

Lombardy, Ont.

"The enclosed" is a newspaper notice of our valued correspondent's marriage. We extend our hearty congratulations and most sincere wishes for the happiness and lifelong prosperity of both Mr. and Mrs. Rayson.

For the Poultry Weekly.

This and That.

IT is a pretty safe thing to say, that all disasters experienced by poultrymen are due, directly or indirectly, to neglect. I heard only yesterday a man say (in fact it was said to myself) that he was "going out of the hen business altogether," and was now "going into duck rasing." I asked why. "Well, I set two hens this spring and they both died before their chicks were due," was his complaint. "But there must be a reason," said I; "it is not natural for them to die on the nest." "Well, I guess it was the lice killed them—they were just awful; but I am going into ducks any way." Now reader, is it likely, think you, that our friend will succeed with his ducks. I tell you emphatically, no! and my reason for speaking of this is that so many blame their luck for their want of success. Now if there is a business where luck has no work to do, it is in poultry-keeping. No doubt our friend referred to will pay more attention to his ducks just to prove himself right—that he has more luck with them. I hope he may have, for the sake of the ducks. But it will not be his "fate" doing it, of that he may rest assured. Are you cleaning out your poultry houses, brother poultry keeper? I hope so. And do not forget the perches, remove them and give them a good brushing with coal oil, and also brush the rests bearing the perches, with the same, plentifully too. Another fruitful source of disappointment is, that those who keep poultry do not take the trouble to get the best returns possible for their poultry produce, nor market it in the best possible condition. The ordinary poultry-keeper sells his eggs and chickens at any time, regardless of the state of the market. He don't bother about it. But just as he is about ready to start somewhere, his good wife calls out "just wait till I see if I've got any eggs, and get me sugar for them." Then, with the help of the youngsters, she hunts the barn and stable and