

management of sick animals, tact and judgment are necessary. It would not, for instance, be good practice to lie a horse's head by an open door while a strong north east wind was blowing; but fresh air is even more essential for a sick animal than for a healthy one, always, however with the proviso that draughts are excluded, and that nothing shall be done to expose the extremities, or any part of the surface of the body to cold.

W. R. GILBERT.

The Poultry-Yard.

CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES.

The material to be used in the construction and the manner of building will necessarily be governed largely by the climatic conditions. In general, it may be said that the house should provide warm, dry, well lighted, and well ventilated quarters for the fowls.

In order to meet these requirements it will be necessary to provide a good roof with side walls more or less impervious to moisture and cold, suitable arrangements for lighting and ventilating, and some means for excluding the moisture from beneath. Where permanent buildings are to be erected, some provision should be made to exclude rats and mice, and for this reason, if for no other, the structure should be placed on cement walls with foundation below the frost line. Cheap, efficient walls may be made of small field stones in the following manner: Dig trenches for the walls below the frost line; drive two rows of stakes in the trenches, one row at each side of the trench, and board inside of the stakes. The boards simply hold the stones and cement in place until the cement hardens. Rough and uneven boards will answer every purpose except for the top ones, which should have the upper edge straight and be placed level to determine the top of the wall. Place two or three layers of stone in the bottom

of the trench, put on cement mixed rather thin, and pound down; repeat this operation until the desired height is obtained. The top of the wall can be smoothed off with a trowel or ditching spade and left until the cement becomes hard, when it will be ready for the building.

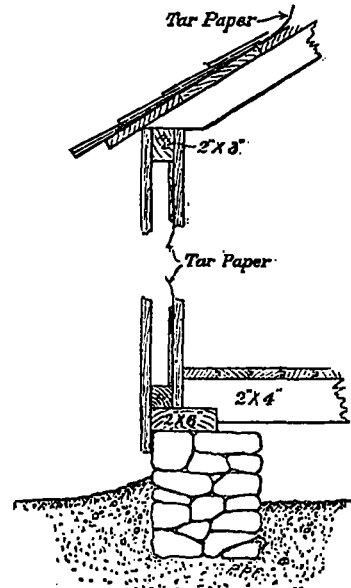


Fig. 1.—Method of building a poultry house with hollow side-walls.

The boards at the sides may be removed, if desirable, at any time after the cement becomes hard.

For the colder latitudes, a house with hollow or double side walls is to be preferred on many accounts, although a solid wall may prove quite satisfactory, particularly if the building is in the hands of a skilled poultryman. Imperfect buildings and appliances, when under the management of skilled and experienced men, are not the hindrances that they would be to the amateur. Buildings with hollow side walls are warmer in winter and cooler in summer, with less frost in severe weather, and less resulting moisture when the temperature moderates sufficiently to melt the frost from the walls and roof of the house.

In constructing a roof for such a house one or two courses must be pursued, either to ceil the inside with some materi-