

## THE FLOCK.

**RAMS AND TEASER.**—Mr. Stewart, who usually writes good sense, for once fails to keep up his reputation when, in speaking of putting ewes to the ram, he advises that the ram should only have a few wives at a time! If he aims at spreading the lambing season over as long a period as possible, thereby keeping the shepherd without proper rest longer than necessary, he is right; but we hold that this intensely arduous season should be hastened over as quickly as possible, and to that end, we should do, as we always did when we kept a breeding flock of 200 Hampshire down ewes, that is, give the ram at once the full number of ewes he is expected to serve.

Our practice was this: about 3 weeks before the season of putting the ewes to the ram, they were hurdled on rape. When the coupling time had arrived, a day before the ram was admitted to the fold, an unfortunate lamb-ram, called a *teaser*, was introduced to the harem, to prepare the sultanas for the visit of their lord and master. In order to prevent the poor wretch from seducing any of the brides from their allegiance, a piece of sack-cloth was sewn on to the breast of the teaser, which dropping over his fore-legs, effectively prevented any saltatory efforts on his part, but allowed him to rove about among the ewes and, by his constant inquisitiveness, to irritate their excitable temperaments. By this means, the females were brought into season with considerable contemporaneousness (Heavens! what a word, but we cannot find a shorter), and the number of ewes served by an active two-tooth ram exceeds all belief. As the brisket of the ram was invariably "ruddled," the ewes served could always be distinguished from the rest; these were removed for a time, and when all were served, the whole were put together again in case any should "return," i.e., come again into season. At the end of the third week from the beginning of the service, the ram was finally removed, so that there was no lingering in the lambing-time, the whole being over and done with in from 21 to 26 days. As we have mentioned before in this periodical, a shearling ram we hired, in 1852, from Jonas Webb, of Babraham, the great Southdown breeder, served 110 ewes for us in one season.

## HOW TO RAISE BROILERS FOR MARKETS AT 10 CENTS EACH.

For many years we have tried to raise broilers for market and think we have had a fair success as well as good hopes for the future, and we wish for the benefit of your readers to let them know how things were done.

First, we had a pretty good stock of imported white Leghorns and Plymouth-rocks; also, some good brown Leghorns.

Secondly, they were well cared for, well fed, and had sufficient ventilation to furnish constantly pure and fresh air.

In all the buildings we had four hundred laying fowls, all being divided, and allowed ten hens to each cock in the breeding divisions, from these hens we had good fertile eggs.

As we could not depend on our good laying hens for the hatching and raising, greatly preferring letting them lay and not losing precious time, we were running only hot water incubators and brooders of our own make, hatching in March to sell them at the age of ten weeks.

They were well dressed, dry picked, weighing about three pounds a pair.

We sent them to a dealer and asked 75 cents a pair; we did not surprise him; he took all we had and asked for more, but at the next market we declined to sell at that