

siderable difference in the number of eggs that the different breeds will lay, as well as of the chickens in each breed. Some hens will lay an egg every day; and others every other day; and others, only one in every three days. The best hens for laying are generally considered to be the dark-coloured, black, brown or tawny russet; the white are not so good. Pullets, in their first year, if early birds, will probably lay as many eggs as ever after; but the eggs are small, and such young hens are unsteady sitters. The best layers are the Poland breed; the Dorking are likewise good; the latter are remarkable for their tameness and good temper, and possess every good quality required in a small stock. Hens are in their prime at three years old, and after four or five years they lay eggs frequently, and cease altogether on becoming very fat; it is not advantageous to keep them after that period. The eggs should be removed each day as they are laid, as they are liable to be spoiled by the warmth of the hen; they are best kept for a short time in bran, with the large end uppermost.—*Pictorial Almanac.*

News.

The next meeting of the British Association will be held at Swansea in August.

A coal mine has been discovered on the banks of the Murray river in Western Australia.

A youth, fifteen years of age, and seven feet one inch in height, is now being exhibited in Liverpool.

The blue cloaks now worn by officers of the army, are to be replaced by grey cloaks with sleeves.

By a notice in the *Gazette*, Berwick-upon-Tweed is appointed an English port from and after this date.

A lady at Ipswich, last week, set her apparel on fire by treading on a lucifer match, and was seriously burned.

The quicksilver mines lately discovered in Upper California are said to promise to be extraordinarily productive.

The *Baton Rouge Advocate* (American) says, that Gen. Taylor has doffed the military cap, and taken to a Quaker beaver.

Many attempts, some of which have been successful, have lately been made to circulate counterfeit sovereigns at Liverpool.

A new London daily paper is to be commenced next month at twopence. It will support the reform movement as long as it lasts.

A few days since, a boy about 14 years of age, who was fly fishing in the river Greta, near Bowes, caught 104 trout, during his day's sport.

It is not unremarkable, as a sign of the times, that almost all the farms lately sold on the Duke of Buckingham's estates, were bought by the tenants.

The Albert cap is doomed, and a helmet similar to the one worn by the Prussian infantry, is to be adopted at the next issuing of clothing, April, 1849.

Not bad for a premier.—Lord John says that if the Protectionists don't like his slave-grown, brown-clayed sugar, they must lump it!—*Puppet Show.*

Two colours taken by the 80th (or Staffordshire) infantry at the battle of Soobraon, in India, have been presented by Sir H. Smith to the city of Lichfield.

We received from Mr. Dent, on Tuesday last, a strawberry weighing 1½ oz., and measuring upwards of eight inches in circumference.—*Preston Chronicle.*

Six Catholic bishops, among whom were the Bishops of Trèves and Liège, arrived in London on Monday morning, by the steamer from Antwerp, to be present at the opening

of the new Roman Catholic Cathedral, St. George's road, Southwark.

Louis Napoleon, one of the French pretenders, is the son of Hortensia Beauharnais, daughter of Josephine, and step-daughter of the Emperor Napoleon, to whom he bears a striking likeness.

Lord Nugent, in accordance with the wishes of his lamented lady, has purchased twenty-five acres of land in the neighbourhood of Weedon for the purpose of allotting them to the poor forever.

An inhabitant of Stourbridge possesses a canary, which having been kept in a cage hung in a yard, mingles with its natural notes the call of young chickens, the clucking of hens, and the chirping of sparrows.

The Newcastle coal formation contains 5,575,680,000 cubic yards, extending in length 23 miles; 28,000,000 tons of coal are annually raised, being 31,000,000 of cubic yards.—*The Trade's Weekly Messenger.*

Pretty certain.—Some thousand insurgents were confined after the insurrection, in the cellars of the Tuileries. We should say that the latter had never contained such a quantity of bad spirits before.—*Puppet Show.*

Some superstitious Parisians have remarked as an ominous circumstance, that the colossal statue of the Republic, erected in the Pantheon, was shattered to pieces by a cannon shot during the late insurrection in Paris.

Rain in May.—The fall of rain in the month of May this year is one of the smallest ever known, only amounting to about three fourths of an inch. In May in 1847, the fall was five and a quarter inches.—*London Weekly Times.*

The *Suffolk Chronicle* reports the moving, at Ipswich, of a two-storied brick house, entire and uninjured, a distance of 70 feet. The building was moved, by mechanical means, along greased timber, about a foot in five minutes.

It is rumoured that, as soon as the works in Holyhead Harbour are completed, the Admiralty intend that port to be the station for the West India mail steamers, instead of Southampton, as being the most central in the kingdom.

Mr. Robert Holmes, the ancient barrister, who bearded the Judges at the close of his client Mitchell's trial, has been twice in prison,—once for challenging a brother barrister, and once for his supposed connexion with the rebels of 1798.

At the time the church of the Vatican was built, niches were left for statues of the popes. All these have been filled except one, and some superstitious people argue, from the sign of the times, that this one niche will be all that will be required.

Among the patients in one of the Parisian hospitals, is a young soldier of the garde mobile, who has not received any wound, but who has lost his sight and hearing, in consequence of the nervous shock which he sustained from the firing, during the late insurrection in Paris.

Anecdote of Goldsmith.—It is related of Goldsmith, whose charity often exceeded his means, that once having visited a poor woman, whose sickness he plainly perceived was caused by an empty cupboard, he sent her a pill box containing ten guineas, bearing the inscription, "To be taken as occasion may require."

The *N. Y. Journal of Commerce* states that in one day Messrs Davidson and Russell drew in at a single haul on the west side of New Haven harbour, two millions of white fish, as nearly as could be estimated, averaging about three quarters of a pound each. The total weight of the haul, therefore, was about 750 tons!

A Sign of Improvement.—A striking indication of the improvement which has taken place in the habits of the people is found in the fact that while the revenue from malt liquors, wine, and spirits, has fallen off to the amount of £1,500,000, the receipt of customs in the United Kingdom upon the article of coffee has considerably increased.