

What Is a good Egg Food ?

PEOPLE want a fixed ration compounded by some set formula, and then put up in bag lots, so that there will be no trouble attending the preparation. They overlook the all important fact that something more is needed than to supply food elements. The very best egg food is exercise. Not that this supplies the system with all that is needed, but it prepares the way for food to be taken with benefit and profit. The more active breeds are always the most healthy and most productive, simply and only because the physical exercise keeps their bodies in a normal, healthy condition, and enables them to store up food for the production of eggs. Activity, then, is one of the essentials in the poultry yard. Of this element there need not be fear of giving too much. Notice how the birds seek grain after grain, always busy always active. We cannot turn our domesticated fowl loose to search after their own living, but we may take a step in that direction and put the food we supply where there must be steady work to find it. Doing this we gain all that is possible, and activity becomes one of the best food elements for the hens. Improved health will give larger production, for everything rests upon the vital energy of the system.—Maine Farmer.

The man who is stricken with "La Grippe" Resembles a rooster with the "pip,"
That is to say he feels cook sure
He cannot crow and such pains endure.
But that's not like the gamy birds ;
Let him brace up with spirit spurred,
And with a "Cock-a-doodle-doo"
Step forth—just wait ! Ker-chew ! Ker-chew !—
Troy Times.

Friend—Well, Mose, I see your fondness for chickens has got you into trouble again
Why can't you steal something else ?

The culprit—Deed, Mar's Brown, I would cheerfully ; but how's a poo' nigger to carry a whole sheep off under his jacket ? Does der law require impossibilities ?—*Texas Siftings.*

It may be, as some persons maintain, that the hen is a splendid example of perseverance ; but unfortunately, she is the kind of example which you can't always set.

A "freak" in Philadelphia offers to wager \$100 that he can eat fifty eggs, including shells in fifty seconds. We'll bet him \$2000 he can't, if he will permit us to select the eggs—*Norristown Herald.*

Have the WEEKLY print your circulars.
It will pay you.



PIGEONS AND PETS.

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The Owl.

NEXT, there is that little gem of a pigeon the Owl—the foreign owl, I mean, for that is the owl par excellence, whatever the fanciers of the English bird may say. There are now two standards for the owls—the one is a highly bred bird, the other just as coarse and ill-bred, and I cannot see the good of keeping it up. Such underbred birds will come in spite of every care from the best strains, yea, more than are wanted, without troubling to breed for them. I remember well the sensation in the fancy caused by a pair shown—I cannot remember the exact date, but must be nearly 30 years ago—at Birmingham or the Crystal Palace by, if I am not mistaken, Mr. Geo. Morgan, of Manchester, who stood high for a short time as an exhibitor of carriers and short-faced tumbler. They were entered in the catalogue as "Booz Pigeons from Tunis," not as owls. Fanciers were so pleased with them that very soon more were imported by the prominent dealers and they soon became extensively known and known as African Owls. The best were all white, some with black tails ; others all blue or black, the latter color often smoky, but good otherwise. The blues I did not admire, for the reason I have always given when speaking of blue generally as a pigeon color. I soon procured a pair through Mr. Fulton—the hen a little beauty, but the cock, as was very often the case, larger and coarser. I bred a few young the first season ; the hen then got into a moping state and died of consumption, no doubt caused by our raw, damp climate, rather than our lower temperature which, I believe, they could have borne in the absence of damp, the young died generally the first winter so I was com-