

The Bloomfield Times.

HOUSE, FARM AND GARDEN.

We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters properly belonging to this department.

Raising Chickens.

A writer in the Boston Journal makes some sensible suggestions in regard to poultry raising, among which are the following:

For early chickens the number of eggs placed under the hen should not be as many as she would cover later in the season.

For winter laying I would sooner trust a Leghorn hatching in May or June than an earlier one.

While sitting, a hen's food should be corn or other whole grain.

If any eggs are daubed with contents of broken eggs wash them with a little warm water, carefully blood warm a little more, and replace them. The pores of the shell must be kept open, as a chicken must have air before it hatches as well as afterward.

When you set a hen sprinkle a handful of pulverized sulphur over the nest. The best food for chicks when first hatched is a hard-boiled egg chopped fine.

After the chicks are a week old, cracked corn is a better feed than dough.

Do not be in too much hurry to get those which you intend to keep upon the roosts. Crooked breasts and legs are often the result of allowing growing birds to roost.

Let the food be plenty in quantity and various in kind, and if you wish to induce them to lay early let it consist largely of meat scraps. Those which you intend to dress for market will do better upon corn or dough, as the meat is not fattening as corn. Those which are kept over winter should have also pounded bones or bone meal nearly every day to help them make a good frame.

Imposing Upon Farmers.

It ought to be unnecessary to warn farmers to beware of traveling patent right agents who are constantly "prowling around" for victims. But it seems that many farmers are as easily tempted as a boy with his first postal currency in his pocket when he sees a confectionary, and they fall a victim to their own greed too often.

Fruit Cake.

Three cupfuls sugar, one cupful molasses, one and one-half cupfuls sour cream, one and one-half cupfuls butter, six eggs one and one-half teaspoonfuls soda, three pounds raisins, one pound citron, two pounds currants, one teaspoonful cinnamon, one teaspoonful cloves, one teaspoonful spice, one whole nutmeg, one bottle lemon extract, flour enough to make a spoon stand straight up.

Cocoa Nut Cake.

One cupful butter, two and one half cupfuls sugar, one cupful sweet milk, four cupfuls flour, one teaspoonful soda, two teaspoonfuls cream of tartar, five eggs, one grated cocoanut; bake in flat tins and put on icing; sprinkle half of cocoanut on the icing and put the other half in the cake.

Two teaspoonfuls of finely powdered charcoal, drank in half a tumbler of water, will often give relief to the sick headache when caused, as in most cases it is, by a superabundance of acid in the stomach.

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