

Duckwings, the finest and evenest markings that can be produced are desirable, yet I would prefer the hen rather bold in her marking, but of very superior shape and style, before the more perfectly marked hen that was deficient either in head, tail, shape of body or carriage.

In Brown Reds, and Piles, more variety of taste seems to be permitted, and I might almost say encouraged, as regards the hens.

Some careful breeders insist upon the Brown-breasted Red hen having an entirely black breast, while others are in favor of what I have described as the standard bird. This latter is more useful as a stock bird for breeding good cocks, and is equally as handsome if not more so, than the entire black-breasted hen.

Of the Piles, some breeders, including myself, prefer the hens with clear white wings, while others do not think them worth exhibiting unless they have the "rose" on the wing.

In breeding Game Bantams, it will be useful to remember that size and shape depend more upon the hen, than upon the cock you breed from; but that color is influenced more by him than by her.

It is therefore desirable to put one of the best shaped, short hard feathered hens, to one of the richest, brightest colored cocks, and not as a rule to breed from dull colored cocks, even if of first rate quality.

In my next I may say a little about breeding for color.

W. F. ENTWISLE.

THE "TOP-KNOT" turkey recently presented by Mr. Wm. Simpson, jr., of New York city, to Mr. W. B. Tegetmeyer, of London, England, was purchased by the former gentleman from a Mr. H. T. Gates, of New Worcester, who had frequently exhibited it at the New England poultry shows and agricultural fairs.

Literary Notices.

THE AMERICAN STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE IN POULTRY. Edited and published by A. M. Halsted, Recording Secretary of the New York State Poultry Society.

In our last issue we acknowledged the receipt of this compilation, which, on examination, we find to be in some respects an improvement over any of a similar kind yet published. In it we find several new varieties introduced, with a description and scale of points given. The total number of points in the scale of perfection is 100, and the least number given to any point is 5; also, the ratio of increase is by 5 and multiples thereof. The compilation bears internal evidence of much labor and careful consideration having been bestowed upon it; and although all fanciers may not be quite agreed upon the descriptions given as necessary to produce the standard bird in the respective breeds enumerated, yet it cannot be denied that great credit is due to the gentlemen who have devoted so much time and attention to the matter, and is of itself sufficient evidence of the interest taken in the feathered tribe by fanciers on this side the Atlantic.

The editor's chapter on diseases, appended, is worthy the perusal of all poultry breeders—especially that on Gapes, a disease hitherto the subject of much discussion and ill-treatment. The theory of the parasite depositing its larvæ in the nostril of the chicken is new, and would seem to be borne out by his own practical experience. Other new diseases are mentioned and prescribed for, among them that of Cholera. We are doubtful, however, whether the remedy recommended in this case will prove effectual, or, indeed, whether the disease is yet sufficiently understood.

The article on Artificial Incubation