

were plentiful, viz.:—a buff ground, patched over with single black feathers, especially in the breast. Legs, white, yellow or carp, and with the exception of the chickens I exhibited at the recent Liskeard show, I have never seen a willow-legged hennie. They are generally full and round in body, and real good table fowls, but being short in leg and neck, are not in cocking parlance topping cocks; consequently are found fighting too much under in a long battle, where their acknowledged desperate heels often stand them in good, but, although the most desperate and fastest leg fighters known at set-to, they die off in a long battle. A cock bred six-eighths hennie blood is the cock known as the long-feathered hennie, which will fight right through a fast, long battle, and come clean out of a terrific struggle for the finish, and such cock is best if one side or the other that he was bred from is pure hennie. One who has written much on game fowls states hennies to be most common in the north (of England). Such is not the case, I think. I have been a good deal in Yorkshire and seen a great many mains fought there, but never a hen cock, and Baily, the greatest cocker in England, told me before his death he had not seen one at the Newcastle pits for years, but had seen them at Chester fifty years before.

There is a breed of Game fowls in Devon known as tassels, but yet scarcer than hennies. The late Mr. Leech told me he recollected them being first brought from Ireland. The pure-bred ones have a sort of double skull, similar to a super on a bee-hive; when crossed with other fowls this curious conformation of skull disappears, although the tuft or topknot of feathers may remain.

Our Letter Box.

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FROTH IN HEN'S THROAT.—(*I. McK, Toronto*).—We have frequently had hens affected in a similar way; we have adopted a process similar to the following. Take the tail feather of a hen, strip it half way down, pass it down the windpipe, turn it round quickly three or four times, and then withdraw it sharply. After this you may insert feathers dipped in turpentine four or five times per day. This will we

believe remove the froth; and two pills of camphor the size of a garden pea each, given for a few days at intervals of twelve hours, will cure. The two pills form one dose. If improvement justify it, diminish the dose half, and if the bird appear well, let well alone, and discontinue all treatment.

CROP BOUND FOWLS.—(*A. Amateur*).—There is a stoppage between the crop and the gizzard, and your fowls are suffering from it. There is no cure till it is removed by opening the passage, then give small quantities of water as hot as can be drunk by the birds without injury. Follow up with doses of castor oil until the functions of the body are fully discharged. You must then feed on soft food, as sopped bread for three days.

BRAHMA'S EYE SWOLLEN.—(*J. K.*).—In any other breed than the Brahma or Cochins the inflation of the skin of the face or lower beak would be a very serious symptom. If neglected it would end in a roup; it is however, of little import with Brahmas. The bird has probably caught cold, and will soon be well. Wash the face morning and evening with cold water and vinegar; give a little stimulant twice per day, such as bread and strong beer, and until convalescence give two pills daily of camphor, each the size of a garden pea.

FEATHER EATING FOWLS.—(*Quebec*).—There is really no cure we know of to prevent hens eating feathers if once the habit is firmly contracted. You do not say if the fowls were kept in a confined space, or had a large range. We judge, however, from the diet given, meat, vegetables, lime, &c., all excellent in their way, that they were kept in a small enclosure—if so, a wider range may effect a cure. If at liberty you are convinced by seeing one pick and eat the feather of another, remove the offender; it is a habit, once taken to, that is never given up. We do not think that feeding on Indian corn would cause it. It is a fat-forming food, and much more likely to cause apoplexy. Wheat is a much more warmth-giving food than Indian corn.

ROUSEN DUCKS.—(*Subscriber*).—All Rouseen Ducks should be the colour of wild ducks, and they are always dark. We consider light plumage a defect, and any white is inadmissible, save the ring round the drake's neck; this should be small, and not joined behind.

FOOD FOR DOVES.—(*D. A. D.*).—Coloured Turtle Doves, commonly called Ring Doves, are best fed on wheat, canary seed, and rarely hemp seed. In cooing, the cock's note is deep and mellow, and he swells his throat, then, rising and taking a step forward or after his mate, he repeats the same gesture and voice.