

Ducks—Aylesbury Drake—1st. Duck—1st. Drake of 1888—1st, Geo Wright. Rouen—Drake—1st. Duck—1st. Drake of 1888—1st, Geo Wright. 2nd, Wm Hodgson. Pekin—Drake—1st. Duck—1st, Ed Birch. Drake of 1888—1st, Ed Birch. 2nd, J O Labelle. Duck of 1888—1st, Ed Birch. 2nd, Wm Hodgson.

## BIRMINGHAM POULTRY SHOW.

### Editor Review,—

Having an off day last week, I ran down to Birmingham to have a look at their fortieth annual show. Forty years, what a change it must mean from the first show to the present one, although the Society is evidently most conservative as Brahma-Pootras and Cochins still figure in the premium-list.

The entries numbered about 3500, only half the number at the Palace, and the birds were penned in a very erratic manner, rendering it quite difficult to follow the catalogue. The judging seemed chiefly to consist of reversing the previous decisions at the Crystal Palace—Canadians thank your lucky stars you have "scoring" and can call your judges to account for their little eccentricities.

The Dark Brahmas totalled 78 and were a good lot especially the hens and pullets, the latter being a very fine class of 27, lights were neither so numerous nor so good, this is a curious reversal of the American state of affairs, is it not? Dorkings had 160 entries divided amongst fourteen classes including two for other than white, silver-grey, or coloured, which were composed mainly of cuckoos, which is a color I must say I don't admire at all. I thought the coloured classes the best especially the cockerels and hens, but the white cockerels also contained some very good birds.

Buff Cochins were a very fine lot all through, in hens I noticed Mr. Procter's team, that struck me so much at the Palace, again to the fore. There were some rattling good partridge Coch-

ins too with perfect pencilling and lots of leg and toe feathering, generally however accompanied by beastly vulture hocks. Whites and blacks competed together, the former being by far the best. The winning white hen was a beauty.

Langshans were poor classes, the 2nd cock is a nice bird and should certainly have had first. The winning cockerel was very large but otherwise not at all wonderful. The Houdans and Creve-Coeurs were very good indeed to my notion but one sees so few in America that perhaps one is rather favorably inclined when one does come across a good lot.

The Spanish I didn't see, partly because I had not time and partly because I don't like them. Andalusians numbered forty-six, the hens and pullets being ahead of the males in quality. Leghorns had only four classes, one each for white males and females and one each for any other color males and females. As might be expected under these circumstances they contained nothing wonderful. The Plymouth Rocks were large classes, except cocks, but were in a miserable light, (as were also some of the dark Brahmas) there were some very fair birds amongst them, mostly darker than we like and they seem bigger than ours. The judge did not seem to care what the hens' combs were like.

Minorcas had only two classes, which however contained several good specimens, notably the winning cockerel. The Polish fancy over here seems to be in the same state as in Canada, *i. e.* there are only a few in it but they are away up in quality. The six classes contained only a couple of dozen birds nearly all of the first water. Sultans and Silkies are two pretty varieties that might, with advantage, be better known across the "pond." Games, the black reds were the sensation of the show, numbering 148, the cockerel class alone having over sixty entries. nt.

Heaton swept the decks and swept them clean too; taking every cup and nineteen prizes out of the twenty-one offered, including all seven prizes and two V. H. C. in the cockerel class. They are really a magnificent lot and wonderfully uniform in type. The brown reds particularly cockerels and pullets, were very good too. I always prefer this color to black red. Duckwings and pyles were much smaller classes but the quality was all there. There were also two classes each of blacks and whites which struck me as a novelty, though by no means an unpleasant one, especially the blacks; the "Old English Games" were so very Old English that if I owned them I'd chop their heads off, they were all ages, sizes, colors and shapes. Malays and Indian Games were good, Aseels not very, I can't see where the beauty of these birds come in.

Hamburgs were very fair throughout. The gold and silver spangled very good, Redcaps had only one class, for pairs any age, with seven entries. Mr. Wragg took first and second with two pairs which might have been equal first. All colors competed together in Wyandottes, some of the golds appeared fully equal to the silvers. I feel confident that gold is the coming color.

The selling classes of which there were twelve, for single males and pairs of females, contained some very cheap birds at their limit price of \$10.

Bantams numbered over 223, of which over 100 were Game, and like their big cousins, first rate, as were the Sebrights, Rose-combs and Cuckoos. The Pekin class contained several nice pairs of blacks as well as the more common buffs, and a good little pair of partridge, the best I have seen of that color, especially the cockerel. These were shown by Entwistle who also exhibited a nice pair of cuckoo Pekins. The Bantam variety class had several pairs of Malays, both white and red, and booted, black and white. Also a grand