

have been very keen. In order that our readers may form some idea of the kind of fowls exhibited, we quote the weight of some of the prize birds as given in the *Journal of Horticulture*.

"Aylesbury Ducks were large and fine, the weight of the four prizes respectively being 18 lbs. 9 oz., 18 lbs. 10 oz., 17 lbs. 10 oz., and 18 lbs. 4 oz. Rouens were again heavier, weighing 19 lbs. 4 oz., 18 lbs. 6 oz., 18 lbs. 2 oz., 17 lbs. 11 oz., 17 lbs. 4 oz., and 17 lbs. 5 oz., respectively. The first prize pen of the latter breed was magnificent.

"The White Geese weighed 58 lbs. 12 oz., and 56 lbs. 5 oz.; the young ones 49 lbs. 4 oz., and 49 lbs.; Grey, 62 lbs. 6 oz. and 54 lbs. 6 oz.; young ones, 53 lbs. 6 oz. and 49 lbs. 1 oz. The first prize Greys were really enormous, as the weight will show.

"The first prize for old Turkey Cocks was won by a splendid bird sent over by Mr. Simpson, of Westchester Farms, New York State. Notwithstanding the voyage, he was in the best order of any of the class, and weighed 36 lbs. 4 oz., being said to have gained several pounds on the passage. The same gentleman was very highly commended for a crested bird. The second prize, 35 lbs. 2 oz. The Young Cocks were 24 lbs. 6 oz., and 23 lbs. 12 oz. Old hens weighed 35 lbs and 34 lbs. Young ones, 31 lbs. 4 oz., and 29 lbs. 1 oz."

We congratulate Mr. Simpson on his success, being, so far as we know, the first American who has successfully competed for prizes at England's greatest poultry and pigeon show. Mr. Simpson also obtained honors in other classes than turkeys. This, we trust, will be an incentive to other breeders on this side the Atlantic to become competitors at future Birmingham Exhibitions.

Since writing the above we have received the following from our esteemed correspondent:—

Poultry to the amount of £895 13s. 6d. stg. were sold during the first three days of this exhibition. The birds (exclusive of pigeons) occupied 2123 pens, and were divided into 97 classes. From the gigantic Cochin to the wee Game Bantam all were in splendid condition and fine feathering. The number of Brahma hens exceeded that of any previous year, and from the constant crowd of enthusiastic admirers round them, it is plain that this variety is becoming gradually first favourite with the public. Among the holders of first prizes for Cochins were—Mrs. White, Sheffield; Mr. Taylor, Manchester; Mr. Chase, Mr. Stretch, and others. For Dark Brahmas—Mrs. Hurt, Derby; Lady Gwydyr, Ipswich; Hon. Mrs. Baillie, Hamilton. Light Brahmas—Mr. F. Crook, Forest Hill, London; Mr. Rodbard, Bristol, and others. Mr. Simpson, of New York, got two third prizes in this class. Mr. Beldon, of Bingley, for Golden Spangled and Silver Pencilled Hamburgs.

I wish I had the pen of Tegetmeier to write you a description of this show, and of the principal points in the prize birds. You have the *points* at your fingers' ends in Canada, but you haven't got the birds, by a long way.

CHANTICLEER.

COL. F. C. HASSARD, R.E.

Many of our fanciers will be glad to learn that Col. Hassard has again resumed his favourite amusement of poultry raising. Ordered from Canada to England last spring, where he remained for a short time, he was subsequently removed to Curragh Camp, Newbridge, Ireland, where he now is. Once settled, he immediately set about procuring his favorite bipeds of the feathered tribe—Cochins—and was successful in obtaining the whole of Mr. F. W. Zurhorst's magnificent stock of white Cochins. These birds are, we understand, some of the very finest specimens of their variety, and are of the same stock of which Mr. Tegetmeier so admirably speaks in his Poultry Book, in mentioning "F. W. Zurhorst, Esq., of Donnybrook, as one of the most successful breeders and exhibitors of these birds."