

THE WHITE COCHIN BANTAM.

BY H. S. BARCOCK, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

SOME years ago the Cochin Bantam was represented in this country by a single variety, the beautiful buff, then called Pekin Bantam. Later on came the white, the black and the partridge.

Whence did the white Cochin Bantam spring?

We breed not only the buff Cochin Bantam but we breed also the interesting feather-legged Bantam, the white booted. It differed from the Cochin greatly in shape, but it was white and it had feathered legs. By and by white Cochin Bantams began to appear. It was not surprising to find that they possessed fewer Cochin characteristics than the buff, that they were deficient in cushion and excessive in tail. They were just about such birds as would result from a cross between the buff Cochin Bantam and the white booted. From such a cross doubtless very many white Cochin Bantams sprung.

But all did not originate in this way. The writer remembers judging the poultry at Augusta, Georgia some years ago, and among the fowls were a lot of buff Cochin Bantams, and four of the handsomest whites he had ever seen at that time. The buffs were good in shape, light buff in plumage, with considerable white in the wings. Upon inquiry it was learned that the buffs were the parents of the whites and the latter were pure Cochin Bantams. These were unquestionably "sports." In the hundreds of buff's which the writer bred he had never a sport, but that fact prove nothing. Here was a clear case of sporting and investigation confirmed the statements of the owner. Some, because they have never had any personal experience with sports, deny the possibility of such happenings, but they deny it in the face of overwhelming evidence. They put their experience against the experience of the world, and it needs not to be said that they are in a woeful minority. These white Cochin Bantams were the best of proof of the power of "sporting" in fowls, for they were Cochins from comb to tail of the very best type, quite unlike the so-called ones which had been bred from a cross of the booted white and the buff Cochin Bantam. But the writer remembers that white specimens have appeared among crows, blackbirds, quails and sparrows, peacocks, Spanish, Hamburgs, Minorcas and other breeds of fowls, and deer and bear and other kinds of wild animals. This tendency to produce Albinoes even invades the human family, and in a certain portion of Massachusetts there is a small settlement made up largely

of Albinoes. In these men the eyes are pinkish and the hair white. It is too late in the day, and the evidence is too overwhelming for one to successfully deny the occasional appearance of "sports."

In these two ways, by judicious crossing and by "sports," the white Cochin Bantam was produced. By the former method probably the greater number were produced. But what matters that now, for careful breeding has given us in this Bantam a perfect diamond edition of the white Cochin fowl—its counterpart in everything but size. And it certainly is a very attractive Bantam—quiet in its ways, gentle and tame, living at peace with all its companions, a moderate layer, a perfect sitter and mother, easily restrained, thriving in confinement, a very good Bantam to own, to breed, to sell.

PROFITABLE POULTRY KEEPING.

BY T. A. WILLIAMS, TORONTO, ONT.

(Continued.)

BY a typographical error in June REVIEW, page 94, eleven lines from bottom of page, I am made to say that the yards were 200 feet long by 40 feet wide. This is all wrong. To explain again, each house of four rooms is built in the centre of a piece of ground 100 feet wide by 200 feet long, the narrow side of the lot facing south, the house is in centre of lot, front facing south; thus the front of house would be 94 feet from the south end of lot, and each end of the house will be exactly thirty feet from the side of the lot, thus:

