

the White-crested Black Polish over all others by an overwhelming majority. The rich, metallic black plumage of their bodies, when in the sunshine, showing all the glancing hues of the rainbow, contrasted with the clear white of their large, full crests, at once claim the attention and admiration of all beholders; and the fancier is constrained to think that in this variety a nearer approach to perfection has been reached than in any other of our thoroughbred poultry.

The history of their introduction into Canada dates back further than that of most of the breeds that are now shown. In fact they were on exhibition at our earliest shows; but the specimens in those days were not much prized by the leading fanciers, and would not compare favorably with the magnificent specimens that now grace our exhibitions.

I believe that Canadian fanciers can now claim to have the very best specimens of White-crested Black Polish in existence; and the honor, also, of having, through years of careful breeding and selection, brought them to such a state of perfection.

The leading exhibitors of this variety in the past have been Messrs. J. Bogue, and Jas. Lamb, of London, and L. G. Jarvis, of Glenworth. The former still giving them much attention, and being the most successful exhibitor wherever his birds appear.

I have found them a hardy fowl; standing our severe winters well, and, when common-sense provisions are made for their comfort, coming out in good condition in the spring.

The hens are excellent layers of medium-sized, white-shelled eggs. They do not commence to lay as early in the spring as some, but compensate for any deficiency at this time by laying steadily all through the summer and late in the fall. They are non-sitters; other hens will have to be depended on to hatch their eggs and rear the chicks. Their eggs are generally very fertile; I have had a greater percentage of chicks from their eggs than from any other variety I breed. The chicks are hardy and strong; growing away steadily under good treatment, and maturing early—two qualities that make them very desirable when required for the table or exhibition purposes. Although they are not a very large fowl, they are very plump for the table, and their flesh is of excellent flavor.

In breeding this variety great care must be taken in the selection of the stock, and one point must never be lost sight of, and that is, to keep up the stamina by using only strong, healthy birds in the breeding pen. Make such selection as, in your judgement, will produce the results desired, always using specimens as near perfection as possible. After many years' experience in breeding them I have concluded that no arbitrary rule can be laid

down for mating; for it is only an experiment after all.

The four principal points or qualities necessary in an exhibition bird, is the whiteness and size of the crest, and the size and color of the body. The body should be a pure metallic-black throughout.

It is very necessary for their health that they should be kept in a clean, dry place, and their run well littered with clean straw. When a grass run can be provided they should have free access to it, and here it is that they show to the very best advantage.

For the Review.

Jealousy Amongst Fanciers.

There is no denying the fact that amongst all classes of fanciers there is a great deal of jealousy. Why it should be so I do not know. I can only speak of the matter as it is, and wish it were otherwise. I presume the reason in a majority of cases why one takes a fancy to pigeons, or poultry, or rabbits, or cage birds, or anything else, is as a means of amusement, and a change or relaxation from the toils of work, or the cares and troubles of business, for although there are many who keep poultry-yards, pigeon-lofts, &c., for profit, many indulge in it as a pastime or amusement, and if in doing so it brings about bickerings and angry newspaper or verbal discussions or controversies, then much better for them had they sought some other means of enjoyment. It seems to be human nature to differ in opinion in almost every topic in life, and amongst fanciers it appears to be more apparent than amongst any other class of people. I suppose the reason for so much misunderstanding amongst them is because everybody is apt to consider his own as the best; we all know how difficult it is to see any other man's thing better than our own. I have known men who were first-class, unerring judges of other people's stock, but when it came to their own their judgement was not worth one cent, so utterly blinded did they appear to be to faults in things owned by themselves. I suppose it is like our other faults, others can see them while we cannot. I do not claim to be a peculiar exception to this rule, for I know many who are like myself; the first thing I look for in any bird or domestic animal I own is its faults; the good points will always show themselves. I do not pass over weak points in anything I have any more than I would if it were owned by another; in other words, when I look at anything of my own I pass judgement on it to satisfy myself of its standard of excellence; I judge it just as if some other person owned it. If I do not do this I am only deceiving myself. I have no doubt it is the want of this principle, or I might almost call it gift, that