



BREEDING PEN LIGHT BRAHMAS.

young duck grows much faster than a young chick and therefore should be fed more liberally, on a variety, as they are voracious and will eat anything placed before them.

Goslings may be treated in the same way as we have recommended for ducks, but it is best to give them as much liberty as possible. All aquatic fowls are fond of grass and are excellent foragers.

The meat of a caponized fowl is sweeter, whiter, and retains the tenderness of spring chicken. Then again, the capon is left to fatten and when the "broilers" cannot be procured, the capon fills the bill. A few months after the operation the bird is about twice the size of a spring chicken, and worth about ten cents a pound more.

The more the Langshans are tried, the better are they liked. A strong prejudice existed against them at first on account of their dark legs, but as sensible people are reflecting that the legs are the most useless part about a fowl, so far as table purposes are concerned, the breed is becoming more popular. The Langshan is a large fowl—nearly as large as the Brahma—and yet the pullets sometimes lay as early as the pullets of the Leghorns. We can put our hands on two pullets that began to lay when they were five months old, and a score that began before they were six months of age. When we say that much in their favor, it is not all, for they lay as steadily after they begin as any other fowls. They are not non-setters like Leghorns, but they do not incline to sit as quickly as the Brahmas, though they make excellent mothers,

and begin to lay again before leaving the chicks. For the table, they are fine. The flesh is close-grained and tender, dresses white, and the body is full, compact, and nice-looking. If there is any one particular fowl that may be claimed as a perfect one, it is the Langshan, but as no one breed answers for *all* purposes, it is safe to say that this breed comes nearer to that desideratum than any other.

The plumage, carriage, and form is simply magnificent. A black in color, the lustre is heightened by a greenish cast that adds a polish and brilliancy unsurpassed. They are beautiful in every respect, and are as useful as they are pretty. One cannot judge by looking at a young chick, what the adult Langshan is. The grown birds must be seen to be appreciated, for the lustre does not fully appear on them un-