

Willson thought so little of previous to the judging that he did enter her in the single classes but only in a breeding pen, and had sold her for \$5.

Hoping you will grant me space in your April number to correct these glaring misstatements.

Yours, etc.,

J. M. MACPHERSON.

Chatham, March 20th, 1886.

Editor Review.—

In the April ad. of Miles and Cooch they claim to have all the prize-winning Dark Brahmas that were shown at Ottawa. Please note that I took second on cockerel and second on pullet (the only Dark Brahmas shown by me) in this class at Ottawa. I owned the birds then and own them still.

Very truly,

R. G. MARTIN.

Marysville, Ont., April 1st, 1886.

GAME FOWLS.

Editor Review.—

The four leading varieties now recognized as the standard, are the Black Breasted Reds, Brown Breasted Reds, Duckwings, and Piles; and of these, the first named are the most numerous.

Shape and carriage, otherwise style, is the most important point in game fowl. The points required are, fine long, narrow, graceful, curved heads and necks; broad shoulders and chest; short bodies, wedge shaped, tapering away to the fine, narrow stern. Short wings, carried well forward and close up to the sides of the body. Long straight legs, standing well apart; long straight toes, the back toe well developed, and flat on the ground, straight out behind, not twisted sideways. The tail carried close and tightly together, at a very slight elevation; not drooping as if spiritless, but carried firmly and gracefully, well back. It should be composed of narrow medium length feathers—and while speaking about style, I would remark that the points specially to be guarded against, are

long and drooping wings, prominently projecting breasts, spread or fanned tails, carried high or over the back, short and broad heads, thick necks, narrow shoulders, and broad sterns, long bodies, short thick legs: these are common faults and should be scrupulously avoided. Color is the point second in importance. Then hardness and closeness of feather; then markings; then size; and of course condition is always of great importance. And this applies not only to the health of the bird, but to the state of its feathers, etc.

I will now describe the color that I consider good.

Color of Black B. Red Cock.—Face, bright red; eye, clear vermillion red; beak, upper mandible, dark brown; under mandible, greenish brown; neck, hackle, and head feathers, rich orange red, free from black stripes; back and wing bow, rich clear bright crimson, gradually shading into orange in the rump hackle, which should correspond as near as possible with the neck hackle. Shoulders, breast, thighs, and tail, bluish black, wing bars, steel blue; wing flights, rich clean bay; legs and feet willow or olive green.

Color of Black B. Red Hen.—Face, comb, wattles and earlobes, bright red; beak, dark brown to match the cock's; head, and neck hackle, golden and black, the gold predominating—each feather having a golden shaft and margin, with narrow black stripes between. Back, wings, and top outer tail feathers, uniform light brown, inclining to drab, very finely and delicately penciled with black, red or yellow markings are very objectionable; the rest of the tail black. Breast, rich salmon red; the centre of each feather one shade lighter; belly, ashy gray. Thighs, ashy gray, tinged with salmon; legs and feet, willow and olive green.

Next the marking of the feathers, and here we meet with considerable variety, even amongst winners of prizes; though in Black Reds the finest and evenest

markings that can be produced are desirable, yet I would prefer the hen rather bold in her markings, but of very superior shape and style, before the more perfectly marked hen that was deficient either in head, tail, shape of body, or carriage.

In breeding Games, it will be useful to remember that the size and shape depends more upon the hen than upon the cock you breed from, but that color is influenced more by the cock than by the hen. It is therefore very desirable to put one of the best shaped, short hard-feathered hens, to one of the richest, brightest colored cocks, and not as a rule to breed from dull colored cocks, even if of first-rate quality.

In my next I may say a little about breeding for color.

C. J. ODELL.

Sherbrooke, Que., March 22nd, 1886.

WE GET HUNDREDS LIKE IT.

Editor Review.—

Enclosed please find \$1.00 for one year's subscription to the REVIEW. I also wish you to insert the enclosed ad. in REVIEW for April, and send me bill for it and I will send you amount.

I am glad to see the improvement you are making in the REVIEW, I think it is the duty of every Canadian fancier to promote in every possible way the interests of the home paper, as no foreign, imported paper can ever take its place, or be of the same benefit to them, and I think we should all unite in trying to make it *par excellence* the Journal for fanciers.

Yours &c,

WM. SMALL.

Listowel, March 19th, 1886.

ANOTHER "OLD HEN."

Editor Review.—

In the March number of the REVIEW Mr. D. H. Price gives an account of an "old hen," and in reality challenges any one to beat it.

About a month ago I paid a short visit to an old friend, Mr. John Dun-