

ly penciled with light brown, of the hens; and the cocks are usually of a redish-dominique. They have all the other marks of the best Shanghaes.—The cocks average from eight to ten pounds, and the hens from seven to eight pounds, at maturity, or at two or three years old. Though the eggs are rather small, the fowls are very prolific, and are greatly admired for their beauty.

"FULLER'S IMPORTATION.—These magnificent fowls are known to novitiates as the 'Marsh stock,' and are fully described under the head of 'Imperial Chinese Fowls,' with the single exception of the beautiful penciling of each feather, as with the touch of the most exquisite master. The dark or green-legged fowls of this stock, are decidedly the best, being of greater specific gravity, of larger actual size, and more prolific. I now speak of the best importation of this stock—that of 1848.

"PERLEY'S IMPORTATION.—These birds are of a very bright yellow, with black tails, and neck penciled with black. They are of a very uniform color, and of greater specific gravity than any of the Shanghae race, though they are not quite equal in actual size to some of the other varieties. The cocks will weigh from seven to nine pounds, and the hens from six to eight pounds, at maturity. They lay a much larger egg than the buff Shanghaes, and are not near so feathery. The hens of this breed are the handsomest of any of the Shanghaes.

"PICKARD'S IMPORTATION.—These birds are perfectly black, though the cocks usually have some chesnut color mixed with red. Otherwise they resemble the 'Forbes' Importation.' They are very handsome, and are much sought for.

"WHITE'S IMPORTATION.—These are the famous 'gray Shanghaes,' but more properly of a dominique, or owl-color. They are not the Brahma-Pootras, by any manner of means, but are uniformly of a grey or dominique color, all over. They are fine looking birds, and have the usual marks of Shanghaes.

WIGHT'S IMPORTATION.—This breed is perfectly white in plumage, both cocks and hens, and are very superior birds in every respect. They exactly resemble the black Shanghaes, with the exception of color.

"DE GRUY'S IMPORTATION.—This is one of the very best importations ever made. The imported cock weighs twelve pounds and a quarter, and the hen eight pounds, though she is yet young, and has not near attained her full size. The color is a bright yellow, and the birds have all the usual characteristics of the best blooded Shanghaes. I think them equal to any I have ever seen. Mr. De Gruy, in a letter to me, on the 10th of December, 1852, in speaking of these fowls, says: 'I consider them extraordinary birds, and the finest, largest, and best ones in America.'

(To be continued.)

A Chapter from Early History.

CHAP. II.—COCHIN-CHINAS. BUBBLE NO. 1.

A public meeting was called at the legislative hall of the Statehouse, in Boston, which had the effect of drawing together a very goodly company of savans, honest farmers, amateurs, poulterers, doctors, lawyers, flats, fanciers and *humbugs* of one kind or another. I never attended one of the meetings; and only know, from subsequent public and private "reports," what occurred there.

On this *first* occasion, however, after a great deal of bosh and stuff, from the lips of young men and old men, who possessed not the slightest possible shadow of practical knowledge of the subject proposed to be discussed, it was now resolved that the name of the (now defunct) association then and there formed, should be "The New England Society for the Improvement of Domestic Poultry"! Now, the only objection I ever raised to this title was that it was not sufficiently *lengthy*! When applied to for my own views on the subject, I recommended that it should be called the "Mutual Admiration Society." But, though I was thought a good deal of by its members,—especially when the concern was short of funds,—in *this* case they thought my proposed title was altogether too applicable; and the original name, above quoted, was adhered to.

I was honored with the office of vice-president of the society, for Massachusetts; to which place I was re-elected annually, I believe, until the period of its death. For which honor I was not ungrateful, and in consideration of which, "as in duty bound, I have ever prayed" for the association's prosperity and weal.

The first name that was placed upon the list of subscribers to the constitution of this society was that of His Excellency Geo. N. Briggs, formerly Governor of this commonwealth. He was followed by a long list of "mourners," most of whom probably ascertained, within five years from the hour when they subscribed to this roll, that causing the cock's spur to grow between his eyes was not quite so easy a thing to accomplish as one "experienced poultry-breeder" at this meeting coolly asserted it to be! How many attempted this experiment (as well as numerous others there suggested as feasible), I am not advised. But I am inclined to think that those who did try it found it to be "all in their eye."

While these gentlemen were arranging the details of the new "society," and were deciding upon what the duties of the officers and committees should be, I quietly wrote out to England for information regarding the somewhat notorious "Cochin-China" fowl, then creating considerable stir