

bars across the wing. The tail of the hen is silver on the outside, the feathers terminating with very large, rich, black moons, the inside of the tail much darker than the outside. The tail of the cock is almost entirely black.

The Silver Pheasants have neat heads and rose combs, with large deaf-ears, which are often pure white. The plumage has pure white ground, with a black spangle on the end of each of the body feathers; the spangles are smaller, not so rich in colour, and seldom so round as in the Mooney; the hackle of the cocks is white, often tinged with yellow; the longest feathers slightly tipped with black. The neck of the hen is white, striped with black, the spangles on the greater and lesser wing coverts forming two distinct bars across the wing. The tail of both cock and hen white, ending with black spangles.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS.

All the four varieties are non-sitters. The Golden Mooneys are the least prolific; the others, where the place is not over-stocked with fowls, and they can have their liberty, lay an extraordinary number of eggs, and are so fertile that every egg generally produces a chick. There is no trouble in attending them when hatching; the chicks generally break the shell in nearly equal halves, and within a short time of each other. Immediately after being hatched, almost as soon as they are dry, they will put out their little neat heads all round the hen. As compared with other chickens, they are restless, nearly always making for insects, requiring but little hand-feeding; and if they have their liberty, and a good grass run, they are very quick in feathering and remarkably easy to rear; but when confined in a yard, or at a place where there is a large number of chickens, they sometimes die off quickly in large broods; at other times they will remain pining about without growing for weeks, and then recover.

IMPORTATION OF POULTRY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF STOCK.

The desire evinced of late years by many of our poultry-breeders and fanciers to improve their stock of fowls by fresh importations from England and elsewhere, is both desirable and commendable. To remove any restriction having a tendency to retard the action of breeders in this respect, or diminish the number of those who would otherwise more freely import stock birds, is a wise act on the part of our rulers. We are glad, therefore, to learn that our Canadian Government have, by a recent order in Council, approved of certain regulations governing the admission of animals into Canada, by which those for the improvement of stock are admitted free of customs duty, on which previously an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent. was chargeable.

The notice giving effect to the order bears date the 1st October, 1870, and runs thus: "Notice is hereby given, that His Excellency the Governor General, by an order in Council bearing date the 26th of September last, has been pleased to approve of the following Regulations governing the Importation of Animals for the Improvement of Stock, under Sec. 4, of 33 Victoria, cap 9.

REGULATIONS.

1. In all cases a certificate of purity of blood, given by the breeder of the animal, and accompanied by a certificate of identification, signed and sworn to by the importer, should be furnished to the Collector at the Port of Entry.

Paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 relate to Horses and Horn Cattle.

8. And any other breed or description of cattle which is not specially named in the foregoing, shall be held to be included in the general description embodied in the Regulation 1.

SHEEP, PIGS AND POULTRY.

9. In these cases a similar certificate