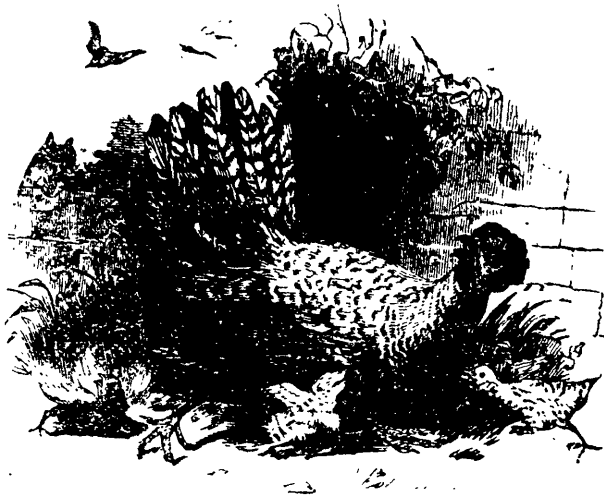


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Domestic Cock and Hen.

Great mistakes. I am very sure, are often made in judging of the character of different animals, from not taking into the account all the facts that can be gleaned in relation to the habits of such animals. I am not altogether certain that our busy, pompous, crowing friend, the rooster, has not been misjudged and misunderstood, from the one-sided view which has been taken of him. It cannot be denied that he struts a good deal, and makes a great boast of his warlike feats, on which account he has entailed upon his race the reputation of being entirely deficient in courage. But that notion is not strictly correct. Instances have been known in which the cock has displayed considerable heroism.

Buffon states that he once saw a hen hawk alight near a farm house, when a young cock, of less than a year old, instantly darted at him, and threw him on his back. In this situation, the hawk defended himself with his talons and his bill, frightening the hens and turkeys, which screamed at the top of their voice. After the hawk had recovered himself a little, he rose, and was preparing to make off with himself; but the cock rushed upon him a second time, overturned him, and held him down so long that he was caught.

One of the most barbarous sports of modern times, is that of cock-fighting. I am sorry to say that it is practiced now, to some extent, in civilized communities. Large bets are made