

COCKERS MANUAL.—Devoted exclusively to Game Fowls. Their origin, and remarks on selection and care of breeders, with Rules for Feeding, Heeling, Handling, &c. Together with Rules for the Pit. Illustrated descriptions of Grafts. Descriptions of different Breeds, Diseases, and their treatment. Ending with "The Standard of Excellence," by F. H. Gray, Battle Creek, Michigan, U. S. Published and sold by the Author price, \$1.00. 1872.

The Title page quoted in full is sufficiently comprehensive to convey to the reader the nature and contents of this work. We are not advocates of breeding game fowls for the pit, nor do we profess any knowledge of heeling, staffing, or handling—much less the rules by which frequenters of pits and cockers generally are guided. The author, however, seems well acquainted with such matters, and no doubt the information given, will be eagerly sought after by those for whom it is intended. The work is not however confined to cockers information purely, but contains short descriptions of all the known varieties of game fowls bred in the United States and Canada—and in this respect is convenient, much more so than the larger work of Dr. Cooper's, from which Mr. Grey makes occasionally heavy drafts. It will be of much use to judges at some of our Poultry Shows where a large number of entries of different breeds of game are made, as a ready reference when any doubt as the variety may arise in the judge's mind—although we are far from saying that his description in many cases will pass unchallenged by a number of game breeders.

THE POULTRY BULLETIN.—The first number of Volume III. of this journal comes greatly enlarged and improved, with a well executed title page. No better indication of progress in

poultry breeding could be found than the support given to journals, whose speciality it is and few better entitled to it than the *New York Poultry Bulletin*. We congratulate our contemporary on its much improved appearance and increased size.

ANNUAL REPORT AND PRIZE LIST 1872, of the Picton Horticultural and Poultry Society, with names of members and office bearers.

Correspondence.

VULTURE HOCKS.

EDITOR CANADIAN POULTRY CHRONICLE.

Dear Sir:—In your article under this heading in the March "Chronicle," you seem to have altogether misunderstood my remarks in a recent paper for the English organ; as you appear to have gathered from it that I consider good leg-feather cannot be bred without vulture-hock. This you consider to be "at variance" with my "already expressed opinions."

But if you refer to my paper again you will find I never said so. I was simply considering a particular case, that of Light Brahmas in England, which at present are almost universally shown nearly bare of feather. This is a great fault, and I strongly advised, as I do so still, to counteract it by throwing in the opposite defect of vulture-hock, which has already been done by our dark breeders with perfect success. My advice to cut the hocks *was* meant simply on account of the effect on the sight and imagination of the hen, as you suppose—and I may add that my experience of every year leads me to take more and more care to avoid any mental impressions of this sort, if I am particularly anxious about the quality of the chickens, though various hens vary much in their capacity of being so influenced, and the greater part are perhaps hardly influenced at all.

In time, no doubt, heavy feather can be bred back, without employing the hock at all; but it is so completely gone in the English Light Brahma that I think it will be a work of time, and I