

known pamphlet advocated the placing of all eggs intended for hatching with their large end downwards. But Mr. Geyelin was ahead of his time; few people paid much attention to his recommendation, and like many others of his suggestions, which were opposed to all practical knowledge of the subject, went unheeded—breeders still stored and packed their eggs in the old way, with the small end downwards.

We have recently obtained more information on this subject, however; whether through the instrumentality of Mr. Geyelin's pamphlet or not we cannot say, but it seems a lady at Wickham Market (England), whose name has not reached us, nearly three year ago wrote a letter to Mr. Wright, the well-known poultry writer, on the subject, which he recently gave to the public after keeping it secret for two years, for the purpose of experimenting on the information conveyed by it. We don't know that breeders will thank this gentleman for withholding such valuable information so long. It is, however, satisfactory to know that the experiments made by Mr. Wright during that period all go to confirm this lady's recommendation. She said, "Keeping eggs on the small end appears to me to cause the air-bubble to spread, detaching it from the shell, or rather from its membranous lining, and after being so kept for a fortnight the air-bubble will be found to be much spread, and the egg to have lost much of its vitality, though still very good for eating." She then described her success with keeping the eggs in the contrary position, saying "Owing to this method of storing, such a thing as a stale egg has never been known in my house; and as regards success in hatching, for several seasons, when I was able to attend to my poultry myself, of many broods set every egg produced a chicken." Such is the testimony of this intelligent lady. Let us

now hear what Mr. Wright's experience was. He says, "After considerable and patient testing of both methods throughout two seasons, I can now say without hesitation that there really is a marked difference between the vitality of eggs kept more than a few days, according to the position in which they are placed. It will be found, as this intelligent lady states, that the air-bubble in one case is much more spread than in the other. This can be tested at once, but of course of itself proves nothing. The great point is—and it is in this way the matter is especially interesting to all fanciers—that eggs are perfectly good for hatching at a month old when stored with the large end downwards; and thus the eggs of valuable birds may be kept till a hen is ready for them, or eggs may be sent from distances which under the old plan would give little hopes of success." This information is interesting to breeders, and ought to be acted upon. The importance of preserving the vitality of hatching eggs is too well known by fanciers, and requires no comment from us.

HAMBURGHS. IV.

GOLD SPANGLED HAMBURGHS.

COLOUR OF THE COCK.—*Comb, Face and Wattles*, rich bright red; *Deaf Ear*, opaque white; *Head*, deep reddish bay; *Hackle*, rich deep golden bay, each feather striped down the centre with rich green black, each colour well defined, and not clouded; *Breast, wider part of Body, and Thighs*, golden bay, free from mousing, streaking or lacing, each feather ending with a round, large rich black moon or spangle, the moons increasing in size in proportion to the size of the feather; *Back and Shoulder Coverts*, rich deep reddish bay, distinctly spangled with rich metallic black, the texture of the feather giving the spangle a starry or rayed appearance; *Saddle*, rich reddish golden bay, each