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GAME BANTAMS.

The fancier of game fowls cannot fail to admire those miniature representatives of his favorite breed, and we often wonder that both are not more frequently bred by the same fancier. We imagine it would be a moment of great pride to the fancier when he was able to show to his friend a fine, high-stationed, whip-tailed, compact, well colored bird, full of courage, and weighing over eight pounds, and beside it its exact counterpart, but weighing only about twenty ounces.

Bantams are not by any means unprofitable to keep, as they lay well, mature early, and their flesh is delicious. They are contented with small range and consume very little food. They are among the very best pets for children, and their care and proprietorship will teach many lessons which will be useful in later years.

Mr. W. F. Entwistle, (in Wright's *Book of Poultry*) gives the following general description of Game Bantams:—

"In breeding Game Bantams, the great points to be aimed at are style, good feather and color. By style we mean general shape of the bird, carriage of its head, wings, and tail. I will take shape ...st.

The head should be very long, narrow, and gracefully curved; the neck long and slender; the shoulders broad and square; the chest broad; the body short and wedged-shape, very fine and small at the tail-roots; the thighs well apart, rather long and well rounded; the shanks long straight and slender; the toes long and well-spread, flat on the ground, the hind toe pointing exactly opposite the middle one, so as to give the bird a firm footing. If the hind toe turns sideways or under the foot, the bird is said to be duck-footed, and is therefore considered worthless. The scales of the legs should be small and smooth, fitting close to the leg. The wings should be short, well curved, fitting close to the sides of the body, not drooping. The tail should consist of narrow, hard feathers, and be carried at a very slight elevation, tightly closed, so as to give a light graceful appearance. A wry-tail, *i. e.*, carried on one side, is of course a disqualification. The general appearance of the bird should be upright, bold and fearless. As regards the second point, good feather, all the feathers should be sound, narrow, hard, and wiry, and lie as closely together as possible, so as to show the