

fluff and saddle, of beautiful sound color for breeding, and having grandly feathered legs. This same bird was placed "sixth" in the cockerel class at Birmingham, and said to be one of the sensation blots of the show. Let it be remembered by breeders in this country that dark spots on the hackle feathers of Buff or Cinnamon Cochins, have been bred out by English Fanciers, and would not now be tolerated in a first class bird, although at one time the exception was the other way.

PARTRIDGE COCHINS.—According to the standard of excellence, Partridge Cochin cocks should be rich deep black on the breast, underpart of body and thighs, but in this respect a change seems to have taken place in the minds of judges in England. The second prize Partridge Cochin cock at the Crystal Palace Show had a deal of brown in his thighs; it is plain, therefore, that judges do not consider this ought to disqualify a good bird, and breeders should note the fact. In hens, color and penciling must be kept steadily in view.

BRAHMAS.—The ever-increasing popularity of this breed becomes more and more apparent at each succeeding exhibition. At the Birmingham and Crystal Palace Shows the number of pens shown was greatly in excess of former years. At the former place, in the Dark cockerel class alone, there were the amazing number of 105 entries, while in pullets of the same class there were entered 74 pens; the total number of entries in the Brahma class alone was 346. In old Dark cocks the same bird secured the cup at both exhibitions, and is said to be a truly grand bird, good in color, shape, feather and size, but it is not said whether with black or mottled breast and thighs. The same remark applies to cockerels. The prize pens of hens at the Crystal Palace were remarkable for their well defined pencillings.

At Birmingham the 1st prize hen was a perfect beauty, the property of Mr. L. Wright, who has had a painting of her made, to be used as one of the illustrations in his forthcoming work on poultry.

In the Light variety we don't think English breeders have much cause to pride themselves. At the Crystal Palace Show old Light cocks were very poor, "being nearly all of a dirty straw color," and at Birmingham the 2nd prize was given to a pale hackled cock. The cup pen of hens at the Crystal Palace were decidedly hocked, but otherwise good; the feathers of the 2nd prize bird had a deep creamy tint, and the 3rd at the same show very poor in feather. At Birmingham the 1st prize hen was also a hocked bird, the 2nd only middling in feather and poor in shape, while the 1st prize pullet had a bad hackle and was otherwise poorly feathered. Neither can much be said in favor of the cockerels. The 1st prize at the Crystal Palace had a slightly, but distinctly striped hackle, the second a slipped wing, with a strong tendency to grow white feathers in the tail, and the 3rd a small bird. Much the same may be said of this class at the Birmingham show. In some respects the Light variety were in advance of the previous shows, but altogether there is still much room for improvement, and English breeders might with advantage import American stock.

SPANISH.—At Birmingham, the Spanish showed a small increase in entries over the previous year, but was remarkable more for the absence of really good birds than anything else, much to the disappointment of lovers of this breed. The Crystal Palace was little better, although it is said some excellent hens were exhibited. It is a subject of congratulation, however, that those monstrosities with cauliflower faces and closed eyes are becoming more rare, and