Toes, straight, strong, and well spread, the outer and middle toes being well feathered.

Carriage: Upright and stately.

THE HEN.

Head: Small and neatly shaped:—Eyes; pearl, or bright red:—Beak; well curved, short and stout, and rich yellow in color.

Comb: Rich red, single, small, fine, low in front, erect, perfectly straight with small, well defined serrations, and free from side-sprigs.

Wattles and Ear-Lobes: Wattles; red, small, neatly rounded, and fine in texture:—Ear-lobes; rich red, well developed and fine in texture.

Neck: Short, carried forward, the lower part broad and full, and clear white in plumage, the hackle-feathers reaching well over the shoulders.

Back: Broad, flat and short, with the cushion rising from the middle thereof, and partially covering the tail, plumage, pure white.

Breast and Body: Breast; broad, full and carried rather low;—Body; broad, round and deep behind, and in plumage clear white.

Wings: Small, the primaries well folded under the secondaries, so as to be concealed when the wings are closed: the wingbows neatly covered by the breast feathers, and the points well concealed by the fluff, and, in plumage, clear white.

Fluff: Very abundant and soft, standing out about the thighs, giving the bird a very deep and broad appearance behind, and, in color, clear white.

Legs: Thighs; abundantly covered with soft, fluffy feathers curving inward round the hock, so as nearly to hide the the joint:—Shanks; yellow, short, stout, wide apart, and well feathered on the outsides, with clear white feathers:—Toes, straight, strong, and well spread, the outer and middle toes being well feathered.

Carriage: Low, with a contented matronly appearance.

SCALE OF POINTS IN WHITE COCHINS.

Symmetry	10
Size and weight	12
Condition	7
Head	4
Comb	7
Wattles and Ear-lobes	3
Neck	10
Back	10
Breast and Body	10
Wings	8
Tail	7
Fluff	5
Legs	7
	100

Comparisons, in size and weight, 2 points to the pound.

DISQUALIFICATIONS.

Birds not matching in the show-pen; primary wing-feathers twisted, or turned outside the wings; twisted combs; crooked backs; wry tails; birds without leg-feathering; vulture hocks; legs any other color than yellow; cocks not weighing nine pounds; hens not weighing seven pounds, cockerels not weighing seven pounds; pullets not weighing five and a half pounds.—*American Standard.*

HORTICULTURE.

The Use of the Feet in Sowing and Planting.

We give our full approval, from many year's practice, to the recommendations contained in the following paper read before the American Association of Nurserymen at Cleveland, Ohio, June 18, 1879, by Peter Henderson of Jersey City, U. S.

It may be useless to throw out any suggestions relative to horticultural operations to such a body of practical men as is now before us, and yet I candidly admit that, although I have been extensively engaged in gardening operations for over a quarter of a century, I did not fully realize, until a few years ago, the full importance of how indispensable it was to use the feet in the operation of sowing and planting. Particularly in the sowing of seeds, I consider the matter of such vast importance that it cannot be too often or too strongly told, for the loss to the agricultural and horticultural community by the neglect of the simple operation of firming the soil round seed must amount to many millions annually.

From the middle of April to nearly the end of May of this year, in many sections of the country there was little or no rain; such was particularly the case in the vicinity of New York city, where we have hundreds of market-gardeners who cultivate thousands of acres of cabbage, cauliflower, and celery, but the "dry spring" has played sad havoc with their seed-beds. Celery is not one-fourth of a crop, and cabbage and cauliflower hardly half, and this failure is due to no other cause than that they persist in sowing their seeds without even taking the precaution to firm the soil by rolling.

We sow annually about four acres of celery, cabbage and cauliflower plants, which produce probably five millions in number, and which we never fail to sell, mostly in our own immediate neighborhood, to the market-gardeners, who have, many of them, even better facilities than we have for raising these plants, if they would only do as we do, firm the seed after sowing, which is done thus: After plowing, harrowing, and leveling the land smoothly, lines are drawn by the "marker" which makes a furrow about two inches deep and a foot apart; after the man who sows the seed follows another, who with the ball of the right foot presses down his full weight on every inch of soil in the drill where the seed has been sown; the rows are then lightly leveled longitudinally with the rake, a light roller is then passed over it, and the operation is done. By this method our crop has never once failed. And what is true of celery and cabbage seed, is nearly as true of all other seeds requiring to be sown during the late spring or summer months.

On July 2nd 1874, as an experiment, I sowed 12 rows of sweet corn and 12 rows of beets, treading in after sowing every alternate row of each. In both cases, those trod in came up in four days while those unfirmed remained twelve days before starting, and would not then have germinated had rain not fallen, for the soil was dry as dust when planted. The result was that the seeds that had been trodden in grew freely from the start, and matured their crops to a marketable condition by fall, while the rows unfirmed did not mature, as they were not only eight days later in germinating, but the plants were also to some extent enfeebled by being partially dried in the loose, dry soil.

This experiment was a most useful one, for it proved that a corn crop sown in the vicinity of New York as late as July 2nd could be made to produce "roasting ears" in October, when they never fail to sell freely at high rates, but the crop would not mature unless the seed germinated at once, and which would never be certain, at that dry and hot season, unless by this method.

The same season, in August, I treated seeds of turnip and spinach in the same way; those trod in germinated at once and made an excellent crop, while those unfirmed germinated feebly and were eventually nearly all burned out by a con-