

vance on last year, when, it will be remembered, there was a very serious decline.

The arrangements of the show were pretty much as usual, except that, as the number of pens was so much larger than last year, more of the gallery was taken up, and none of the ground floor of the main hall, as has sometimes been the case. The pens were supplied by Spratt's Patent, and the arrangement as good as can be effected in so restricted a place. Drewitt and Bastock were busily engaged in looking after the comforts of the birds, which were well attended to. Jeyes disinfected the show with their well-known preparation.

Dark Brahma Cockerels were about the same number as at the Palace (17), but were still a rather weak lot. Light Cocks were a strong class of 20. Cockerels were a very good class of 30. Dark Hens had an average class of 19. Pullets, a long class, but not a strong one. Light Hens were a good class of 17. Pullets were 30 in number, but many of them weak in hackle. The average of color is, we think, better than in former years.

Dorkings are not as numerous at Birmingham as we once remember them, but they are much better than they were five or six years ago. Several years of consistent judgment in favour of the real Dorking type and characteristics have not failed to show exhibitors that it is now useless to send the dark-footed leggy mongrels which for some years won. Silver-grey Cocks were a poor class.

Cochins were hardly up to the average in pint of quality.

Langshans.—The Langshan classes were rather more numerous this year than last, the figures being 52 against 43, but the quality was not at all good.

French.—The French classes were rather more numerous than last year, but this was mainly in Houdans. The quality was, on the whole, fairly good.

Spanish were a decided improvement on last year, the numbers being 56 and 35 respectively.

Andalusians came out well for this variety.

Leghorns were also better in numbers than last year, but though there were several good birds, there is great room for improvement. The average quality was not high.

Plymouth Rocks, as usual, came out well, numbering in the four classes 108 entries.

Minorcas had two classes, in which were 29 entries.

Polish fowls were provided with 12 classes, with 89 pens.

Game fowl, as usual, one of the most attractive features of this show, and on the present occasion their entries exceed 460. The quality generally is very high.

DUCKS, GEESE, TURKEYS.

WATERFOWL, TURKEYS, &c.—The classes for waterfowl were neither well-filled nor well represented; there were a few good birds, but very different to what we have seen at former exhibitions at Bingley Hall. This is to us somewhat unaccountable, as the classes are well-arranged, and the prizes fairly good, and cups in several classes. In Ducks the Aylesburys were such indifferent specimens that the judge—M. J. K. Fowler—could not conscientiously even give a commendation.

The Pekins were more numerous, amounting to 17 pens. They were far below the average to what this most valuable duck has often been shown; and the color, except in one instance, was too white.

The Geese were only moderately good, the great weights of former years not having been attained, neither were the specimens of that decided character which on many previous occasions had been so often noticed. The cup went to a pair of good White Embdens, only weighing 48 lbs. 14 oz.; the second weighed 43 lbs. 8 oz.; and the third, 42 lbs. The Toulouse were handsomer than the Whites, but did not reach

the weight of the latter—the first prize scaling 47 lbs., the second 42 lbs., and the third 43 lbs.

The Turkeys were a grand class, Mrs. E. Williams gaining the cup with a splendid cock bird, weighing 35 lbs. 12 oz.; the second weighed 35 lbs. (Mr. Kendriok), and the third 32 lbs. The birds of this year were excellent, Mr. Kendriok winning the first with a bird weighing 27 lbs. 6 oz. The first-prize and cup Hen scaled the enormous weight of 30 lbs. Altogether the Turkeys made up for any deficiencies of the Waterfowl. Before the Prince left the show he purchased considerably of Waterfowl.

WEIGHTS OF WATERFOWL.

Ducks.—Aylesburys.					
	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885
	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.
1 ..	20 9	20 4	21 11	22 0	—
2 ..	19 4	19 0	20 11	19 4	—
3 ..	19 0	—	—	—	—
Rouens.					
1 ..	22 8	21 4	22 2	22 4	19 0
2 ..	21 7	20 0	22 0	21 8	17 0
3 ..	20 1	19 8	21 3	20 8	16 0
4 ..	19 4	18 10	—	—	—
Pekins.					
1 ..	13 10	14 12	15 12	17 0	14 0
2 ..	13 12	15 0	15 0	14 8	17 4
3 ..	13 4	14 8	14 10	11 8	14 4
Geese.—White.					
1 ..	44 4	46 12	47 4	48 12	48 12
2 ..	44 0	45 4	47 2	42 14	43 8
3 ..	—	—	—	—	42 0
Grey.					
1 ..	37 8	45 4	50 9	49 0	47 0
2 ..	37 0	45 0	44 4	42 0	44 8
3 ..	36 0	40 4	41 8	39 10	43 12
Turkeys.—Old Cocks.					
1 ..	38 2	38 8	37 8	34 4	35 12
2 ..	38 0	38 8	37 0	30 12	35 0
3 ..	36 4	36 12	32 4	30 8	32 0
Young Cocks.					
1 ..	23 14	26 8	26 0	28 12	27 4
2 ..	23 0	26 0	25 12	28 8	26 0
3 ..	22 12	25 8	25 4	26 4	25 8
Hens.					
1 ..	22 0	22 4	24 12	26 0	30 0
2 ..	20 12	21 4	23 8	23 8	20 8
3 ..	19 14	20 12	23 4	23 8	21 10
Poult.					
1 ..	16 12	17 4	19 0	18 14	17 8
2 ..	16 10	17 0	17 12	16 14	16 0
3 ..	15 14	16 8	17 4	16 14	15 0

DE OMNIBUS REBUS.

Box 23, Sorol, Que., December 3rd, 1886.

Prickly Comfrey.—In spite of every thing this much abused plant does not seem to be absolutely extinct. Mr. James Howard, in the Journal of R. A. Soc. of England, says that even well-fed pigs are exceedingly fond of comfrey, and that it is the best green food for them. I wish Mr. William Hale, of Sherbrooke, who, I know, has grown it for at least ten years, would let me have his opinion of this plant. As to its yield, that has long ago been proved to be