Sheep and Clover.

These we believe to be the two great agencies that are to revolutionize Southern agriculture, and the one is the compliment of the other. Sheep will enable us to grow clover; clover will help us to keep our sheep in fine condition; and both together will work something almost like a miracle on our worn-out plantations. But what about the dogs and the freedmen? we are asked by those who have lately put this question to [illegible] wool-growers in Abbeville County, and the reply is that, with proper management, there is little or no danger from either mischievous negroes or worthless dogs. The sheep are penned at night, and during the day they run in their pastures with [illegible] disturbed by anything. Dependent upon, for its [illegible] portion of our middle and upper [illegible] sheep and clover are the magic words of the new era of Southern agriculture.—*Rural Carolinian.*

Dorkings [illegible] Lady [illegible] read before the [illegible] Club [illegible] the [illegible] of 1,250 [illegible] to New York:

Freight to N. York	$2 [illegible]
Hay, straw and [illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] to New York	2 [illegible]
Shipper's expenses, [illegible]	[illegible]
Loss in weight, [illegible]	6 75
Commission for sale	6 00
	[illegible]
Net cost, 1,000 pounds [illegible]	[illegible]
	67 00
Gross	
[illegible]	77 00
Profit	$10 00

"The cattle must be well fattened and the best [illegible] to bring the price. [illegible] allowance will have to be made [illegible] to 1,000.

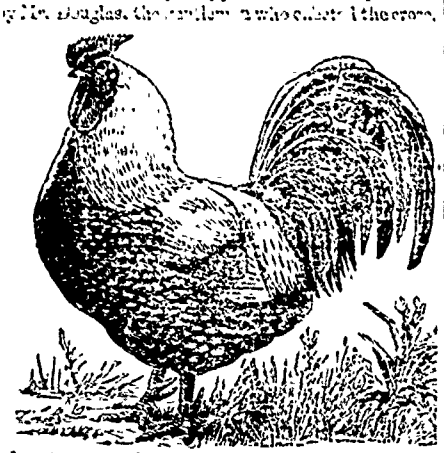
SHOEING JAPANESE.—In place of iron shoes, the horses are shod with straw ones, which scarcely last longer than a day, and are then thrown away to be replaced by fresh ones. Herds and flocks are not common in Japan. This is readily accounted for by the fact that the people live chiefly upon fish and vegetables, and their garments are either cotton or silk. In addition to cats and dogs, the only domestic animals [illegible] by the Japanese are horses and horned cattle. The horses were originally brought from the Corea, and are larger and stronger than those of China; they are docile but timid, and quite useless for cavalry. They feed exclusively upon rice-straw in place of grain; their hoofs wear away so rapidly that the best horses are useless after their sixth year. In 1870 the whole number of horses in the empire amounted to 550,000, and the number of oxen was reckoned at 660,000 head. The latter are indispensable to the cultivation of rice, and are also frequently used as pack oxen. Cows' milk is shunned as "white blood," and the Japanese are consequently unacquainted with butter or cheese. Asses are rare, and goats and pigs are only to be found in the ports frequented by Europeans.

COMPANIES' CHARTERS.—We believe that the farmers of the North West, [illegible] stock-raising in some one and generally several of its branches a part of their system, [illegible] would permanently succeed. That the raising of [illegible] horses, cattle, sheep, swine, or poultry may be made profitable in the North-West; that "good" stock will pay better than poorer stock; that care is best for [illegible] with reference to the development of certain characteristics will more [illegible] transmit these characteristics to their offspring; that animals with simply an accidental descent out of the same kind, hence that a thoroughbred bull will be more apt to produce race-horses, a Berkshire boar to produce good animals for beef, a Cotswold ram to produce large mutton sheep, or a Merino to produce fine wool; an Essex boar to refine coarse hogs, than would male animals of "no breed." We believe that in this, as in any other branch of farming, farmers may be extravagant, and that the ordinary farmer will be thus extravagant, if he pay $1,000 for a bull, $200 for a ram, $100 for a boar, or $25 for a cock. We believe that farmers in the North-West can obtain animals of almost any desirable breed for prices which they can afford to pay, and which will be repaid to them by the improvement in their stock. We believe that neither "common" nor "improved" stock can be profitably raised in the North-West without good care; that "blood" will not supply the place of good care, nor will good care supply fully the place of "good blood."—*Western Farmer.*

Poultry Yard.

Colored Dorkings.

Having treated of the general characteristics of Dorkings we will now describe that known to breeders as the colored variety, and here let it be remarked that the colored bird of the day as shown at English Exhibitions is a much larger and darker fowl than its progenitor the speckled Dorking. It is stated on good authority that this change both in size and color was brought about by a cross with Indian birds of Malayan type, but this is repudiated by Mr. Douglas, the breeder who effected the cross.



who stated that his model bird was a single combed Dorking; without the least trace of Malay about him, admitting, however, that he was brought from India. In choosing stock birds care must be taken to select none but good sound-feathered birds, possessing great length and depth of body, with good broad shoulders and breast, and with a long breast bone. The head large but not coarse, to correspond with the size of the body. The feet should be five toed, the extra toe distinctly separated from the others; the toes long and well spread out. The thighs well developed, the legs straight, stout and free from feathers. The tendency in Dorkings to grow heavy in size and

character, doubtless, chiefly attributable to too close inter-breeding must be carefully guarded against; a judicious system of crossing should therefore be adopted. Birds of good constitution and in the best of health must also be selected, weakly chickens can only be expected from sickly stock, and for this purpose it is perhaps better to breed only from adult birds, say of two years old.

The most preferable color of stock birds is dark in feather but showing a bright shaft nearly the whole length. The hackles of the cock should be very dark, and white in the tail should be avoided as far as possible. The male bird should be descended from the same stock as the females, and may be either rose or single combed, but if the two strains are allowed to intermingle, irregularity in the chickens will, of course, be the natural result. The rose-combed birds have a great tendency to become very coarse about the head in their second year, which as Exhibition birds detracts greatly from their good looks, yet by careful breeding this may be eradicated. In the hen the head is salmon-red, each feather tipped with gray or black; the wing feathers black round the edges, with a rich brown centre pencilled or shaded with black, and the back and saddle almost black, all the feathers except the breast showing the white shaft very distinctly. Another strain of the colored Dorking hen is also frequently exhibited, having a plumage all over like that of the wing feathers of the hen just described, but of a still lighter brownish gray in the centre, and showing the dark having round the edges rather more sharply, and the cocks of this latter colored strain have generally rather clearer colored hackles than the former, though with a much more brilliant black stripe in each feather, and are not quite so subject to white in the tail.

Colored Dorkings are rarely good layers—but as sitters, perhaps they are the best of all fowls—on a dry soil with a good warm aspect, their run well sheltered, they may do tolerably well; cleanliness however is one of the great secrets of success in the variety, which must be strenuously enforced if success in breeding is to be accomplished. Dorking chickens are extremely rapid in their growth and fast fledging, much more so in the latter respect than either the Brahma or Cochin. If reared in confinement they should be well supplied with a dust bin, otherwise they will soon become like all quickly feathered chickens infested with lice. Dorking chickens ought to be fed chiefly on soft food mixed stiff and not watery; being chiefly a table fowl the principal object to be obtained is size and weight, neither of which can be produced unless liberally fed when young. If in confinement, the first meal in the morning in cold weather should be oatmeal boiled into a stiff porridge the previous night, made into round balls by the addition of more meal so that when thrown upon the ground will crumble; their mid-day feed may consist of boiled Indian corn meal or barley meal, and in the evening chopped grain or wheat screenings, occasionally a little meat should be given them, when very young they should be fed often during the day. Egg custard and spiced foods have been discarded by some of the best breeders as wholly unnecessary, creating a pampered appetite injurious rather than beneficial to their growth, a little hemp seed and buckwheat may be given with success. Over-crowding should be avoided, as Dorkings suffer from it more than any other bird, especially when about two or three months old. A judicious cross will be a great benefit, the introduction of "fresh blood," occasionally being more necessary than with other breeds. In the case of farm or market stock color is of no importance, and crosses may be freely used, only taking care that every cock purchased be a measure and thoroughly healthy bird, but in breeding for exhibition, of course, care must be taken that the birds must be descended from similarly colored parents to the birds it is desirous to recruit.

The Poultry of 1872.

In the concluding paper of this series Mr. Wright continues, "I can say little about the Game class, except that they have well held their own; more they could hardly do, considering the perseverance to which years of close competition have brought all the main colors of this noble breed. I have already remarked that the Brahmas have beaten every breed of late in point of mere numbers; but it must still be said that in no variety are there such a number of