

breasted Reds, Dark Greys and Dark Birchens to the Brown Reds, and the lighter colors such as Piles to the Ginger Reds. The Brown Red color prevails the most in crossing, and the Black-breasted Reds is the next in general.

Eggs laid in March will as a rule produce the most cock chickens, especially if first strings or clutches of eggs after moulting. Eggs laid in the warmer and softer months produce most pullets. Dark Greys and Brown Reds will throw most cock chickens and the fewest pullets, and the willow-legged Black-breasted Reds, and the yellow or daw-eyed sorts throw most pullets and fewest cocks in proportion. The other sorts are intermediate between these in this respect. Black-eyed and red-eyed breeds, produce most cock chickens. I have now been sufficiently prolix I believe on the subject of breeding.

When crossing colors, in breeding in the following cases, the hens will prevail more than the cocks:—1st. When there are more than six hens to each cock. 2nd. When the hens are dark, with dark legs, and the cock light. 3rd. When the hens are full grown and the cock not full grown. Also, in breeding, game from hens with a barn-door cock, the progeny will be "Gamer" than if breeding from a Game Cock with barn-door hens. The fighting properties, are, however, inherited more directly from the cock than from the hens in breeding Game fowls together, which made the best breeders for the pit in general more careful of their best brood cocks than of their brood hens. In all animals of both sexes, those taking most after their sires are considered to be both the strongest and the most spirited—as a rule.

Breeding from fowls not full grown is a great mistake, as even if they produce quicker birds, which some say, though contrary to my own experience, they at any rate produce weaker, and smaller, and softer birds in both flesh and bone.

In crossing light and dark colors together, it is well known in all animals that the darker colors must gradually prevail, and eventually absorb the lighter colors, and that the only way to prevent or retard this is, to keep most of the males of the lighter colors, or to have all strong vigorous males of the

lighter color. Dark colored animals are generally the strongest; Dark Brown or Dark Grey Birds, more especially so. In changing brood cocks in crossing from Brown Red to Black-breasted Red, for instance, it will alter the tinge of color in the eggs of the hens, the Brown Red Cock inclining them to lay a white egg, while the red-eyed Black-breasted Red Cock will make their eggs of a pinkish tinge, though not so much so, with Brown Red hens. A yellow or daw-eyed brood cock will cause yellowish-tinged eggs in like manner. If the brood cock does not influence all qualities, he is never a first-rate bird. Some say the cock influences color and the hen shape, others that all external qualities are from the cock, and all internal qualities from the hen. I am certain that good cocks influence all properties more in all respects than the hens ever do.

Pigeons.

THE NUN PIGEON.

This variety is a general favorite among Toy fanciers, and on account of its hardness and docility it is particularly suitable for the novice. It soon accommodates itself to its surroundings, breeds well, and seldom fails to rear its offspring; consequently Nuns are very useful for nurses, but when they are highly bred they are not so reliable in this capacity.

The chief attraction in a Nun is usually considered to be the perfectness of its markings, and a too-close attention to this has prevented their being bred to a high standard in other points, which adds so much to their beauty. The result of breeding for feather only, has more particularly caused the breed to deteriorate in form and carriage, and to become close and large.

The Nun should be very merry, small and neat. Very little larger than a Tumbler. The shape should be elegant, and the carriage sprightly. Whatever the colour, it should be deep and rich, with the tail of one uniform shade and of equal depth and richness as the head. In all Nuns the feathers of the head, veil-flights, and tail, with the upper and under tail coverts, should be of one