

"mongrels," and occasionally the Egyptian goose is bred solely for ornamental purposes.

TOULOUSE.

This breed takes its name from one of the cities in southern France, although it was from Marseilles, a city in the south east of France, that this goose was first imported into England. It probably reached this country at a later date than the Embden or Bremen and African or Hong Kong breeds, as a prominent poultry judge in a personal letter states that he saw both those breeds at exhibitions at an earlier date than the Toulouse.

This goose is massive in appearance and has probably reached a greater weight than any other variety—60 pounds per pair having been recorded at an American exhibition. It matures more slowly than other varieties, and in order to look well when dressed requires to be well fattened, so as to fill out the loose skin forming the abdominal pouch which characterizes this breed even when a few weeks old. When pure bred they are better for the Thanksgiving and Christmas trade than for dressing as "green geese" at twelve weeks old, but crossed with the Embden or African breeds they grow more rapidly and mature earlier. Toulouse geese usually lay more eggs in a season than Embden or African geese, but not as many as the best China geese. They are nearer non sitting than any other variety, but some individuals make good mothers. The goslings are greenish yellow in color, generally hardy and vigorous. They are quiet and peaceable, and more easily confined by stone fences than other breeds, and would be more likely to be contented in close quarters. Toulouse geese are gray in color, with a square massive body, carried fairly horizontal, the abdominal pouch, or loose folds of skin between and behind the legs, almost or quite touching the ground. The shoulders should be broad, the neck medium in length and moderately stout, the head and bill strong and presenting a fairly uniform curve over the top to the bill, which is reddish with a whitish or flesh colored nail at the extremity. The eye is brown or hazel, the rim usually the color of the bill. The throat has a fold of pendant skin known as a "dewlap," less prominent, however, than in the African. The feathers of the neck are decidedly curled or twilled from the head toward the shoulders. The head, neck, back, and thighs are a dark gray

shaded with brown, breast gray, but gradually shading into white at the abdomen, which color extends to the tail. The tail is white, with a band of gray across the center of the top. When viewed squarely in front little, if any, white should be seen, and the breast should be broad and full. The legs are rather short, stout, of a deep reddish orange color, and placed well apart. The gander and goose are exactly alike in feathering and color, and it is often difficult or impossible to distinguish the sexes by appearances only. Standard weights are, for adult gander, 25 pounds, goose, 23 pounds; young gander, 20 pounds; and goose, 18 pounds.

EMBDEN.

In size, for exhibition purposes, this variety must be the equal of the Toulouse, although 54 pounds per pair is the highest American record of weights of which we have knowledge, but Felch says. "fully one third the exhibitions show Embdens of greater weight than the Toulouse, and we are of the opinion that the Toulouse is susceptible to greater growth for extra care, while the Embden is better grown under neglect."

The Embden considerably resembles the Toulouse in form, having descended without doubt from the same parent stock, but must be pure white in surface color. It has the same decidedly curled or twisted appearance of the neck feathers, but the abdominal pouch is but slightly developed, as compared with the Toulouse, consequently, the body of the bird appears a little higher from the ground. The neck and head should be of fair size, avoiding a small or snaky appearance. The American Standard color for the bill is a flesh color, but there is often an inclination to orange—the color of the legs, and the English Standard requires the bill to be "rich orange" in color. The nail at the end of the bill is nearly white, as also the claws. The eye is bright blue, and the rim the color of the bill. These geese are inclined to lay a little earlier than the Toulouse, and their eggs average a trifle heavier, but they do not lay quite as many eggs and are much more persistent sitters. They make excellent mothers. The goslings when hatched are of a rich yellow color, which changes to white as the quill feathers grow. They are generally hardy and grow rapidly, their perfectly white color makes the dressing of them as "green geese" an easy matter as