



Andalusians.

These fowls come, as their name implies, from Spain; the first being brought into Portsmouth in 1851. Since then they have undoubtedly been crossed with other breeds, probably the Black Spanish, to which no doubt is due the frequency with which black chickens are bred from blue stock.

We have often wondered at the rarity with which one sees this breed in the States and Canada, for in England they are well known, and thoroughly appreciated for their useful qualities, as well as for the beauty of their plumage, and their elegance of form.

In general appearance and shape, they are very similar to the Black Spanish, although somewhat heavier-bodied and lighter combed. Their color is blue or slaty-blue, generally laced with black; the weight of the cocks is seven or eight pounds, that of the hens five or six pounds; the comb is upright and

evenly serrated in the cock, in the hen it usually falls over; the face is bright red, the earlobes pure white.

They do not breed very true to color; white, black, and every shade of blue appearing occasionally in the same brood; there is also a species of Silver Pile which is very beautiful, but not at all common.

They are a first-rate table fowl, and as chicks are extremely hardy, and in precocity are unexcelled even, perhaps, by the Leghorn; the pullets often commencing to lay at four months old. They lay a large white egg and lay a very great number, being particularly adapted for small and confined runs; in fact we do not consider we are exaggerating when we say that they combine the good qualities of both Spanish and Leghorn.

We hope to see this variety more cultivated by our Canadian fanciers in future, as it only requires to become known to be popular.