

the outline of the feather, of black or a darker shade than the body color. The hackle is silvery white sharply striped with black, or penciled as on body, and the tail black or black edged with gray.

Light Brahmas have in both sexes a silvery white color almost throughout the plumage, the black seen thereon being small in comparison with the white. The neck hackle is striped with black, the striping being more dense at the lower part of the hackle; the wing primaries are black, or black edged with white, the secondaries white on outside web, and black on part of inside web; the tail is black, and the tail coverts glossy black, the two upper ones laced with white; the leg feather is white, or black and white mixed. Brahmas as a rule are good winter layers, and make large table fowls, though the flesh is too much on the thighs. They are admirable for crossing to secure size and stamina. In economic qualities we think the light variety is the better.

It will be seen that there is a very decided difference between the English and the American Brahma, and I am inclined to think that for useful purposes the latter is the better. In this country a great mistake has been made in breeding too much for feathering. The defect so far as the appearance is concerned is an improvement, and I take it that the English Brahma is a handsomer fowl than is his American cousin, the hocks and foot-feather giving a completeness to the conformation, but this has been at the expense of the economic qualities. The Brahma is not so good a table fowl as he once was, and the heavier the foot-feather the worse are the laying powers. It is for this reason that I believe Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes are fast taking the place once held by the Brahma, and it can no longer claim to be the premier breed of poultry. As already stated, the light variety has

uffered least in this respect, for it has not had to stand the strain put upon the dark by the mania for penciling in the hens which raged a few years ago. STEPHEN BEALE. *H—, England.—The Cultivator and Country Gentleman.*

A CORRECTION.

Editor Review:—

You made a mistake in the receipt I recommended Mr. CAST to use for sore eyes in fowls. You have it *give* sulphate 5 grains; should read *zinc sulphate* and tincture *opii*. Please correct or he may use some other kind of sulphate which would be injurious.

Yours truly,

T. H. SCOTT.

St. Thomas, July 4th, 1888.

BREEDS OF GAME FOWLS.

GAME fowls are always popular, their beauty and courage winning them hosts of admirers. There are also many old followers of cock-fighting, who now have a strong affection for the various breeds, and in memory of the past still keep Game fowls, though they are happily no longer permitted to fight them. Some of those votaries of the cock-pit have transferred their energies to the breeding of show birds, and are almost the most successful exhibitors. It is to be noted that there has been a great change come over the type of Game fowls, and old breeders are often very strong in condemning the modern birds. In order to preserve the old type a club has recently been established, the object of which is to secure classes at shows for the old English Game fowl, and thus to encourage the breeding of it.

Aseels.—This is a variety which has been brought over to this country from India, where there is a considerable amount of cock-fighting carried on.

They are small as compared with our Game fowls, are very muscular, and intensely pugilistic, for which reason they are kept by very few persons. They are of no very certain colour, but the plumage is usually very rich and glossy.

Black Game.—The introduction of the modern show system has had the tendency to restrict the number of colours to those which were the most popular, and this has led to the extinction of some varieties. At one time blacks were not at all uncommon, but until very recently they were scarcely ever seen for a considerable number of years.

There has, however, been an attempt to revive the variety, chiefly due to the efforts of Mr. E. Cambridge Phillips, F.L.S., of Brecon, and some very fair specimens have been exhibited.

Black-breasted Reds.—This is usually regarded as the chief of all the Game varieties, and it generally occupies the premier position at shows. First-rate specimens have sold for upwards of £100, and it is quite a common occurrence for birds to be sold for £30 each.

The following description of a Game fowl from Wright's Book of Poultry will stand for all the breeds:—"Beak to be strong, slightly curved, and stout where set in the head. Head rather inclined to be long, and not round and bullet-shaped; the least possible indent over the eyes gives a snake-like appearance which is much admired. Eyes bright red, rather prominent, with a fearless expression. Face, a fine smooth skin; the throat the same. Ears red, not inclined to white. Neck rather long and a little arched; short hackle, with the points just meeting between the shoulders, but reaching very little on the back. Back flat, wide at shoulders, and narrowing to the tail. Breast round and full. Stern to be clear between their hocks, not let down, but a clear line. Saddle feathers close and short, and not too many of them. Wings strong, and not over long having a great substance at the shoulders not confined close at the breast, but to