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POULTRY PROGRESS.

The two leading poultry shows of England are the Birmingham and Crystal Palace, and as such are looked upon by all English breeders, more especially the Birmingham. They are conducted on the best principles of poultry exhibitions, the judges engaged are the most advanced of poultry-breeders, and their awards free from the stain of bias; fowls, therefore, obtain prizes at these exhibitions are ranked among the best of their respective breeds, and the distinctive markings and other characteristics, which entitle them to the place of honor, are sought to be re-produced in

others of the same breeds and varieties. Any deviation, then, from the usually recognized poultry standard, by the judges, is viewed with considerable interest by breeders, and not unusually severely criticised. The awards of the judges are, however, generally upheld by the poultry public, the deviations made being only in accordance with the ever increasing knowledge of poultry-breeding. In this article we purpose laying before our readers a few of the most prominent features connected with these exhibitions, and point out any such deviations for the benefit of breeders in this country.

DORKINGS.—The Dorking class at the Crystal Palace Show was not a very good one; the cup in the colored class was awarded to a rose-combed bird, dark in color, and judging from the number of prizes given to birds of that shade, it was evidently most in favor with the judges. At the Birmingham show, the cup bird in the same class was also a rose-combed cock, but light in color. At neither shows did the Silver-Greys or Whites equal the colored, and breeders would do well to note that at Birmingham the cup cock in the Silver-Grey class was a dark bird.

COCHINS.—In Buff cocks at Birmingham, the cup was awarded to a real Lemon Cochin bird, and in the same class at the Crystal Palace, the cup bird was a well shaded deep colored cock, and the cup cockerel well developed in