

black or very lightly tipped or laced with white.

The colour of the hen has given rise to more discussion and dispute than any other point connected with Brahmas, and there are in fact several distinct schools, each having its devoted adherents. Mr. Boyle, a noted English breeder, describes it in the *Practical Poultry Keeper* as a "dingy white ground, very much and closely pencilled with dark steel grey." On the other hand, Mr. Lacy, another English breeder, and formerly a successful exhibitor, prefers a decided brown colour for the hens. He describes the birds with which he commenced breeding as "a beautiful pencilled brown, the ground colour being the dark, with lighter markings of a quarter-moon shape on each feather; breast, a light, salmon-coloured ground, with dark pencillings of the same quarter-moon shape, forming the most beautiful contrast of the two colours imaginable. The fluff had also the brown tinge." There is a third colour which used to be bred by a Mr. Teebay, but was for a time almost lost, through the endeavours of breeders to produce cocks *entirely* free from bronze in the wings. It differs greatly from both the silver grey and the dead brown colour, being darker than either. In this colour, the ground itself is a dark steel grey, and the pencillings or markings a rich black, so intense as to show green reflections like the tails of the cocks. This is the colour of the pullets; and the hens either preserve it, or more commonly show a very slight cast of rich chestnut in the ground colour, not the least dingy, while the pencillings moult black to the last. Some breeders aim at rather large, sharp markings, somewhat resembling those of the Hamburg; while others prefer the pencillings as minute as possible, even so small as to be almost indistinguishable.

The head of the pullet or hen is sil-

very white striped with black. Lower down the neck the stripes get broader, till at the bottom they are very broad, nearly covering the feather, and ending in blunt or rounded points. The rest of the plumage should be pencilled, according to one or the other of the standards above described, the pencilling especially reaching up to the throat, and one of the chief points in a show bird being that the character and depth of marking on the breast approach that of the rest of the body as nearly as possible. The tail feathers alone are black, except the top ones, which are pencilled on the edge. The shank feathering of the hen *ought* to be perfectly pencilled as on the body; but this is not by any means universal, and in a fine bird we would not insist upon it, though it is desirable.

NEW YORK STATE POULTRY SOCIETY ANNUAL EXHIBITION.

We have received a copy of the Prize List and Rules for the Third Annual Exhibition and Fair of the above Society, which is to take place on the 14th of December next and continue to the 22nd, as already announced. The Exhibition will be held in New York City, as formerly, but the precise locality is not mentioned. The books are now opened for entries, at the office of the Society, No. 27 Chatham Street, opposite the City Hall Park, and will continue so until the 3rd of December next, after which no entries will be taken, unless of coops for exhibition and not competing for prizes, which will be received provided there is room. The rules of the Exhibition are carefully framed, with a view to the benefits of exhibitors and the general good of the Society. We observe that the 8th Rule provides that all entries of "fowls and useful ducks shall consist of one male and two females, called a 'Trio,' and in the case of turkeys, geese,