

our climate, still manifest impatience of severe cold. In the Minorca we miss the white face, the ear-lobe alone being of that color.

But in both the male and female there is the same developement of comb and wattle, especially in the hens. Some of ours, indeed, have as "ASKER" has remarked, been seriously inconvenienced in feeding, by the undue proportions of the former and flapping over the eye, and interfering with the action of the beak. We should also describe them as lower on the legs and of squarer build than the true Spanish. They are excellent layers; and readily, therefore, do we assent to Captain Hornby's opinion when speaking of these birds, he says:—"The poultry called Minorca resemble the Spanish, except in the white face possessed by the latter. I am not sure whether the former are not as good layers, with as large eggs as the latter; and certainly they lay eggs with better (harder) shells; but this may probably be attributed to the present over high feeding of the white-faced Spanish fowls."

As table fowls their more rounded form gives them advantages over their aristocratic relations, like the latter they are rarely found evincing any desire to sit. We had, indeed but one that ever did so.—No other points occur to us in which our description of the Spanish will not apply to the Minorca."

This should clearly evince to our readers the two following facts:—First, that the Minorca is certainly not, as some would have us believe, a *new* variety, and secondly, that the Minorca having been bred several years prior to the introduction of the modern Leghorn, could in no way be a *descendant* or *off-shoot* of the latter.

#### THE REDCAP.

We cull the following remarks from the circular of Mr. A. E. Wragg, Edi-

tor, Bakewell, England a noted breeder of this variety.

"The Redcap is one of the oldest of English breeds of poultry, and has been known in Yorkshire and Derbyshire for upwards of a century, where it has gained a sure footing, and has held its own in spite of all opposition.

It is now fast increasing in popularity and will without doubt become in a short time as great a favorite as the Minorca. It is a non-sitter and as a layer is unsurpassed. The eggs are white or tinted, of medium size, averaging 2 oz. and are noted as being the richest laid by any variety. Good stock will lay upwards of 200 eggs annually.

The distinguishing feature of this noble looking and handsome breed is the rose-comb, which should be of good medium size, heart shaped, full of fine work or spikes, and standing perfectly erect on the head, with straight spike behind.

The neck hackle of the cock should be rich dark red (or golden red) striped with black; back, black and red; breast and tail, black; saddle hackle, rich deep red striped with bluish black; wings, deep rich nut-brown; wing coverts, bluish black; legs, slate color and of good length; earlobes and face, red; weight seven or eight pounds.

The hen is similar to the Golden Spangled Hamburg but larger. The ground color is a deep rich nut-brown, each feather spangled with a bluish black half-moon spangle. Tail, black; earlobes and face, red; neck hackle, black, laced with golden red; weight about six lbs."

We shall be surprised if next year the Redcap does not enjoy some of the notoriety the Minorca is now having, both in England and America.

#### DISEASES OF POULTRY.

##### PEA-COMB.

(Continued.)

In former years I dreaded roup above everything, and after trying numberless alleged cures, and finding them all a failure, I felt myself completely beaten, and at the mercy of the demon, but *experientia docet*, the knowledge gained in these repeated trials enables me at the present time to regard the disease with little or no alarm, if not to bid defiance to it. Every disease is simply the effect of a cause, and I now take great care to guard against the cause. Malignant Roup never breaks out suddenly, it develops itself by degrees your fowls will have a cold first, common Catarrh, look for this, nip it in the bud, stamp it out immediately, as you would a fire in your barn, or it will spread as surely, and almost as rapidly. Of course a fowl may have Roup in malignant form without showing the early and mild symptoms indicating Catarrh, but such cases are rare, and due entirely to contagion.

Roup is produced in a variety of ways, by roosting in drafts, by wet filthy quarters, but more frequently by sudden and severe changes of temperature. I have gone into fowl houses at night after the birds have been three or four hours on the perch, late in the fall, about the time when so many fanciers commence to shut up doors and windows at night, and where there have been a number of chickens, have invariably found the place as hot as an oven, the birds gasping for breath with beaks open and wings hanging down. Such quarters as these are veritable Roup factories, the poor birds suffer greatly all night with the heat, and rush madly out in the morning, the instant the door opens, to get a breath of fresh air. The consequence is they are chilled to the bone, and nearly all take cold; the change of temperature being very sudden and violent, the temper