

out, and the results carefully noted and published—and we have no doubt that the question, “Has the power to control the sex of the offspring in any of the animal creation been committed to mortal man?” will be answered in the affirmative.

We have on this continent a large number of persons interested in poultry breeding: let each say to himself, I will endeavor to find out some new point in the breeding of poultry, whether it be the distinguishing the sex of eggs, the influence of the male bird, or some other point which to him may seem of importance, not because it was propounded by this professor, or suggested by that poultry writer, but because the wants of the general breeder require and demand it; and we have no doubt much that is valuable will be obtained at the end of next season's hatching.

### THE GOOSE.

THE BARNACLE GOOSE is the bird which the fables of former days represented as deriving its origin from the Cirrhopod, of which it bears the name. It is in size smaller than the common wild goose, being only a little more than two feet long, and about five pounds in weight. It is very prettily marked, having the forehead, cheeks, and throat white, the bill black, and a black stripe extending from it to the eye; the crown of the head, neck, and upper part of the breast, black; the rest of the plumage on the upper parts of the body chiefly ash-grey and black, in undulating bars—on the lower parts, white. It is a common winter visitant of the western coasts of Britain, but rare in the eastern parts. It retires in spring to more northern regions. It breeds in vast numbers in Iceland, Greenland, and the north of Russia and Asia—all along the coast of Norway to the Arctic Ocean. It is highly esteemed for the table, and,

when brought under domestication, is as tame as any of the goose tribe. The number of eggs laid by this goose is six or seven, and the time of incubation about a month. We are not aware of them having ever been seen on this continent in a wild state, although instances are mentioned of them having been exhibited at poultry exhibitions in New York city years ago by.

THE BRENT GOOSE, or Brent Barnacle, as some naturalists call it, has frequently received the name of the Barnacle goose, and no little confusion has existed concerning them in books of science, although the birds are sufficiently distinct. The Brent goose is smaller than the Barnacle goose, being only about twenty-one inches in length. It is also of much darker plumage, the whole head, throat, and neck being black, except a small patch on each side of the neck, which is white, mixed with a few regularly placed black feathers; the upper parts of the body generally almost black, and the lower parts slate-gray, except the vent and under tail coverts, which are white. It is remarkable for length of wing and powerful flight, and for its distant migrations. It is very common in winter on the British shores, but breeds in high northern latitudes. It is a winter bird of passage in the United States and Canada, as in Britain and on the continent of Europe. It is excellent for the table. Attempts at domestication of this goose have been made, and we understand with success; but the smallness of its size, and the loss of flavor of its flesh greatly tend to lessen its value in this respect.

THE RED BREASTED GOOSE, or Red Breasted Barnacle, as it is sometimes called, is a species very nearly allied to the Brent goose. It is a very beautiful bird, of which the neck and upper part of the breast are of a rich chestnut red. In size it resembles the Brent goose. It is a very rare visitant of Britain and of