

at once attracts the eye of all admirers of this variety of water fowls.

And what shall we say of the judging in the several classes of Polands and Hamburgs?—Well, with but few exceptions the specimens were bad, and should have been disqualified, and with two exceptions, and these in the Hamburg class, the judging was worse. In all the Polands we did not see one bird even respectably crested, nor with any degree of form and beauty of plumage and markings entitling it to a first or any other prize, and yet we find that several were awarded.

Shall we continue our remarks on the Game fowls, the Houdans and the Bantams, or will the letter of our correspondent on the subject on which we write, be deemed sufficient to point out the errors of the judges in their awards in these classes? Well, we trust it will. The subject is to ourselves both unpleasant and distasteful, and we are thankful to be relieved of so much of our task. Let it be sufficient for our present purpose to call attention to the manner in which the judging was performed, in the hope that other and more competent persons may be selected to perform this duty at future exhibitions.

BRAHMAS.

NO. II.—DISTINCTIVE MARKINGS.

The head of the Light cock should be white, the hackle silvery-white, with a *distinct* black stripe down the centre of each feather. The shoulder-coverts, back, breast, thighs and underparts white on the surface, but the fluff or underpart of the plumage a dull-grey down to the skin. The secondaries or outside wing-feathers, white on outer web, and black on inner web, causing the wing to appear pure white when folded. Primaries or flights, black. The saddle-feathers may be either white, or (and this is much to be preferred) white, lightly striped with

black. Tail coverts, glossy-green black, those next the saddle being silvered on the edges. Tail rich, glossy-green black. Shanks, *bright* yellow, the feathering white, slightly mottled with black.

The hen should have a pure white head, the bright red of comb, deaf-ears, and wattles contrasting very distinctly. The neck clear white, distinctly and *darkly* striped down each feather, the black stripes ending *clear and round* at base of neck, so as to form a kind of dark ring. Breast, back, saddle, and in fact the whole body, a clear white surface, with an underground colour of grey. In the hen the primary or flight-feathers alone are usually black. Tail coverts white; the tail itself black.

The head and neck of a Dark Brahma cock are very similar to the Light, the head being white and the hackle striped, but somewhat more so than in the Light breed. The back is nearly white, a little black appearing here and there, white between the shoulders; the black ought to predominate, but is nearly hidden by the hackle flowing over it. The saddle-feathers are like the hackle, silvery-white, striped with black. The tail a pure, rich black, with a green gloss, any white being a great blemish. Wing coverts black, forming a distinct black bar across the middle of the wing, while the ends of the secondaries, or the feathers which appear when the wing is closed, have a large black spot on the end, making the top edge of the wing also appear black. The remainder of the secondaries are white on the lower half, and black on the upper, but the black of course is not seen. The flights are all black except a narrow fringe of white on the lower edge. There is generally a little brown or bronze towards the top of the "bar" and at the end of the secondaries. The breast may be either black, or black very slightly, and evenly mottled with white. The thighs and fluff either