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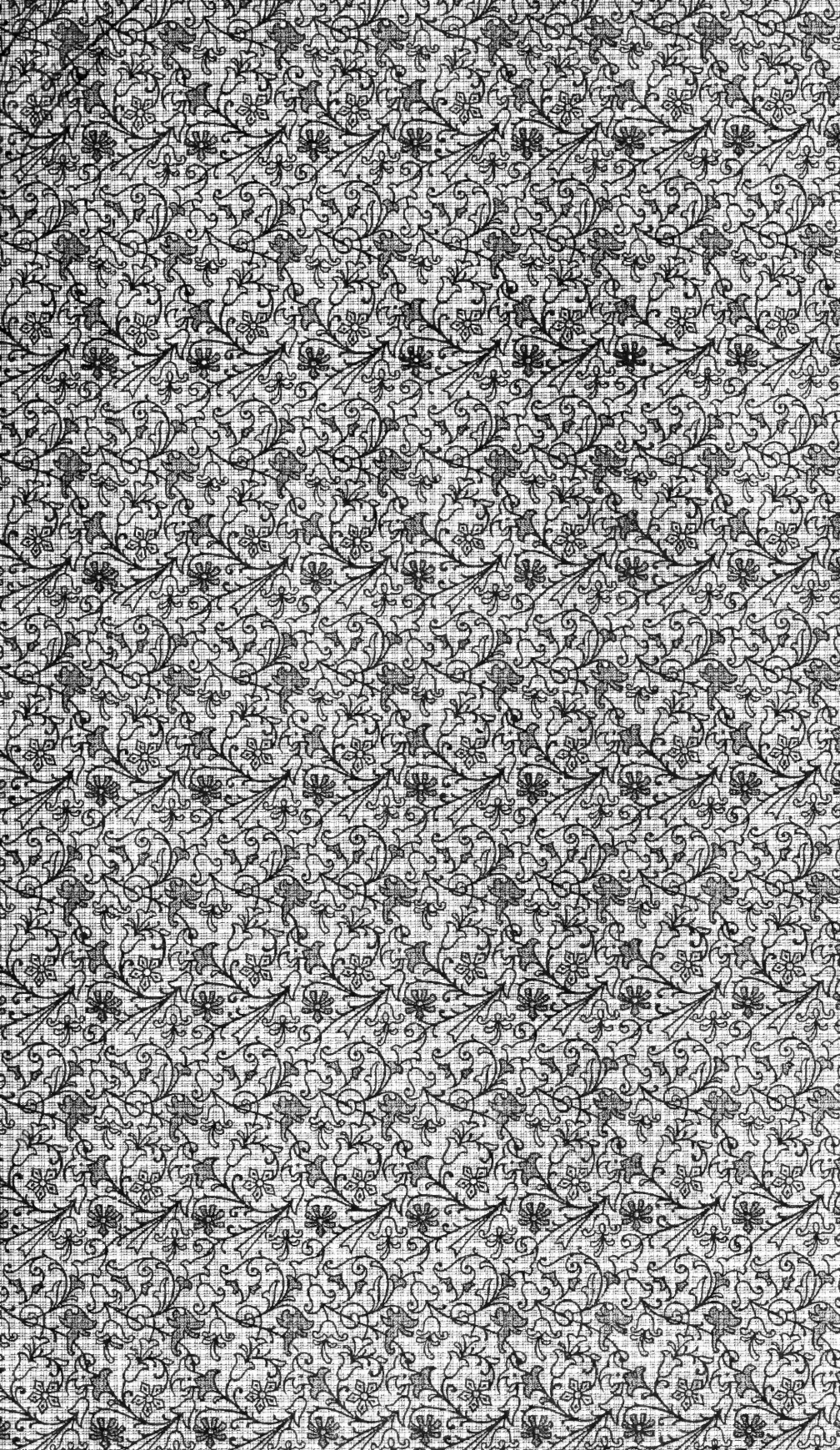


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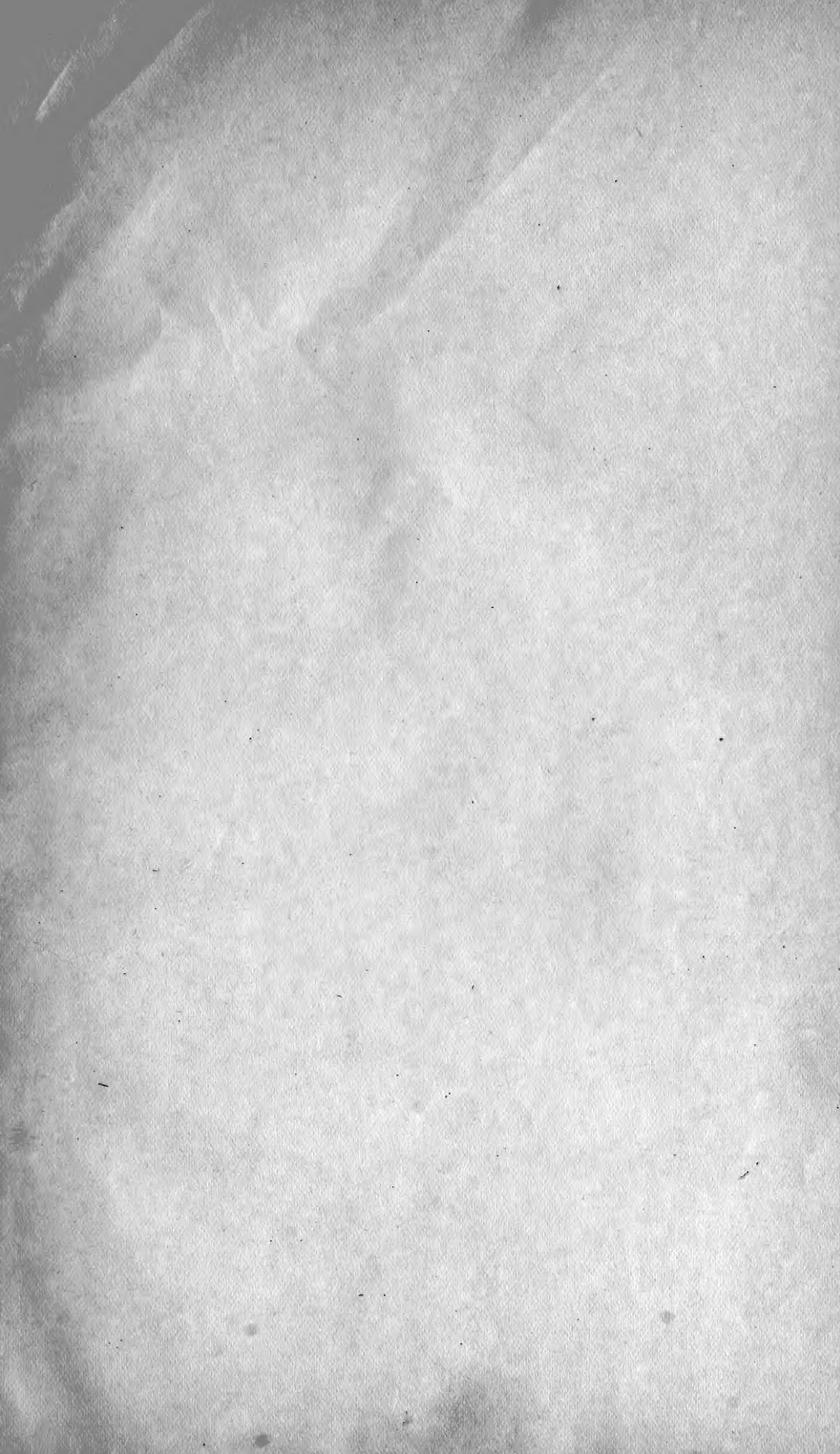
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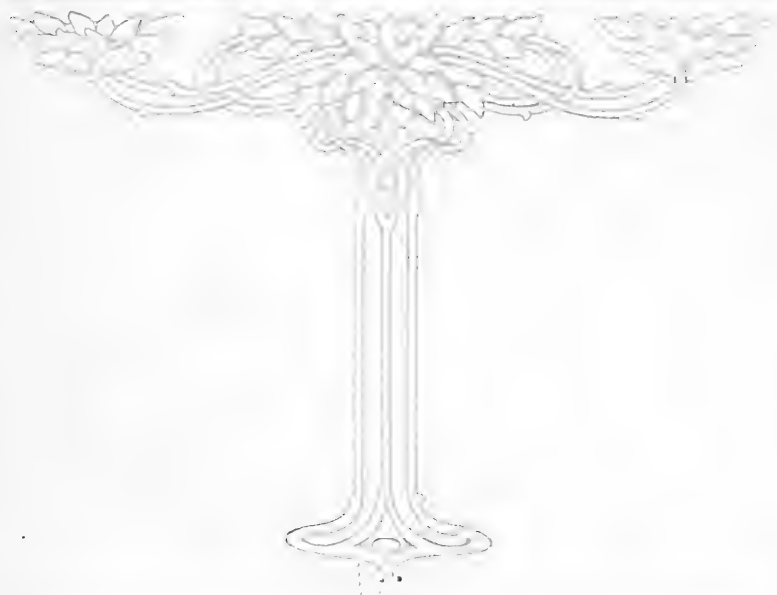






The  
Perfected  
Poultry  
of America

A CONCISE, ILLUSTRATED TREATISE *of the* RECOGNIZED  
BREEDS OF POULTRY, TURKEYS, AND WATER-FOWL



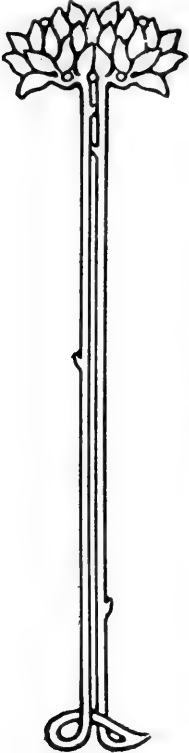
Written by T. F. MCGREW & GEO. E. HOWARD  
With Illustrations by LOUIS P. GRAHAM



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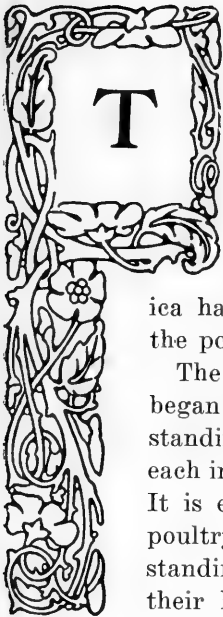


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# FOREWORD

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THAT the poultry interests of America have long demanded a book like this can not be doubted. The great volume of literature on the subject is so disconnected that it would be next to the impossible to trace the subject-matter with any degree of satisfaction. Therefore, the importance of having in one volume the information pertaining to the Perfected Poultry of America has long been realized by those interested in the poultry industry.

The authors appreciated this fact very fully, and began the foundation work years ago, fully understanding their responsibilities and obligations to each individual variety of fowls herein represented. It is essential for every breeder of thoroughbred poultry, desiring success, to have a better understanding of his fowls, and he should not only know their history, qualifications, and general appearances, but their points of excellence as well. To do this properly, we have drawn upon every source of information at our command, and have endeavored to present our results without partiality to any breed or variety. We have given the facts and truths of the recognized breeds of Perfected Poultry as we have found them in every-day life, using living models and personal experiences as the foundation of our work.

# The Perfected Poultry of America

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The illustrated portions of this book are unusually interesting, and are presented with a great deal of satisfaction. The artist has performed his work well, and his models have been the best to be found. No attempt has been made to idealize the specimens, but rather to give drawings that would be recognized and appreciated for the types of fowls to be seen in the average breeding yards or show rooms of the country. These drawings probably will be criticised in some minor details, yet, as a whole, we are satisfied they will be regarded as typical specimens of the American breeder's fancy, and will be given credit as being a truthful portrayal of breed types. As a reference book, it should prove of untold value to every breeder and fancier, and by following its pages the chances of success in breeding and mating should be enhanced for the expert as well as the novice.

THE AUTHORS.

Washington, D. C.





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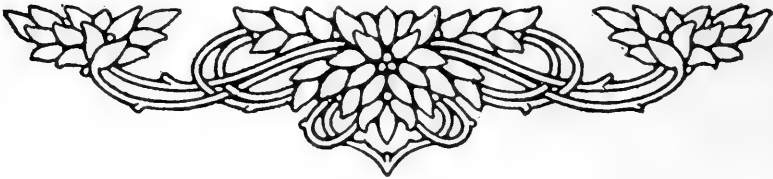
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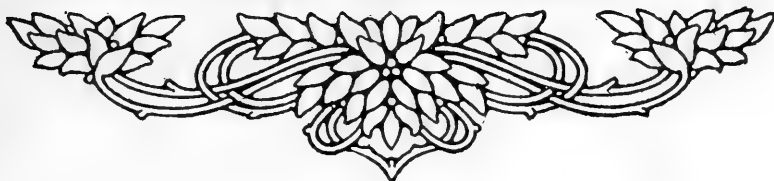




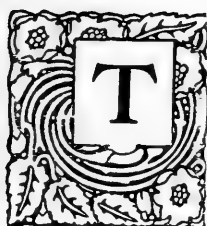
# The PERFECTED POULTRY of America

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## THE ASIATIC BREEDS



THE Asiatic family comprises the Light and Dark Brahmas, the Buff, Partridge, White and Black Cochins, and the Black and White Langshans. These varieties represent the meat-producing fowls of the poultry industry. They are the largest of all poultry, the Brahma ranging in weight from eight to twelve pounds; the Cochin from seven to ten pounds; the Langshan six to ten pounds, but all these fowls are frequently bred from one to two pounds heavier than the weights above mentioned.

The Light Brahma is often referred to as the king of all poultry. It is appreciated for its great size, strength, and vigor; has yellow beak, shanks, and skin, and lays large eggs, with rich brown shells. They are prolific egg producers and are much valued for producing broilers, roasters, capons, as well as for cross-breeding to improve the size and quality of other poultry, and are very valuable as setters and mothers to broods.

The Dark Brahma is the same as the Light in every way, excepting that they grade a little smaller in size and have the dark-colored plumage. As a general-purpose fowl for all climates the Brahmas are quite valuable. They are easy to fatten—in fact, are rather inclined to take on too much fat when overfed.

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The Cochins are not so large as the Brahmas, and have short legs and low-set bodies. They are compact, closely-built fowls; have yellow skin, beak, and shanks, very long plumage which is largely down or under-fluff, are rather quiet in disposition, and take on flesh very rapidly. They do not lay as many eggs as the Brahmas, besides being of a smaller size, and the shell is of a lighter brown tint than the others of the Asiatic family. They are splendid exhibition fowls and make excellent table poultry as broilers and roasters. They are valued next to the Brahma for capons and market. They are remarkably hardy, quite apt to become broody, and make the best of mothers for young chicks. They are easily confined, and will scarcely attempt to go over a three-foot fence. The young are very hardy and easy to raise, and develop quickly. Some prefer them to the Brahma for crossing with the Indian Game for the production of table poultry.

The Langshan is a large appearing fowl, having unusually long shanks and thighs, with very prominent tail and long neck. These distinctive features give the Langshan the appearance of having greater size and weight than really belongs to them. They were originally most highly valued as egg-producing fowls and market poultry, and their eggs are about equal in size to those of the Brahma, but of a darker brown color. They have been as successfully bred in the South as in the northern or colder climate, and are much valued as market poultry in localities where white-skinned fowls are preferred to yellow ones.

## Classification in Detail

**THE BRAHMA.** The Light Brahma was the American fancier's original creation in poultry. Although the foundation of these came from the Oriental countries, they came in such crude form that one would scarcely recognize the present Brahma as being in any way related to them.

Light and dark varieties are of the same family, both having come from one original strain. The Light Brahma came from lighter-colored specimens, while the Dark Brahma was developed from darker or gray-colored specimens. Each year has added improvement to them in color and markings and Brahma characteristics.

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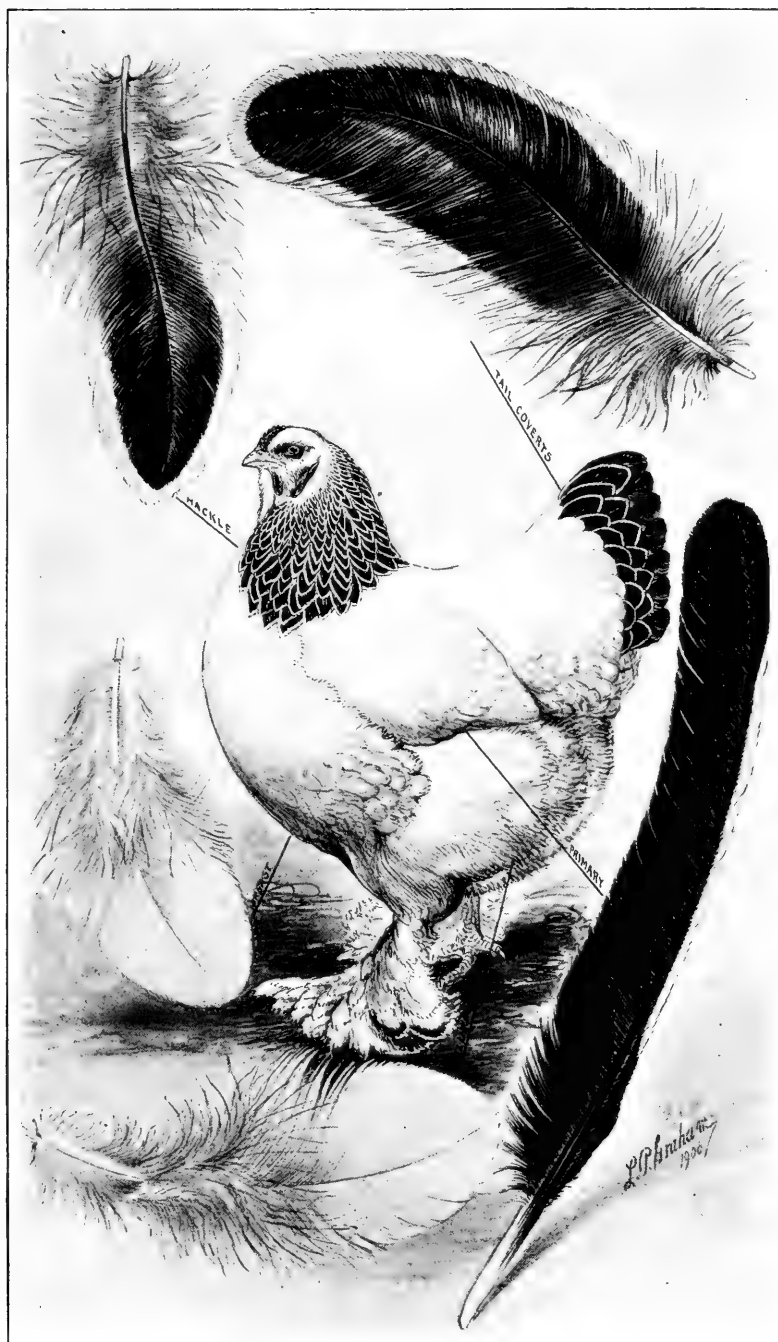
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**LIGHT BRAHMA HISTORY.** The late George P. Burnham, of Boston, in early days bred from fowls called the Gray Chittagongs and the Brahmapootras, which were called Brahmas. Later a better type was produced by Mr. Virgil Cornish, of New Britain, Conn. Mr. Cornish and Mr. Nelson H. Chamberlain coming in possession of some specimens brought over in a trading vessel, established a distinct type of Brahmas, which might be termed the Chamberlain-Cornish strain. This type was taken up by such fanciers as E. C. Comey, Philander Williams, I. K. Felch, and others. This strain has been so much improved in form and color that we now have birds as beautiful as they are represented in the illustrations.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Light Brahma should have size, vigor, and strong bone formation equal to sustaining their enormous weight of from fourteen to sixteen pounds. Notwithstanding the fact that their average weight ranges from eight pounds for the pullet to twelve pounds for the cock bird, it is not unusual to meet with specimens fully two pounds over these weights. The Brahma type is distinctive, quite different from that of the Cochin or Langshan. The main features of the Brahma type are the long, broad back, fulness at shoulders, and the back having a proper rising to a concave formation from the shoulder, well up on the saddle. Here the formation is changed from the fact that the tail opens up to a very pronounced A-shape, widening out as it curves down to the base in a manner that fills out the cushion and the side formation over the thighs, making the full, broad appearance of the back which is so much desired. This characteristic is strongly present in the female. The cushion formation of the Brahma, both male and female, is built out through the shape of the tail, not like the Cochin, where the fulsome formation is largely created through the heavy, downy under-fluff of the plumage. The Brahma should stand firm and plumb upon its shanks. The bend at the knee so often seen in specimens in the exhibition pen is not the true Brahma type. They should stand erect upon their feet as shown in the illustrations, which present true Brahma shape in both the male and the female.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Brahma male might best be described as having a stately, attractive carriage, full, round,





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broad, deep breast; body, rather long, and of heavy plump formation; neck, beautifully arched, and of a strong, imposing appearance, with hackle falling down well over the shoulders. This, in connection with the rise and spread of the tail, makes the proper formation of back which is characteristic of the Brahma. The head of the Brahma is, perhaps, one of the most beautiful of all its features, small, broad over the eyes, of a length proportionate to beauty; beak, strong, imposing; comb, of that peculiar pea shape which describes three separate combs united together, the center one being the largest and highest of the three, all of them conforming to the shape of the head. Where the head joins onto the neck, there is a slight indication or marking which shows distinctly the end. Having described the formation of the tail and back, it is only necessary to say that the under-body should be strong and full, the abdomen well developed and covered with profuse plumage, which follows the shape of the leg or thigh to the hock joint, ending there with a beautiful round formation entirely free from hock plumage. The color of the Brahma is clearly defined black and white; the hackle of both male and female centered with beautiful black; the wing-flights should have a predominance of black with white edging on the lower web; the secondaries, lower portion of lower web, white in the male and female. Tail-coverts, black edged with white, main tail feathers rich, glossy black; the feathers on the shanks and toes may be intermingled with black, the richness of plumage largely depending upon the purity of both colors. The illustrations of the feathers will convey intelligently the real demands for color and markings.

**DARK BRAHMA HISTORY.** The Dark Brahma came from the same original importation from which the Light Brahmas were produced. In writing of these in 1860, Mr. Virgil Cornish states that there was a tendency to throw dark chickens from the original or lightest-colored pair. The other two pairs of the original importation were quite dark and red in color. The light gray ones were selected, and from them both the Light and Dark Brahmas were grown. Notwithstanding the tendency of these birds to throw the dark-colored chickens, there was a greater tendency toward the lighter shades. By

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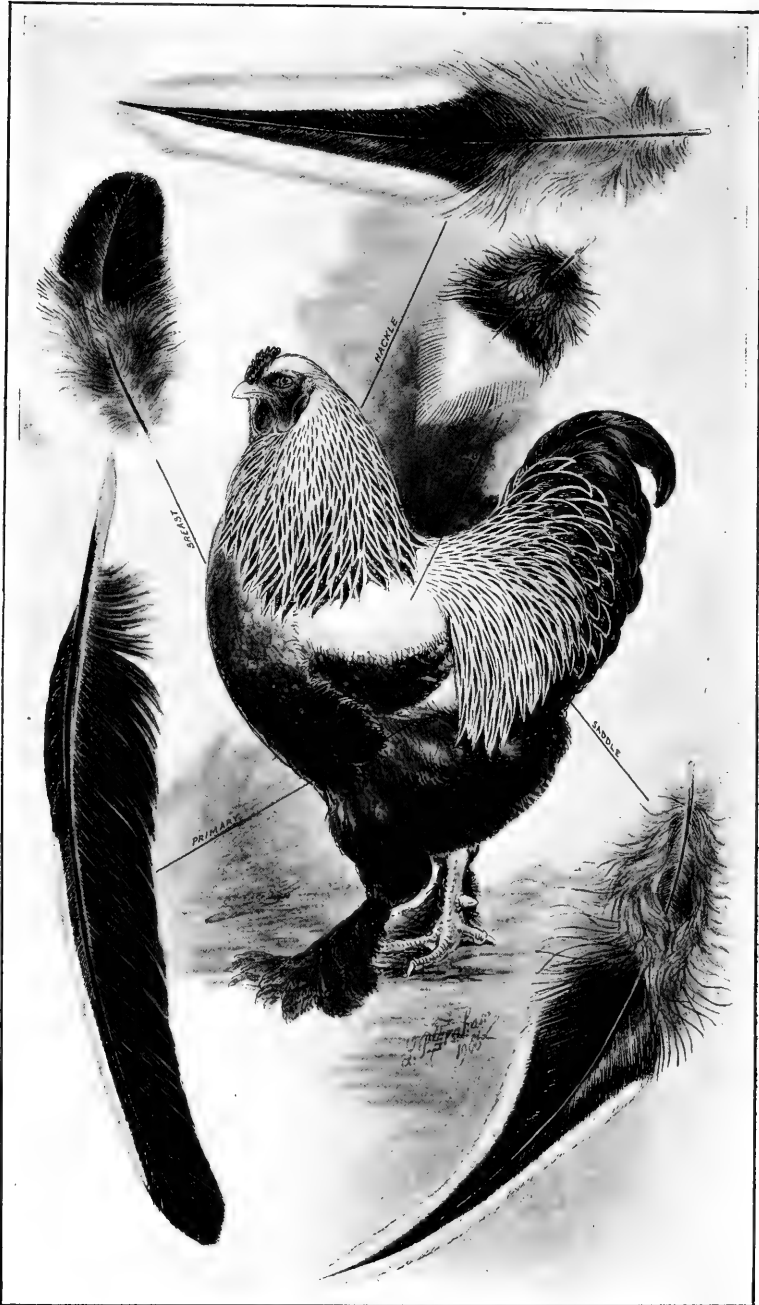
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separating these into the light and the dark matings the two distinct varieties were made possible.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The same general characteristics will apply to the Dark Brahma as given above for the Light. Too much importance can not be attached to type or general breed characteristics. For each and every breed there is an established type or shape description, from which there should not be any deviation, no matter what the variety may be, if it belongs to that particular breed. To be successful in obtaining the best, first preference must always be given to breed characteristics.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Dark Brahma, male and female, should be identical with the Light Brahma. The color, however, is quite different from that of the Light variety. The top color of the male bird, including head, neck, back, and saddle, should be of a clean, clear silvery white; the center of the hackle plumage, having a black strip extending through the middle of each feather, conforming almost exactly to the shape of the feather. The saddle should be marked with black the same as the hackle; breast, under-body color, including thighs, and fluff, black; the color of the surface of the wing gives the appearance of a perfectly white wing, bow and bay separated with a partially crescent-shaped bar of black; tail, a glossy greenish black, with the lesser coverts edged with white. The feathers on shanks and toes, black, or black shaded with greenish white; the color of the female is described as silvery white. Many prefer to call this a steel-gray color, each feather of which shall be penciled with black, the penciling to conform to the shape of the feather. Each feather on the entire body should thus be marked; the neck hackle having a black center with a light-gray edging. In most instances, the hackle feathers of the Dark Brahma are not so white, nor is the black center so large as is frequently seen in the best of the Light variety. Main tail feathers, black, with the upper ones penciled or stippled on the upper edge. Too often do we find the greater portion of the back and under-plumage of the Dark Brahma female stippled, not penciled, the stippling in formation being quite like the marking of the







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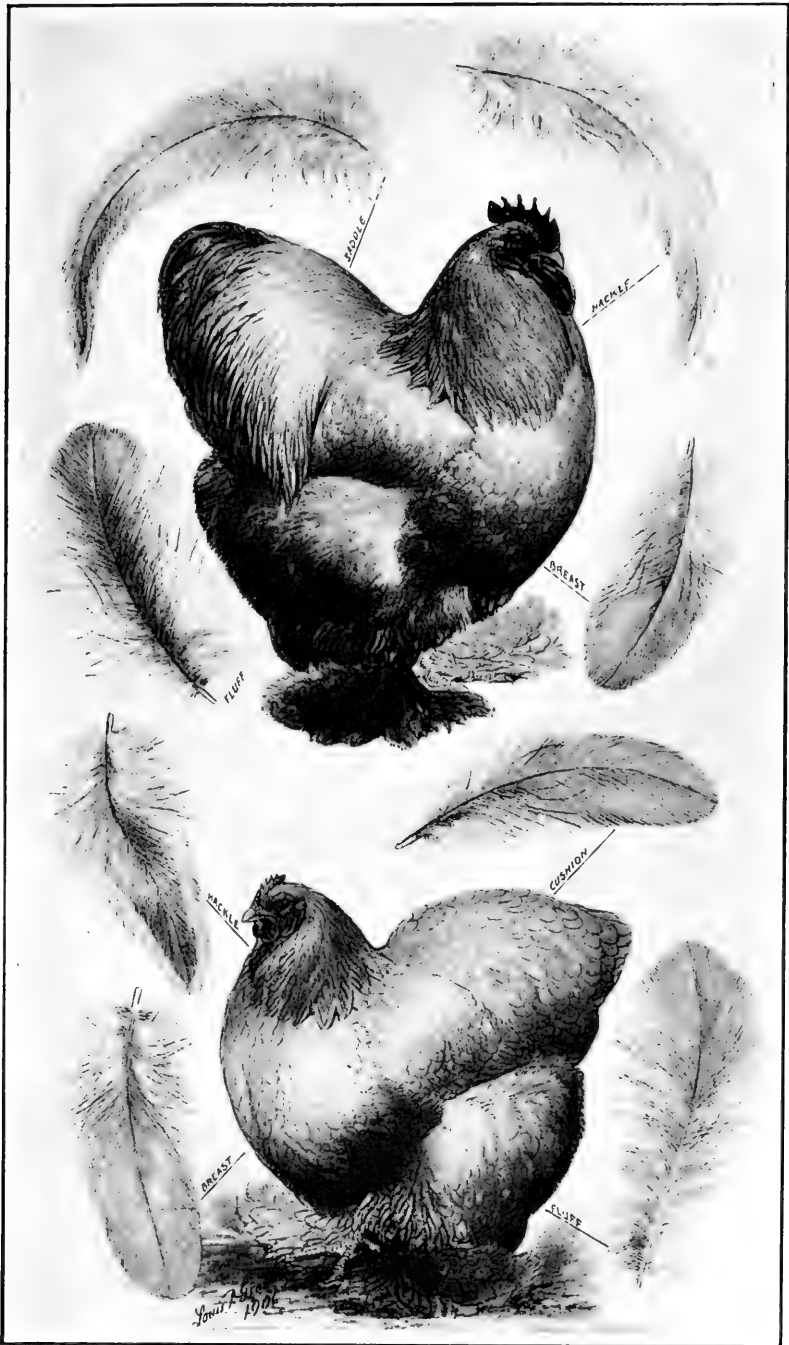
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Brown Leghorn female. This is very detrimental indeed to exhibition quality. Wings of the Dark Brahma female should be black with a narrow edge of gray penciling on lower web of primaries and secondaries as well. It is most usual to find the lower portion of the secondaries stippled or mixed with black.

**THE COCHIN.** The Cochin family, composed of four distinct varieties, is known as Buff, Partridge, White, and Black. The originals of the Cochin family were also known as Shanghais, taking that name from the fact that they first came from the port of that name in China. Later, they were called Cochin Chinas. Following this, the descriptive name of Cochin became general throughout the world. The first importation of these were the Buff variety, some of which carried the light lemon shade of plumage, others being very much darker in color, including the darkest cinnamon. Following these poorly marked specimens, from which the Partridge variety was bred, were a few Blacks of very poor quality, and some pure Whites came later. The Cornish Brahmas came to this country in 1847. The first Cochins reached England in 1843. The original Cochins stood quite erect on very long legs, fashioned somewhat after the Malay type; some with feathers on their shanks, others with none. All fowls that came from the Oriental country prior to 1860 were called Shanghais.

**BUFF COCHIN HISTORY.** High tide in poultry culture was reached when, in 1855-60, the English went wild about Cochins, and we were equally excited over Brahmas. About that time the fanciers of the world began the careful separation of the several colors into the varieties of the Cochin family. Three distinct shades of Buff were recognized—the Lemon, the Buff, and the Cinnamon varieties. One peculiarity of this family of fowls has always been the better Cochin type, with the heavier shank and toe feathering, and a greater amount of fluff in the lighter shades of buff than in the others of their class. Almost thirty-five years elapsed before one true shade of buff was selected as proper for color. With this came the acceptance of the low-set, short, compactly-built birds with very heavy fluff and leg and toe feather, and the obliteration of the vulture hocks. Since 1885 there has been a



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continued improvement in size, shape, and color, until now they are produced in a wonderfully high degree of perfection.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The entire Cochin family should have the one breed characteristic, and the body of the Cochin should be of round formation in every section. The marvelous creations of back, cushion, under-body, and fluff is owing to the existence of a remarkably dense under-fluff formation of the feathers. More than three-fourths of the entire plumage of the Cochin should be an under-fluff so constructed as to build out the rotund formation, giving the bird the attractive appearance of loose plumage, which should be so placed as to form the true Cochin type. A feature of remarkable beauty in the Cochin is the soft, feathery formation at the hock, where the feathers of the lower part of the thigh mingle gracefully with the shank plumage and have a remarkably fluffy appearance, without having any stiff or vulture hock plumage, or the least appearance of a break or a division at the hock line. Shank and toe plumage is very profuse. The stoop or leaning-forward position is natural to the Cochin, quite in reverse to that of the Brahma. From back of the comb to the end of the tail in both male and female of the Cochin family there should be a regular incline and decline, forming perfect curves in the neck, back, saddle, and tail. The tail of the female might be encouraged to droop away just a little so as to meet the requirements of being carried rather low. Too much of a droop, showing an inclination toward artificial formation, should not be encouraged. The more profuse the cushion and fluff plumage, the better.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of all Cochins might best be described as being all curves. A separate description of the comb and head is unnecessary, and is described in the illustrations far better than words could do. The neck of the Cochin male and female should have the appearance of being short and dense in formation. The flow of the hackle into the back, coming almost in contact with the front elevation of the saddle, or cushion, shortens the back, giving the appearance of the one flowing gently into the other. The back and cushion of the Cochin are almost identical. If the feather plumage is short, or hard feathered, as in the Brahma, making an elonga-

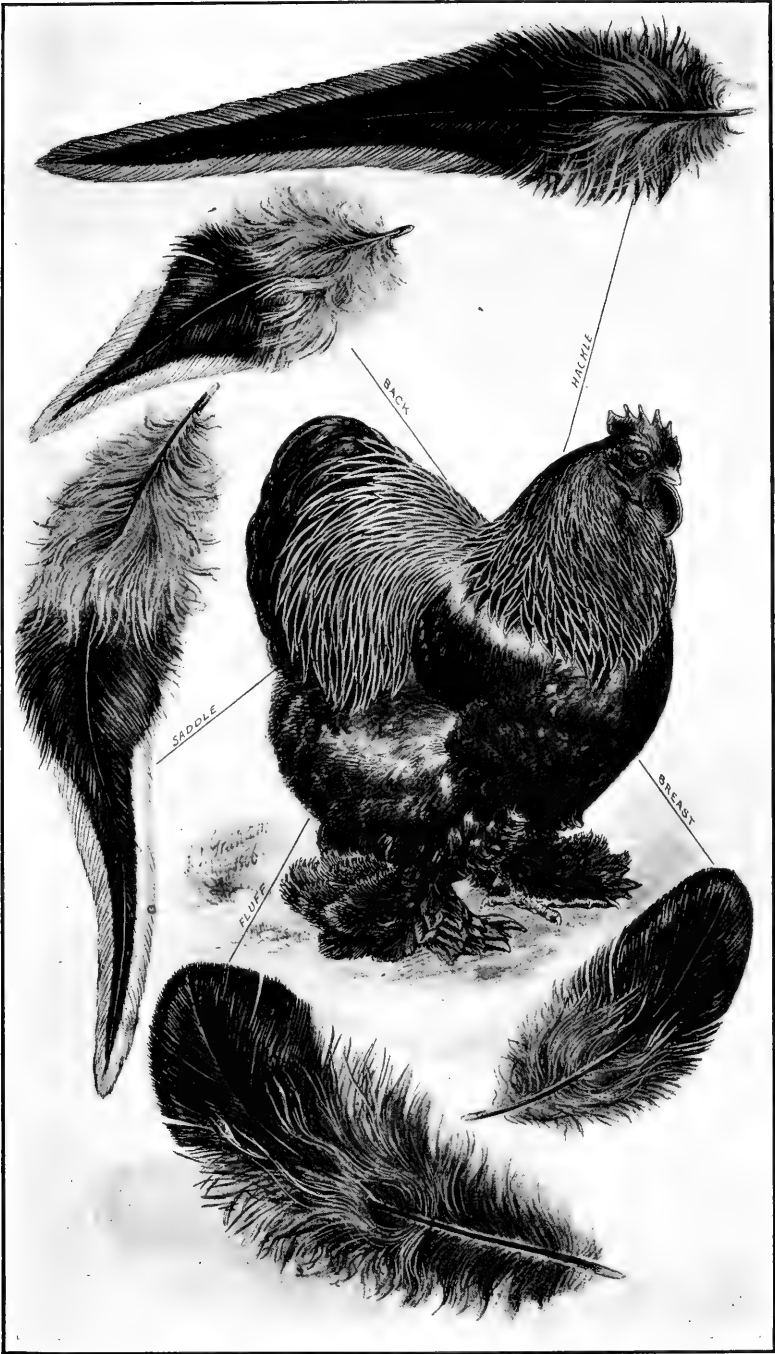
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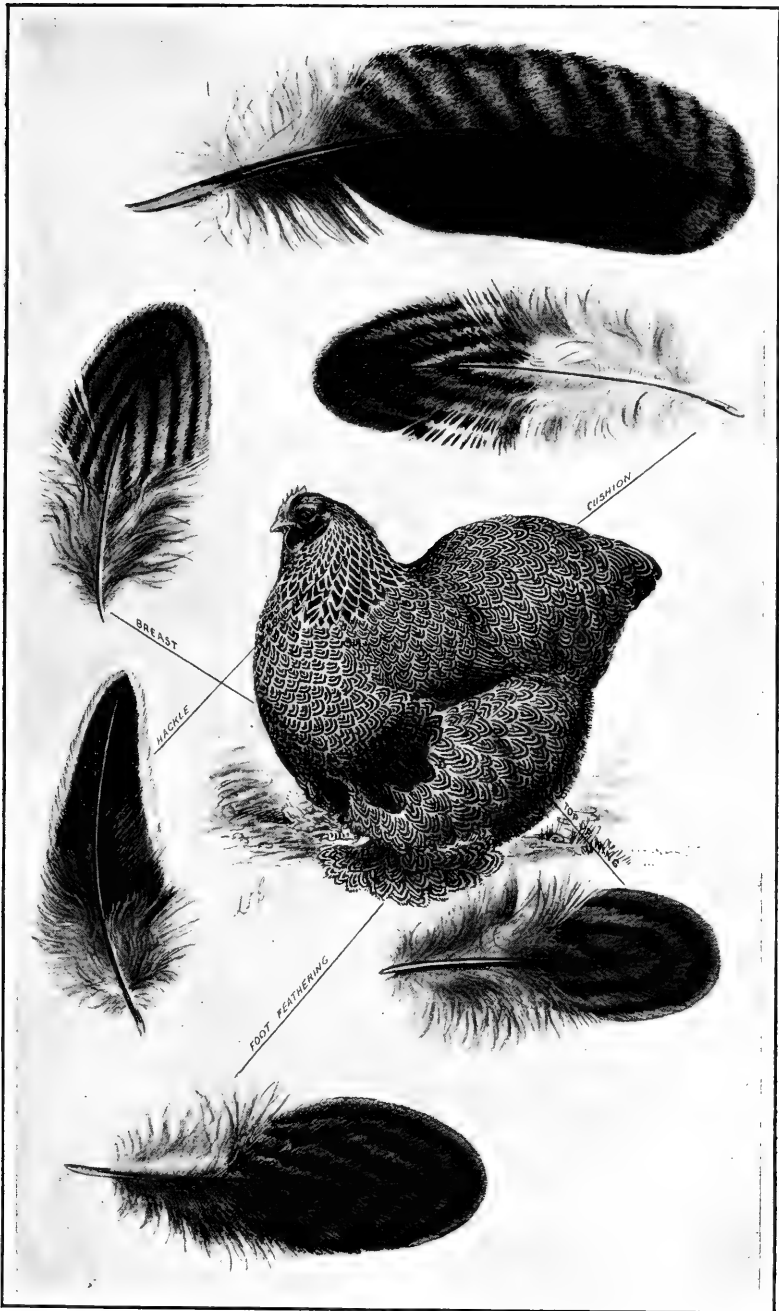
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tion of the back, it detracts considerably from the beauty of the Cochin. The real beauty of the Cochin is in its well-formed back, hackle, saddle, and tail, fluff, body, and perfect breast. When viewed from behind, the highest type of Cochin seems to have equal breadth with its length. The well-settled body, deep down between the shanks, widens, giving greater width for both breast and abdominal formation. When both of these are well filled out, the massive, most attractive Cochin type is presented. There is but one shade of color permissible in the Buff Cochin—namely, an even shade of rich golden buff throughout, free from shafting, shading, or mixed appearance. The top color of both male and female should be always more rich and brilliant than the balance of the plumage. This comes from the natural glossing over of the top plumage. One feature of the greatest importance is the laying on of the color so close and dense as to present a strong surface color, which should be upheld by a shade of under-color sufficiently strong as not to have the appearance of white, or lemon shade of under-color. The Standard goes so far as to say that the preference shall be given to the specimens carrying the richest under-color, other things being equal. This means that where a specimen carries an unbroken shade of color through each and every section upheld by the true Cochin type, if the under-color is of a nice shade of buff, the preference shall go to such a specimen.

**PARTRIDGE COCHIN HISTORY.** Dr. Baylies is credited with having bred the first good Partridge Cochins in America. The original stock from which these were produced were brought from England about 1847. For many years the best Partridge Cochins were produced in the district of Massachusetts lying between Providence and Boston. Later Connecticut became famous for the best. No variety of fowls has demanded so great an amount of ability to produce of a high character as the Partridge Cochin. Several fanciers throughout the country have now and again made themselves famous through the beauty of their Partridge Cochins, but very few have continued for any length of time in handling them. The greatest success has come to those who have followed them faithfully—for many years. There is no kind of marking and







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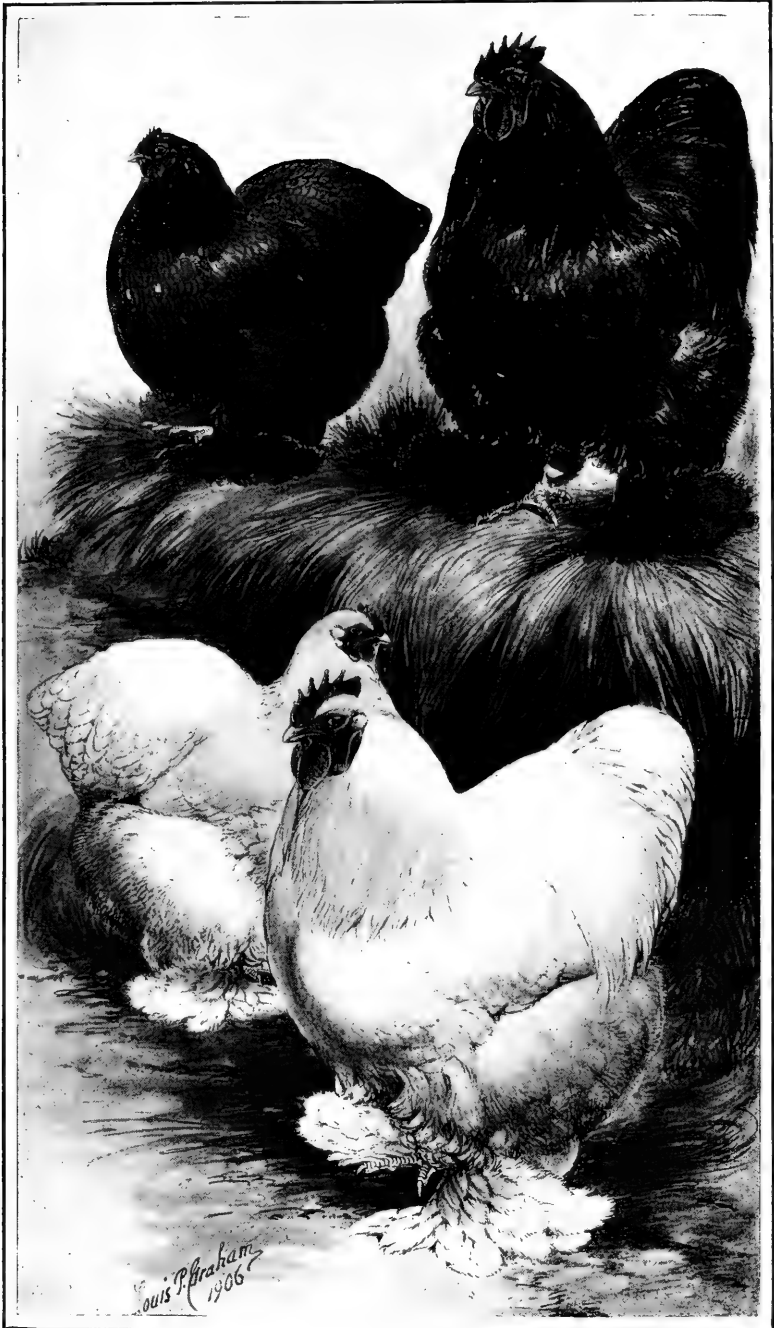
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color more difficult to produce than the shades and markings of the Partridge Cochin. Formerly the female-carried the clay-colored breast; to-day, her entire plumage, through and through, with the exception of the hackle, should be of one even shade of color. The English type is so different from ours as to give it the appearance of being a separate variety.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general characteristics given in the description of the Buff variety must be applied to all varieties of Cochins. This makes unnecessary repetition of the description of the other varieties. Formerly the Buff Cochin carried by far the best breed formation; at present, honors are almost even as to breed characteristics with the Partridge, Buff, and White varieties. There must be some improvement made in the Blacks to bring them up equal with the other three. When we consider, however, that ten years ago the Black variety trailed far in the rear of the others, we will more fully realize the advancement the Blacks have made. This encourages the belief that they will ere long be fully the equal of any of the other varieties.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of all Cochins must be the same, the description given for the Buff applying equally as well for the whole Cochin family. In color the Partridge Cochin is most distinct. They are what may truly be termed a black-red variety; the male bird being colored almost like the Black-red Game fowl; the original females had the same kind of plumage as the Black-red Game hen. This has been transformed, through care and selection, into the beautiful penciled plumage that distinguishes them from all others. The top color of the Partridge Cochin male should be a rich dark red. The only deviation from the even shade of rich, dark top color is on the back, which is generally described as a dark reddish-brown. We are inclined to take issue with this color description, because we have never as yet seen a perfectly colored Partridge Cochin male bird that had a brown back. A dark, reddish-brown, might be construed into almost any shade of color, but a deep, rich, brilliant red, of a dark shade, is much better understood. The neck hackle carries a very heavy, brilliant, black stripe down the center of each feather, which should have the appearance of being laid upon



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the top. The same stripe is present in the saddle. It is not unusual to find the same black center well up into the back of the rich colored male birds. The breast, bright, glossy black; under-body color, and fluff, the same, including shanks and toe feathering; a little less brilliancy of plumage is permissible in the fluff. The female should have a bright red hackle, each feather centered with black. The more distinct the edging from the center, the more attractive. While the center of the hackle may be penciled, the real beauty of the hackle in high-class specimens is represented in the distinct division of these colors without any center marking. The entire balance of surface plumage, including leg and toe feathering, should be of a rich mahogany red, most distinctly penciled with black or brown. Formerly the penciling was brown alone; of recent years either brown or black are permissible. However, only black is seen upon the best specimens. The tail, or rather the main tail feathers of the Partridge Cochin female are black, unless marked or penciled with the same color as the body plumage. The wings usually carry in flights and secondaries brownish black feathers, some showing a tendency to black in both primaries and secondaries, but the most elegant show specimens have but little inclination toward black in the feathers of the wing. The most attractive feature of Partridge Cochin color is the perfect evenness of shade throughout in the female, and a blending of type and under-color in the male.

**COLOR OF THE BLACK COCHIN.** Every feather on the body of the Black Cochin should be perfectly black, covered with a rich, beetle-green sheen, carrying very dark under-color in both shaft and fluff of feather to the skin. White or purple disfiguration of the plumage are most objectionable. Nothing but rich, lustrous black plumage is admissible in the Black variety. Shading with any other color should discard the specimen from competition.

**COLOR OF THE WHITE COCHIN.** The White Cochin, male and female, should carry absolute white plumage throughout to the skin. The surface color should be as true and white as snow, shaft and under-color the same. The least infringement of any other shade of color in the true white plumage of the White Cochin is most detrimental and objec-

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tionable. The shanks and beak of the Buff and White varieties should be bright yellow; the shanks of the Partridge Cochin yellow or dusky yellow; those of the Black usually quite dark. Where the shanks shade somewhat into yellow, it is preferred the soles of the feet of the Black Cochin should always be yellow. This is direct opposition to that of the Langshan, which have pinkish-white soles on their feet.

**THE LANGSHAN.** Whether or not the original Black Cochin was a Langshan will never be known. We can remember, however, when the greatest stress was laid upon them having the yellow feet and red eyes of the Cochin, while the dark brown eye is essential to the Black Langshan. We also remember that some of the most beautiful Black Cochins ever shown carried solid black eyes, and the color of the bottom of their feet created so much contention that it was finally settled that bottom of feet other than yellow was made a disqualification. Whether or not the original Black Langshan and Black Cochin were of one and the same type, need not now be considered of any consequence, because the breed characteristics are so distinct as to widely separate them, one from the other. The original Langshans were imported into England about 1872. From there they came to this country, and were highly favored for many years. Lately less attention seems to have been given them, and some of the most successful breeders of former years claim that the Black Langshan was sacrificed at the altar of color disqualifications.

**LANGSHAN HISTORY.** It is unnecessary for us to consider what is known as the Croad controversy on Langshans, and it is sufficient that the Langshan was brought into the poultry fancy of England. Considerable controversy has been carried on as to the true or proper Langshan type. No matter what any one may have thought, the fact remains that they have been developed into the type and character of fowls that are shown in our plates. The English type are even more extreme than these, the tendency there being to have them so elevated as to have the appearance of unusually long legs, quite like the Standard Game type. Some considerable attention has been given to the cultivation of the White variety. If equal determination was displayed by the specialty clubs in

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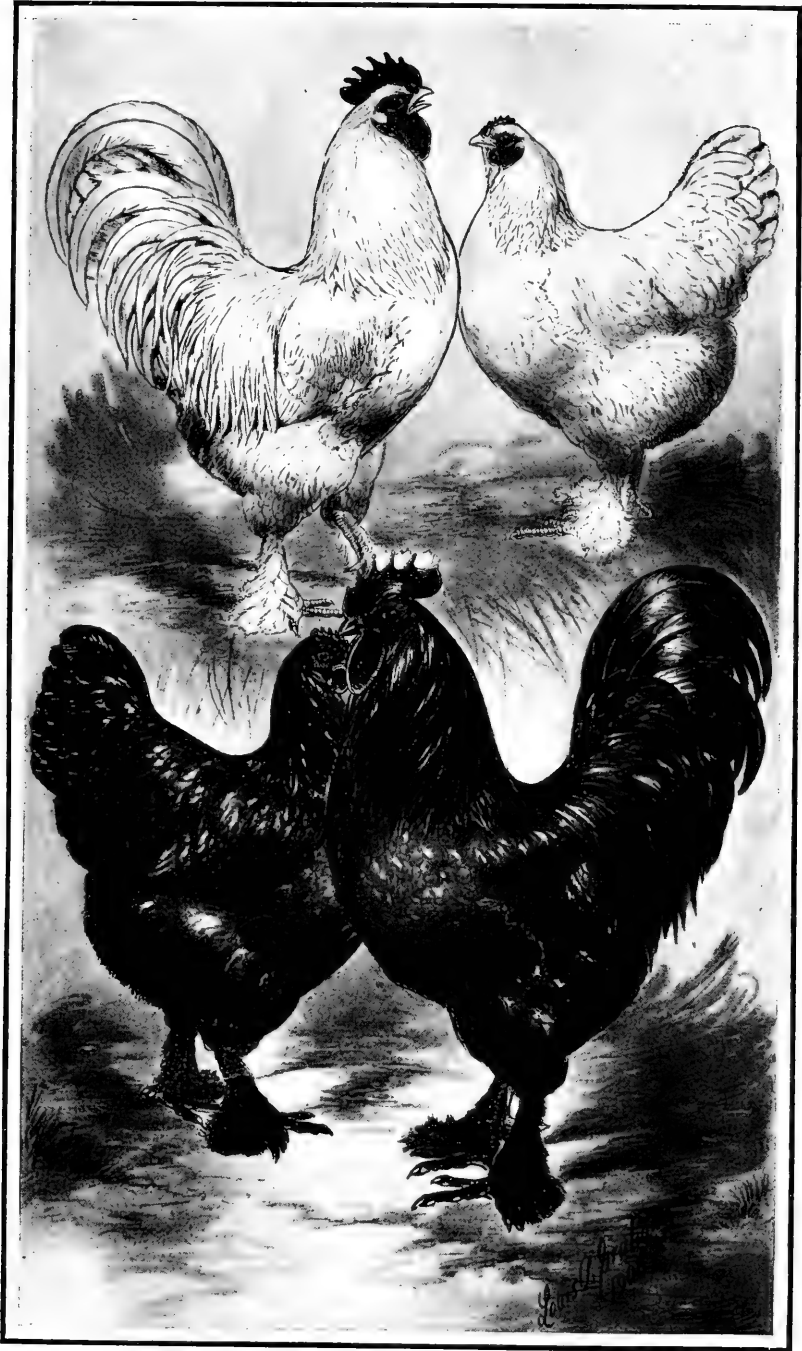
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the interest of all three of the families of the Asiatics, they might have greater popularity by far than is enjoyed by them at the present time. Nothing proves this more conclusively than the comparison of Langshan popularity to-day with that of a few years ago.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** We might best describe Langshan characteristics by quoting the words of a fancier who wrote: "The Langshan is a very large fowl with a long body; its tail carried on a level with the top of the comb; its legs noticeably long. In comparison with the Brahma and the Cochin, the Longshan has a stilty appearance." Both the Langshan male and female have good-sized heads, large combs, heavy wattles, very long tails, carried rather upright, and very broad breast, long, deep back, heavy thighs, and but little fluff as compared to the Cochin; the shape of the female is quite attractive, the sweep of back and tail making a distinctive formation. They do not have nearly as much shank and toe feathering as either the Cochin or the Brahma, but little or none upon the middle toe.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** To go further than the above statement as to shape seems quite unnecessary, from the fact that our illustrations give a clearly defined idea of the present type of Langshans. In color, there is nothing in black more brilliant, or more glossy black, than the plumage of the Black Langshan. The black is so rich and glossy as to be at times termed a glistening green shade of black. The color should extend to a lesser degree clear to the skin. Beak, dark; shanks and toes, bluish black, showing pinkish indication between the scales, clear down to the end of the toes, and bottom of the feet pinkish white. It is remarkable that fowls carrying such beautiful black plumage should show any tendency whatever to white in plumage. This slight presence of white induced the stringent clause of disqualification on one-half inch of white in any part of plumage, except in the feet. When this determined rule was established, Black Langshans were sacrificed at the altar of color disqualifications.

**SHAPE AND COLOR OF THE WHITE LANGSHAN.** The shape of the White Langshan should be identical with that of the Black variety; plumage throughout pure white, under-



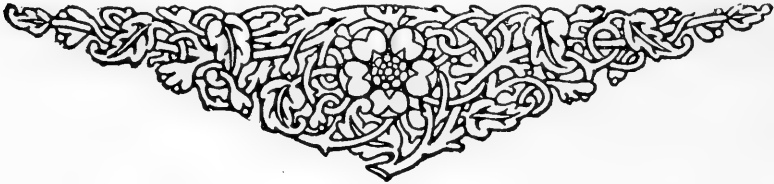


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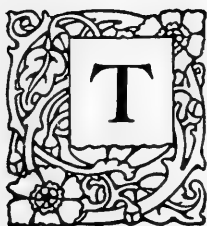
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color the same. Pure white plumage in the Langshan is just as necessary for exhibition quality as the pure black in the Blacks. If the white of the White Langshan is marred with any other color, it calls for disqualification. The beak and shanks are of a bluish shade of color. These, as in the Black variety, show pinkish inclination between the scales. The eyes of both varieties are dark brown—in the Black, brown, and hazel in the White. The same misfortune seems to follow Whites as Blacks, the Whites showing an inclination to have off color in plumage, the same as the Blacks.



## THE AMERICAN BREEDS



THE American family comprises three recognized varieties of Plymouth Rocks, the Barred, Buff, White, and the later varieties, the Silver-penciled, Partridge, and Columbian; the eight acknowledged varieties of Wyandottes, Black and Mottled Javas, Single and Rose-combed Rhode Island Reds, and Buckeyes. The American classes are considered the general-purpose fowls of the country. They average in weight from five pounds for the immature pullet to ten pounds for the mature male birds, and it is not unusual for specimens to weigh from one to three pounds more than these figures.

Undoubtedly more Barred Plymouth Rocks are grown each year than any other variety. The elongated formation of the Plymouth Rock type tends to a greater production of medium-sized eggs and are considered profitable producers of fine brown-shelled eggs; they are exceptionally good sitters and mothers, and as market poultry are highly valued. The White Plymouth Rocks have grown in popular favor in recent years, and the Buffs have also forged strongly to the front. The recently recognized Silver-penciled Plymouth Rocks, the Partridge Plymouth Rocks, and Columbian Plymouth Rocks are all equally strong in their family characteristics.

The original of all the Wyandotte family, the Silver-laced variety, is one of the most valuable of fowls. These have won the honors in the yearly egg contest for two years in Australia. They are beautiful in plumage, but difficult to breed in the highest quality, and make excellent layers and market poultry. Undoubtedly the Whites have gained more popularity than any other variety of the Wyandotte, and more of them than any other kind are to be seen in the show-room at the present time. They are very popular for the production of broilers, medium weight and heavy roasters, as well as capons and old fowls. The Buff variety follows the Whites in popularity, and close to these are the Silver-penciled and

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Partridge varieties, but no other one variety of the Wyandotte family has gained so much in public favor in so short a time as the Columbian Wyandotte. The Blacks do not advance as rapidly as they should. Being originated many years ago, they have trailed along as an occasional visitor to the better class of shows; but of late they have been taken up by both the English and American fancier, who, we predict, will bring them into greater favor in the near future.

The Javas, Mottled and Black, are bred more, we imagine, through sentiment than public favor, but no bird could be more attractive than a well-finished Mottled Java.

The Dominique, the original American fowl, the top cross used for producing the Barred Plymouth Rock, are not as carefully selected and bred as they should be. The Java, the Dominique, and the Buckeyes, which have been recently taken into public favor, might all three of them be pushed for greater results, and prove to be very profitable fowls.

Undoubtedly the Rhode Island Red has become a factor in the race for popularity among the best birds for egg producers and market poultry. They have wedged their way into the hearts of those who dwell in the rural sections of our entire country, and are to be found from ocean to ocean, and large classes of them are seen on every hand.

The distinctive breed characteristics between the Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes, are found in the formation and general make-up of the body and back of the two breeds. The Plymouth Rocks should be longer in all sections than the Wyandottes. The back of the Plymouth Rock should show but little inclination toward cushion, while the tail of the female is gathered together more than the tail of the Wyandotte. The tail formation of the Plymouth Rock gives a well lengthened out appearance, while that of the Wyandotte is short and compact; the tail of a Wyandotte is more like the formation of a Brahma. Cushion, fluff, and rotund appearance is characteristic of the Wyandotte as compared with the more elongated, closer-feathered appearance of the Plymouth Rock. The Java is more like the Plymouth Rock, but with longer body formation, straighter back, longer keel, and heavier appearance in all sections, but they do not average in weight as heavy as the Plymouth Rocks.

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The Dominique has much the same style of finish in shape and markings as the Penciled Hamburgs. As now bred, they are more than double the size of Hamburgs and barred like the Plymouth Rocks. The Rhode Island Reds are not unlike the other two members of the American family. The Buck-eyes were created for the set purpose of having more eggs and more good, edible meat for market purposes.

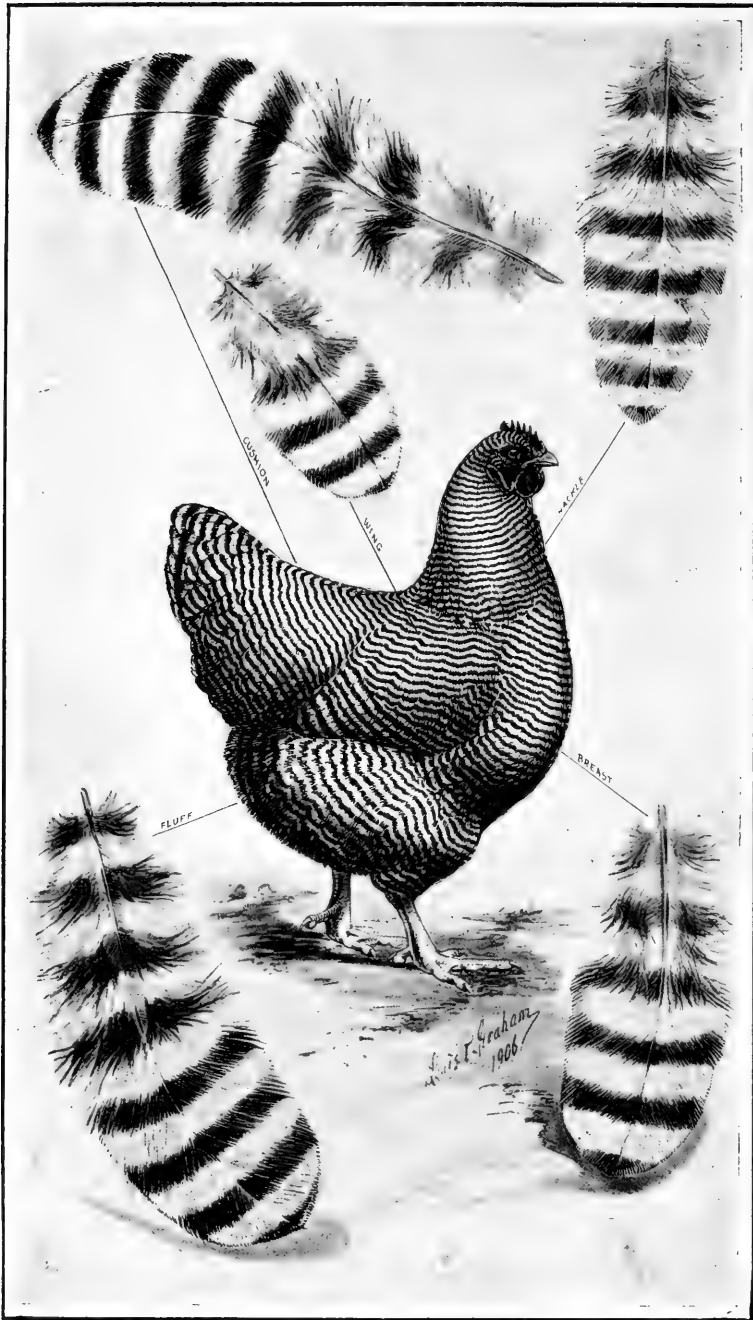
## Classification in Detail

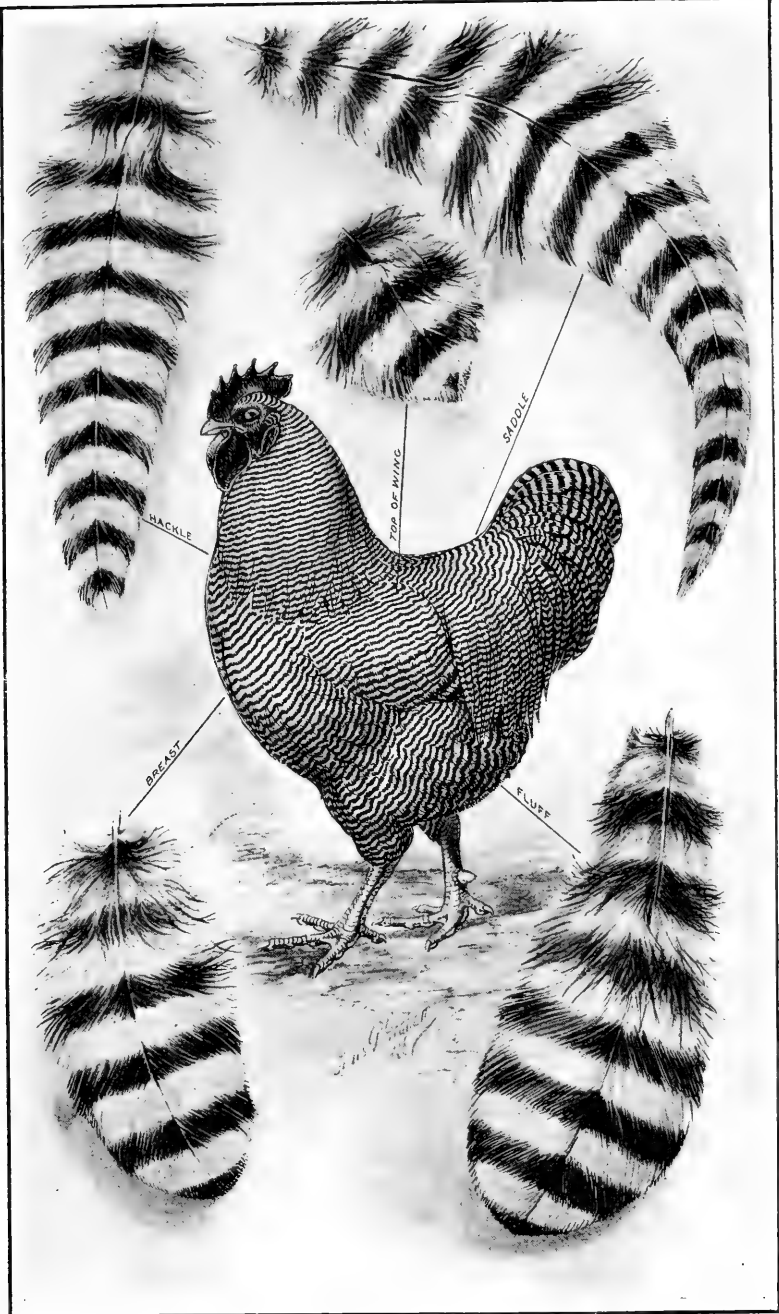
**THE PLYMOUTH ROCK.** The Barred Plymouth Rock was created and improved by a number of New England fanciers, who secured specimens from the primary cross made of the American Dominique and the Java. The originals were but slightly marked with the lines of two shades which have now become known as bars. The White variety came as sports from the Barred Plymouth Rocks. They have been developed from the crude original into one of the most admired varieties of the Plymouth Rock family. Buff Plymouth Rocks did not have any of the Plymouth Rock blood in their conception, but were suggested from some buff specimens that bore a slight resemblance to the Plymouth Rock. To this conception has been added, by careful breeding, the type and color necessary to make them truly Buff Plymouth Rocks.

The Silver-penciled Plymouth Rocks, just accepted as members of the family, are large, attractive fowls, fairly good in type, remarkable in their color and marking, and of the same plumage as the Dark Brahma. The Partridge Plymouth Rocks are, undoubtedly, sports of the same variety from the Wyandotte family. Their color is, perhaps, improved through the use of other blood. The Columbian variety, just presented for public favor, are undoubtedly sports from the Columbian Wyandotte.

**BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK HISTORY.** Among the records of poultry history in 1847 and 1850 is recorded the existence of a fowl named for the landing place of our forefathers, but the foundation of our present-day Barred Plymouth Rocks was originated later. The ancestral lines leading back to the source of this strain, travels many pathways, but there is no one who disputes the use of the American Dominique in the original cross. All admit the union of the Domi-

Plate X Barred Plymouth Rock Female and Feathers





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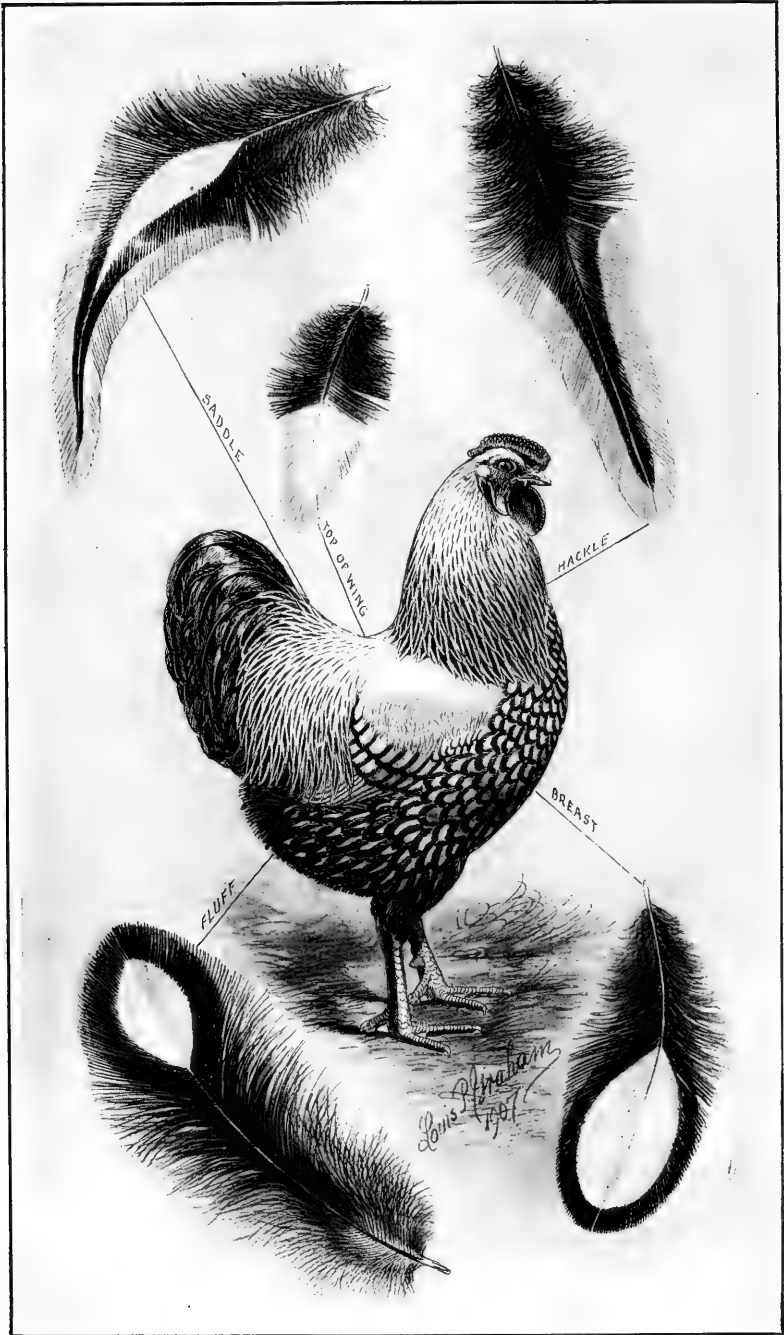
nique and some black-plumaged hens. Some claim that these black-plumaged hens were Javas, while others say they were Shanghais, and some others believe them to have been Black Cochins or Langshans. We feel that each of these claims point to the one type in the original female, and that was the smooth-shanked, black-plumaged poultry that came from the Asiatic country to America and England in the early days. The union of the American Dominique and these black fowls produced some single-combed specimens, having bars and plumage color like the American Dominique. These were sifted out by the New England fanciers, carefully paired, bred, and selected to get what became the foundation stock of the present-day American Barred Plymouth Rock.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Barred Plymouth Rock should possess the characteristic formation of the family, which suggests at a glance striking ability to reproduce their kind, and to be very successful in a long-continued egg yield to a most profitable degree. Their length of body, fulness of breast, length of keel, and general make-up, leads to the conclusion that they were improved and cultivated for the general purpose fowl of the time. In these suggestions we have the well-recognized incentive that led to their perfection. The Plymouth Rock was created to follow in line with the popularity of the Brahma. They are to medium-weight poultry what the Brahmas are to the meat-producing fowls. The back and tail of the Plymouth Rock suggests the same formation in the Brahma. Such formation tends toward the larger egg production connected with the larger size of the egg. The Plymouth Rock stands boldly erect, and presents a well-rounded elongated formation throughout its entire make-up. When compared as a breed, the Plymouth Rock has the appearance of greater size or weight than the Wyandotte. In recent years, however, the Wyandotte has gained considerably in average weight throughout their classes. Comparison of characteristics would describe the Plymouth Rock as medium in length compared with the Brahma, but longer in general formation than the Wyandotte.

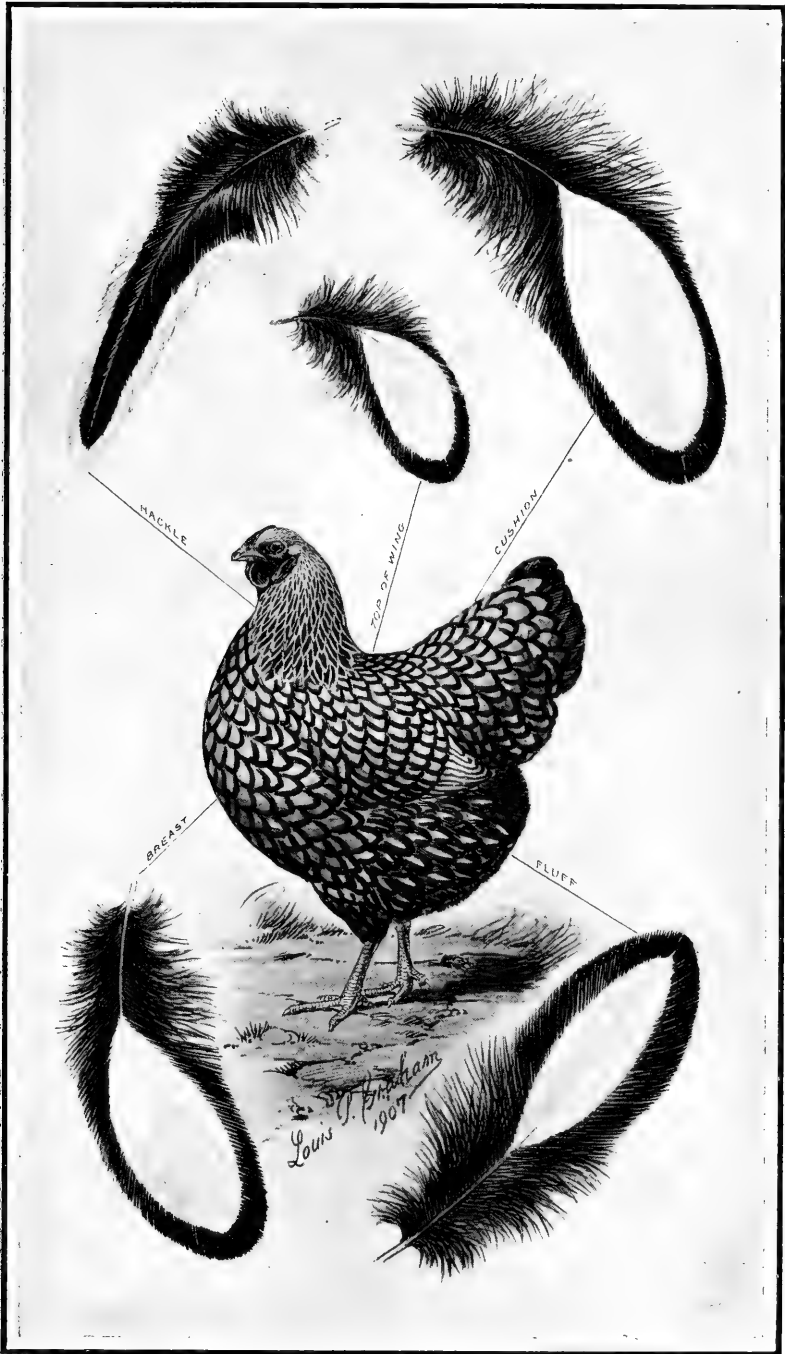




Plate XIII Silver-laced Wyandotte Male and Feathers



Silver-laced Wyandotte Female and Feathers Plate XIV



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**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The general carriage of the Plymouth Rock male might well be described as of noble and attractive appearance, with a full, rounded breast, and body well developed at the shoulders, but long enough in back to gracefully uphold a well-proportioned neck and tail that would naturally belong to a class of poultry created for general purposes. The Plymouth Rock male must have an evenly poised body, centering from the thighs and shanks. When deficient either front or back they have an ill-proportioned appearance, which naturally detracts from their beauty of symmetry. Shape in the Plymouth Rock male is a matter of more contention, perhaps, than in any other breed or variety. The demands of shape in the Plymouth Rock are for a long, broad, moderately deep, well-developed, well-rounded formation, with a medium long keel, well-developed abdomen, the back to be covered closely with feathers, which build up a rising incline or concave sweep to the tail, with a moderate fluff development about the abdomen. Whenever a defective breast and long body, or a badly developed, buncy tail is present, there is no more Plymouth Rock shape than when the well-developed cushion and heavy fluff is found upon them.

The color description of the Barred Plymouth Rock calls for the yellow beak, shank, and skin, eyes bright red, plumage a grayish white, barred across each feather with well-defined bars of a darkish-blue color that stops short of positive black. The present description may be quoted as follows: "Plumage grayish white, each feather crossed by narrow, dark bars that stop short of positive black." To-day the claim is for a combination of grayish-white bars parallel with dark or black bars, so shaded as to produce a combination having the bluish appearance. The inclination toward the too dark shade of color and the heavy barring to the skin has created a metallic surface color, which is now admitted to be of more than passing injury to the color qualifications of the variety. The head points of the Plymouth Rock might be described as round and full head formation; strong, well-shaped beak; eyes, bright, attractive red or bay in color; comb, single, well placed on the top of the head, curving front and back from a given center, which should be most prominent, evenly serrated, and perfectly smooth in formation. The barring of the Plymouth

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Rock, both male and female, should continue throughout the entire plumage of the fowl. Every feather upon the specimen should be evenly, clearly, and well defined in barring, the narrow, even bars being the best. Most important of all is the clear, clean surface color throughout that carries prominence enough in barring to the skin to come within the demands of the color description. The Barred Plymouth Rock female shows more of the elongated formation than the male. Her back seems longer in comparison than the back of the male; tail formation rather gathered together as an ending of the sweep of the back, never separate, as should be the tail of the Brahma. The back of the Plymouth Rock female should gather together at one common center, taking into its formation both sides well down to the line of the wing-bow, all of which gathers together from the neck to the tail in a well-defined sweep, which creates perfection of shape in the Plymouth Rock female. Color of plumage the same as above described, every feather beautifully barred with narrow markings of the light and dark that create the attractive Plymouth Rock color. To support these, the full, plump breast, body and abdominal formation is necessary, all to be upheld by yellow shanks and beak, free from color markings of any kind most desirable, as most often seen, the beak shaded with dark, and the shanks more or less spotted with same.

**WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCK HISTORY.** Some twenty years ago there appeared among the flocks of Barred Plymouth Rocks specimens having a grayish-white plumage. Later these were selected and placed by themselves, and cultivated for what has proven to be one of the most attractive varieties of poultry. Within ten years they have worked their way into public favor to such an extent as to become the rival of their noble ancestor, the Barred variety. In breed characteristics and Plymouth Rock formation, the Whites have become the model for the other varieties. Better shape, finish, and color is found at present among the Whites than in any other variety of the Plymouth Rock family. Their plumage is beautifully white, and their shanks and beak are attractive in rich, yellow color. Size and type have almost made them leaders for market poultry, and their history tells of more than expected success.

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**CHARACTERISTICS.** The characteristics of the White Plymouth Rock should be the same as that demanded for all varieties; yet it may be said to their credit that they might well be accepted as the ideal type for breed characteristics. The back, tail, breast, body, and abdominal development is of the high character that we have aimed to present, both in the illustration and description of the breed.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Having so thoroughly described Plymouth Rock shape, it is only necessary to call attention to the fact that all Plymouth Rocks should have the same identical shape. The color of the White Plymouth Rock, for both male and female, should be absolutely white throughout their entire plumage; the surface color, the quills, and the under-color of pure white. There should not be the least indication of any other shade than white in their plumage. The shanks and beaks are yellow, and the eyes bright red. There should never be found upon the shanks or between the toes, or upon any portion of the shanks or toes, the least sign of stubs, down, or feathers. All smooth-shanked fowls should be perfectly free from the slightest growth of feathers.

**BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCK HISTORY.** The first of this variety originated in northern New York. Some of them were exhibited at the World's Fair in Chicago. These were known as the Wilson Buff Plymouth Rocks. Following this they were distributed among the breeders and fanciers throughout New York State and New England. A number of crosses were made and several claims are made relative to the crosses that produced the best. They were not truly separated into a class by themselves until the demands came for quality as between the Buff Plymouth Rock and the Rhode Island Red. Since the dividing line between these was so strongly drawn, and the Buff Plymouth Rock required to be a Plymouth Rock having perfect buff color, they have advanced rapidly into a most enviable position and have gained to a remarkable extent the highest qualifications exacted.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Buff Plymouth Rock has the same general type or breed characteristics as the others. Some of the females are equal to any of the Plymouth Rock family in shape. The males are so greatly improved as to enable them

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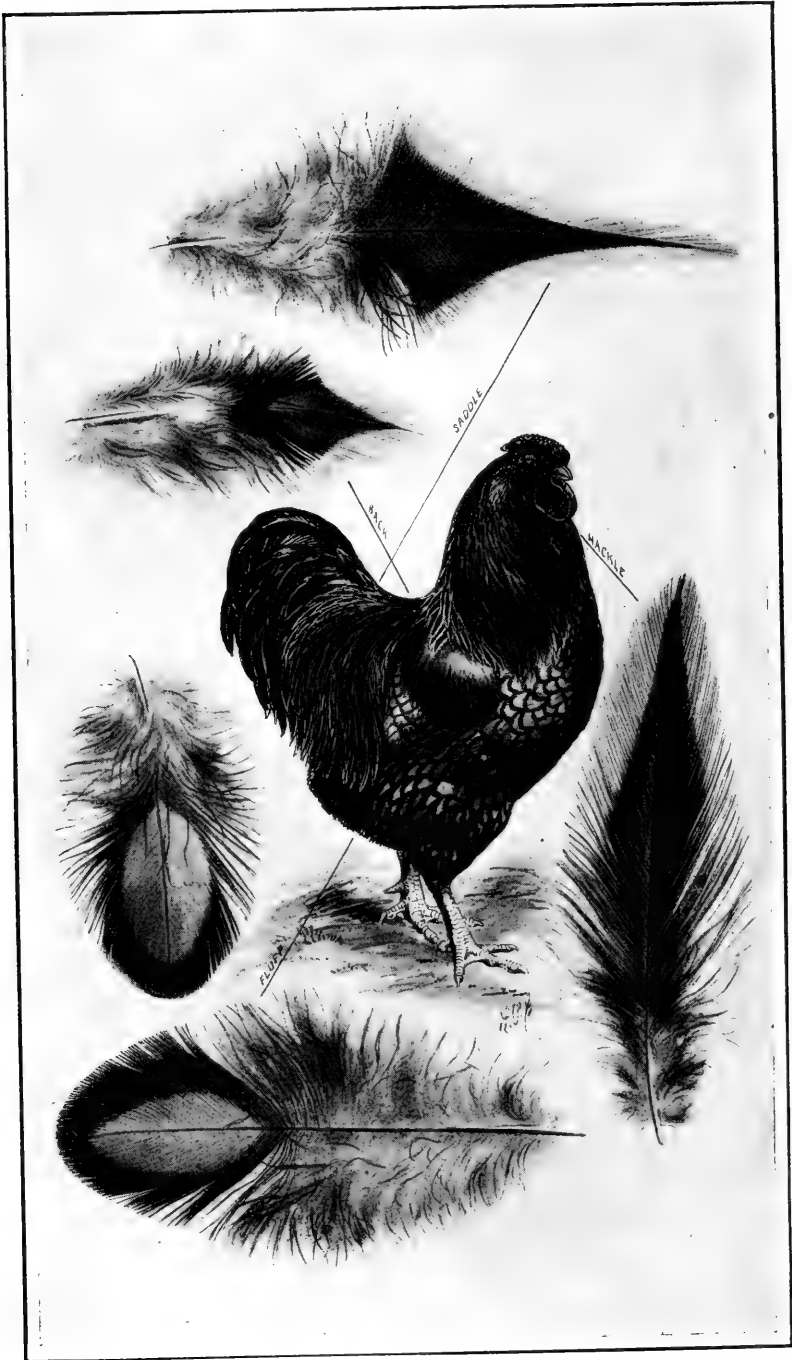
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to win often in close competition a special for the best Plymouth Rock shown.

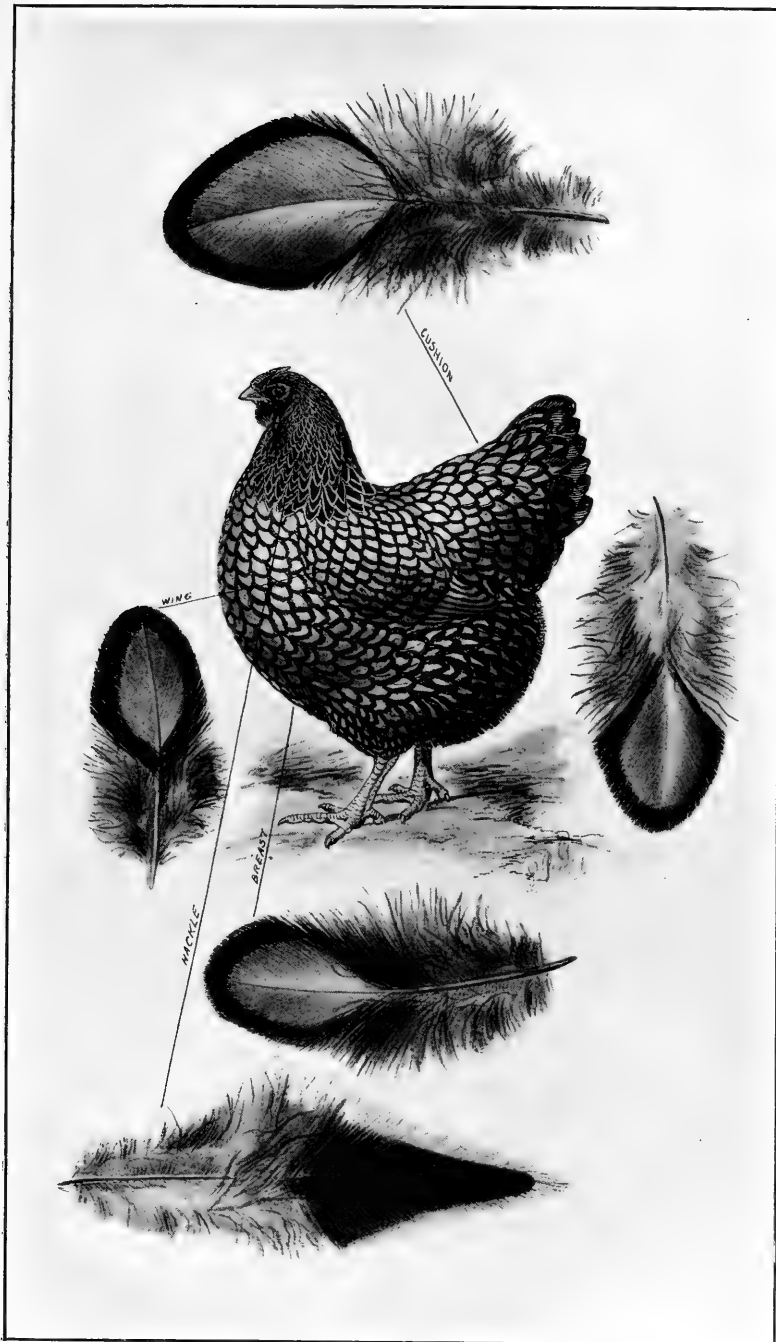
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of both male and female is the same as has been described for the others of the family. In color they should both have a true, even shade of golden buff throughout their entire plumage, this to be free from shading, shafting, or other imperfections. Every feather in the body, including the wings and tail, should have this true, even, buff color. If any shading of color at all is permissible, it should be confined to the flights and the main tail feathers. The less of this, the better, for the desirable color of plumage is one even shade of golden buff throughout. Beaks and shanks, rich, attractive yellow; eyes, bright red; comb, wattles, and ear-lobes, of all Plymouth Rocks bright, attractive red; comb formation even, smooth, of fine texture, evenly placed upon the head, the high point in the center, grading gradually away from the center, front and rear, forming a handsome, evenly serrated single comb, which does not exceed five evenly placed serrations, dividing off a well-constructed point or section of the comb. The top color of the male Buff Plymouth Rock is always richer and more brilliant than the under-body color, or the surface plumage. Under-color to the skin, including the entire shaft of feather, buff, of a shade that does not show shafting in the feather. This combination of color upon a bird of the Plymouth Rock type and characteristics gives the combination of the true Plymouth Rock of the Buff variety.

**SILVER-PENCILED PLYMOUTH ROCK HISTORY.** This variety has just been accepted as worthy of standard qualifications. There are many claims as to their origin. Some of these claims give credit to several kinds of fowls not generally known, but it is conceded that the best birds came as sports from the original Brackenbury-Cornell strain of Silver-penciled Wyandottes. This strain has produced some beautifully marked specimens; others were equally fortunate in the selection of single-combed specimens from their strain. The best of these have produced specimens of splendid size and beautiful markings. The females are quite as attractive in color and marking as the best Dark Brahmas.

Plate XV Golden-faced Wyandotte Male and Feathers



Golden-faced Wyandotte Female and Feathers Pl. XVI





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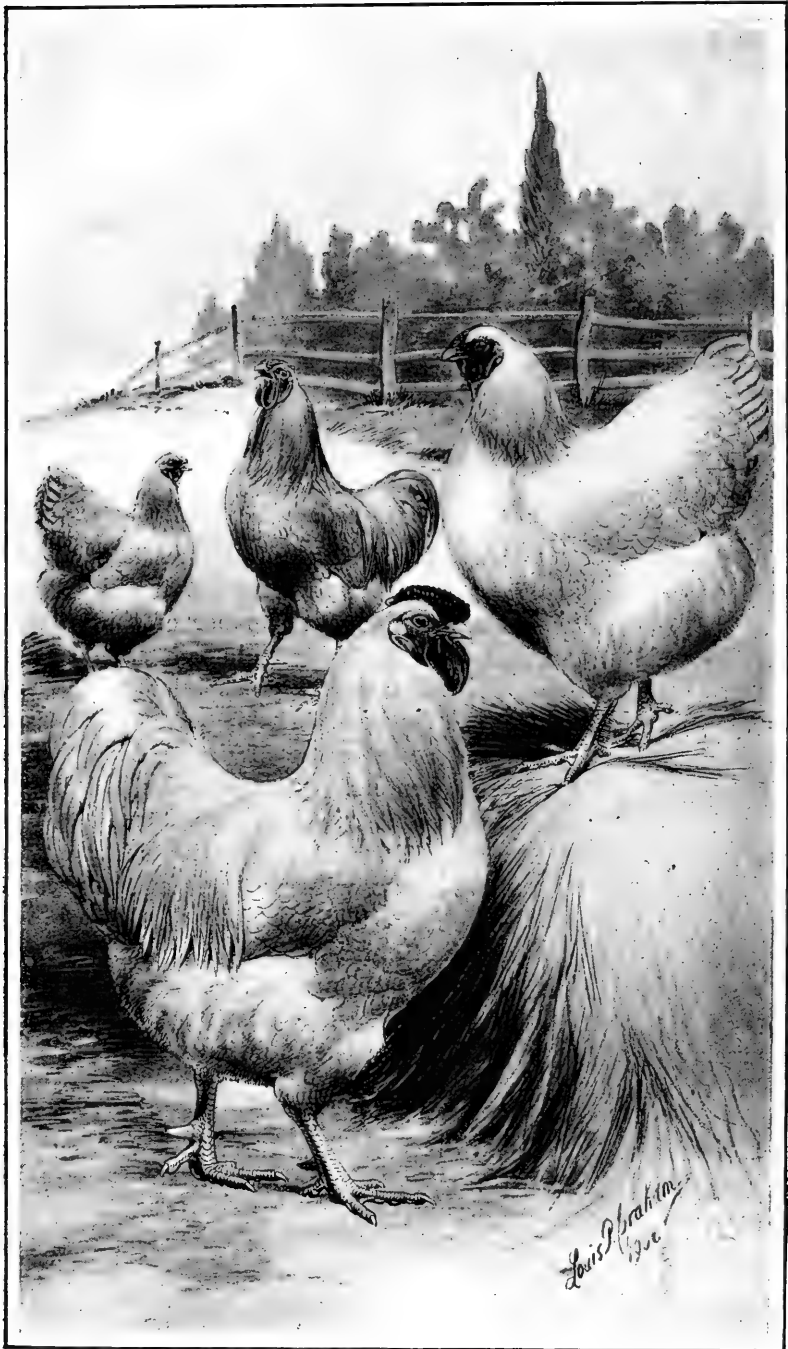
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**CHARACTERISTICS.** This new variety must be bred to the true type of the Plymouth Rock, and they must possess all the characteristics of the family to which they belong. The same lessons that have been taught through the Buff and the White Plymouth Rocks will undoubtedly be followed by those who breed the Silver-penciled Plymouth Rocks. By the time this new variety is admitted to the Standard of 1910, they should have reached a state of perfection that will identify them as true Plymouth Rocks.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the male and female of this variety must conform to the family description. In color, the male and female are the same color as has been described for the Dark Brahmas. Much attention should be given to obtaining a clear, even shade of gray throughout the entire surface plumage of the female, the feathers to have penciling of a darker shade, following the outline of the feather. Main tail feathers should be black, except some of the upper feathers, which may be powdered with a grayish cast; the primaries of the wing of the female should be edged with gray penciling. One of the most attractive color features of the female is the silvery-white hackle with black stripes, occupying the middle portion of the feather, conforming to its shape. The male has the silvery top color of hackle and saddle striped with black, tail a bright, glossy black, having a rich sheen; flights of the wing and primaries nicely finished black, with a narrow edging of white on the lower web. Lower part of secondaries should be white except near the ends of the feather.

**PARTRIDGE AND COLUMBIAN PLYMOUTH ROCK HISTORY.** For several years specimens of the Partridge Plymouth Rocks have been shown. These fowls have a resemblance to the Plymouth Rock, with the same plumage color as the Partridge Wyandotte. During the winter of 1907 specimens called Columbian Plymouth Rocks have been shown; both of these are sports from the Wyandottes of the same name. In richness of plumage and delicacy of marking the Partridge Plymouth Rock is the equal of the Partridge Wyandotte. The Columbian Plymouth Rocks do not as yet have color and markings equal to the Light Brahma, whose



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plumage color they bear. Both of these are what might be termed immature varieties, and must be permitted to make their own history.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The same family characteristics must be bred into these two new varieties that are demanded of the other members of the Plymouth Rock family. Until this has been accomplished it is only necessary to say that the same type, size, and color must be bred into them which are demanded of other members of the family.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Their shape must be true to Plymouth Rock type. Their color must be true to that previously described as necessary for the Partridge Cochin and Light Brahma, or the same as the color description given for the Partridge and Columbian Wyandottes.

**THE WYANDOTTE.** The Wyandotte represents the third family of fowls created by the American breeder. The original Wyandotte was produced by crossing several families. The Silver-laced Wyandotte was the first member of this family. The original males had the same kind of plumage as the early-day Dark Brahmas; the males had almost solid black breasts with some frosting in the feathers. The females had narrow stripes or spots of white in the center of the feathers, which were called "small white centers." In the males, the breast was black, with medium-sized white centers, tapering to a point near the extremity. These narrow or indistinct center markings are far removed from what we have at the present time.

Following these came the Golden-laced variety, which resembled the Silver Laced in general character, but were of a black color with the feathers centered with yellow, the breast being much more open-laced than the back. In some instances the breast plumage might have been called yellow, edged with black. In the males, the dominating color, black; hackle and saddle, reddish bay, with black stripes through the center. In fact, the top color of the male leans toward a reddish bay, centered or striped with black, while the breast was black, with yellow or bay centers.

The White variety came as sports from the Silver Laced. Then came the Buff variety, created through the union of

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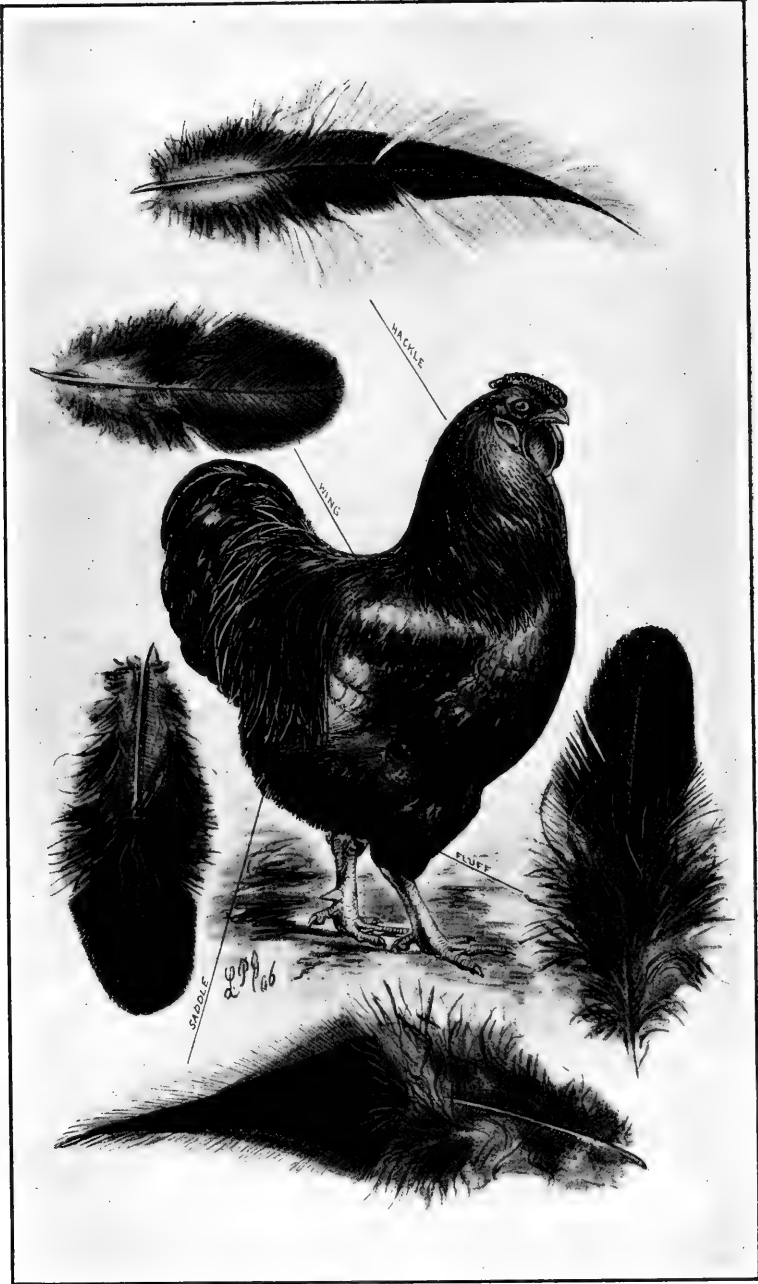
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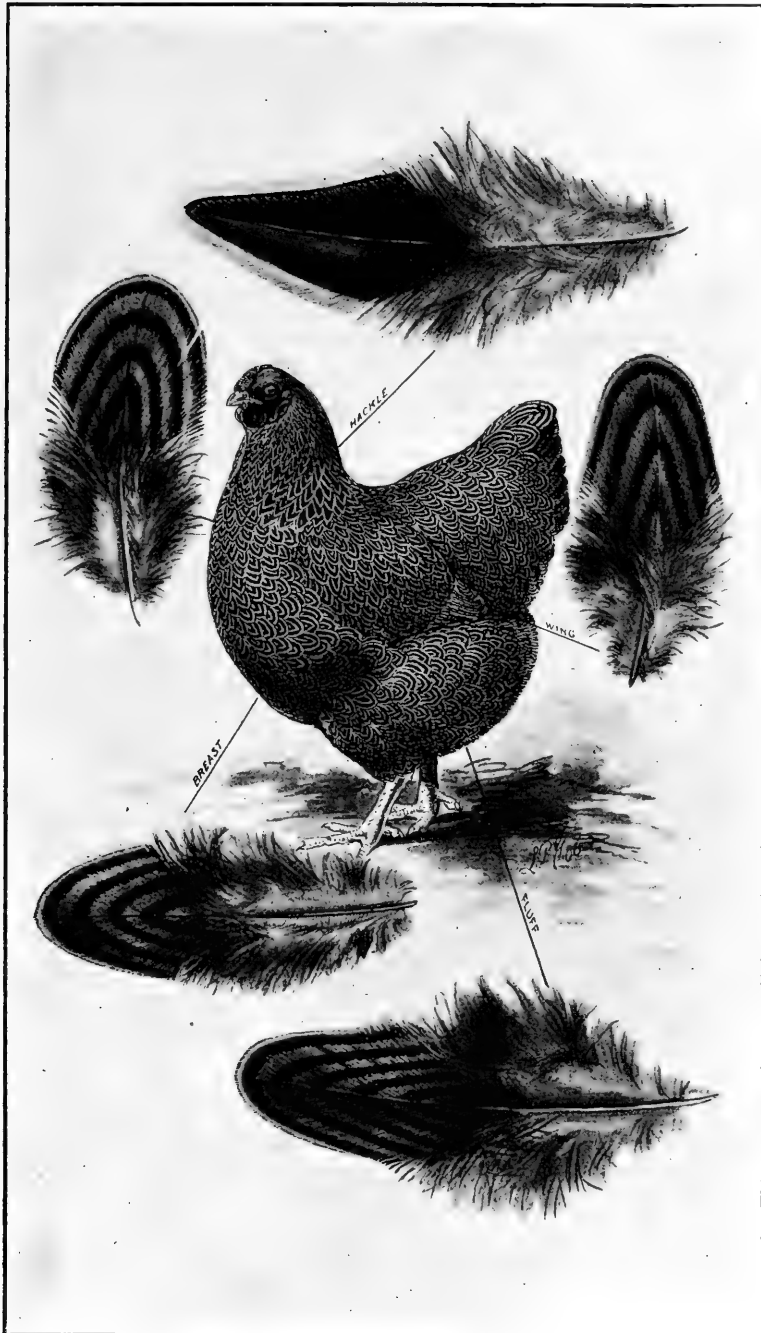
white and buff fowls. The Blacks came as sports. The Partridge, Silver-penciled, and Columbian varieties came from the various sources so well known.

**SILVER WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** The Silver Wyandotte was the first variety of the Wyandotte family, and was originated in northern New York by Mr. John P. Ray and other breeders, in about 1868. Those who have given them the most thought, credit Mr. Ray with having conceived the breed, but at the same time believe that others in connection with him were concerned with their improvement. In 1868, they were called Sebright Cochins, presumably having been produced from a cross of the Sebright and "Yellow Chittagong." From 1871 to 1876 they became quite generally distributed through Pennsylvania, Michigan, and parts of the West. Later, they were taken up by the eastern breeders, who had much to do with their advancement.

These early birds were undoubtedly intermingled with Hamburg, Cochin, and Dark Brahma blood. They were presented to public notice under numerous names, one of which was Columbians. After almost thirty years, the same name has been applied to the latest variety of the family, the Columbian Wyandotte. For a number of years there was the strongest contention between the members of the American Poultry Association as to their admission to the Standard. They were so unusual in character and color as to meet with but little consideration at the hands of the association, but were finally presented to the meeting of the association for revision at Worcester, in 1883. It was at this meeting that Mr. Fred A. Houdette, of Waltham, Mass., proposed the name Wyandotte, which was accepted as the distinguishing name for the breed, and which has since become one of the strongest and most appreciated fowls for both exhibition and utility qualities. The original description called for the web of the feathers on the breast of the females to be white, each feather distinctly and evenly laced with black; for the back of the female, the feathers were black, having a small white center. The breast color for the male, black, with medium-size white centers. As stated above, the male birds of 1880 to 1883 had the color markings of an inferior-colored Dark Brahma male, centers more like white shafting in the plumage. Some of them had feathers

Plate XVIII Partridge Wyandotte Male and Feathers





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spangled at the end with crescents, something like the feathers of a Seabright bantam, carrying only a heavy black lacing at the point. For a few years following their recognition, there was considerable strife over the question of size and shape of the white centers of the plumage. This was finally settled by one or two of the most advanced breeders of America and England, who produced some wonderful specimens having true Wyandotte characteristics, with the feathers having large centers of white, known as open lacing. Since then great improvement has been made along these lines, which nothing could explain so well as the illustrations of this variety and of their plumage. There has been one continuous debate about the dark metallic shading in the top color of the male birds. This is radically wrong and has been considered so for years, but for some reason it can not be controlled or driven out with any degree of certainty. Undoubtedly this will be maintained as long as there is so little attention paid to the tapering center of white in the saddle, and so much stress laid upon dark under-color. With the arrival of other varieties, this and the Golden have become generally known as the Laced Wyandottes, and this can be rightfully applied to them from the fact that the feathers carry a lacing around the outer edge, which follows the shape of the feather.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Wyandotte type is quite distinct from the Plymouth Rock, from the fact that the general description of the Plymouth Rock calls for a more extended type than the Wyandotte. The Plymouth Rock is rather long, broad, and deep, while the Wyandotte is short, deep, and round in formation. The Wyandotte is a closely built, compact fowl, carrying considerably more cushion and fluff than is permitted in the Plymouth Rock. They are round, plump, and rather low-built, leaning rather toward the Cochin form; not so short, however, in back or body formation as the Cochin, nor so profusely feathered. The Wyandotte has been termed the market poultryman's friend, from the fact that it grows quickly to a plump, presentable broiler, and is always a fairly well-finished roaster at maturity. To have the best formation the thighs and shanks must be set well apart, leaving sufficient space for the round, broad, deep, full breast, and body formation which belongs to the Wyandotte. When considered in

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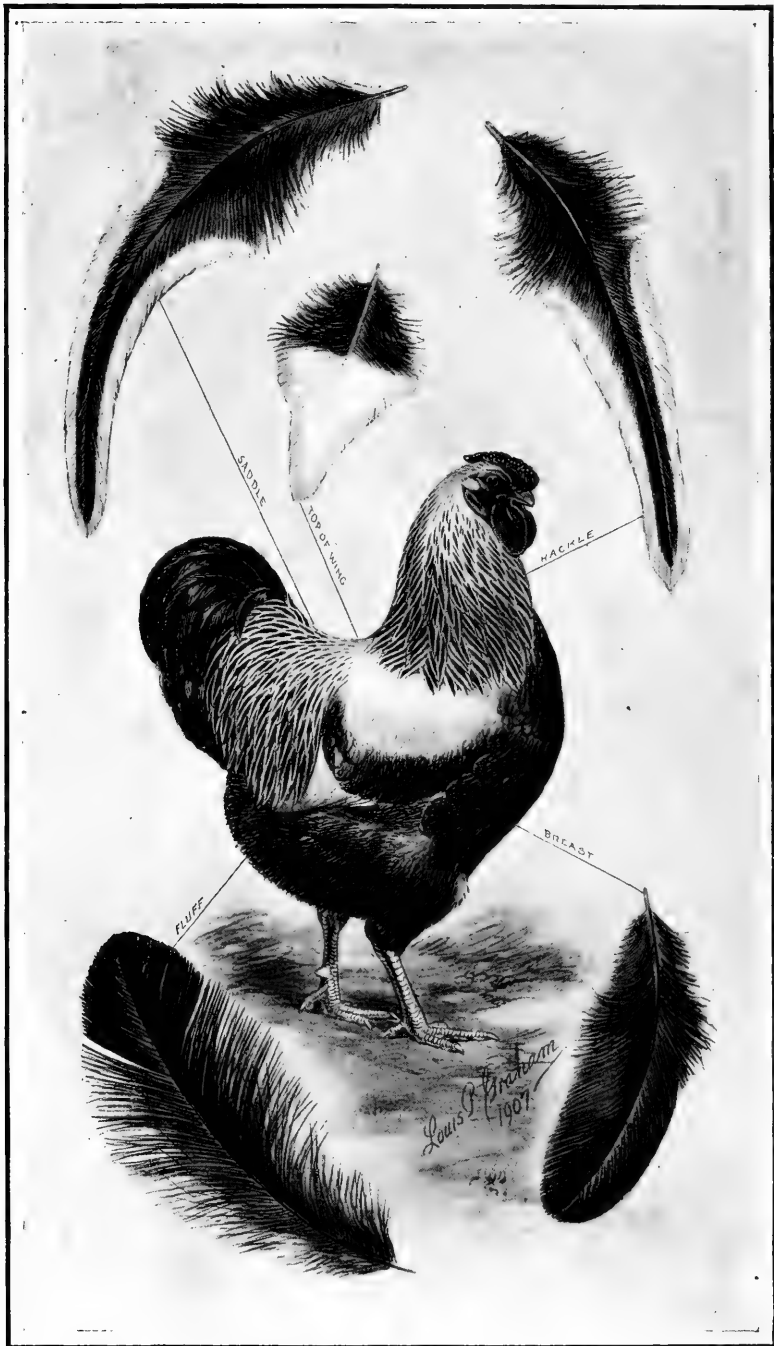
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comparison with other fowls, the Plymouth Rock would occupy in the American family the position that belongs to the Brahma in the Asiatic family, and the Wyandotte a similar place to that of the Cochin.

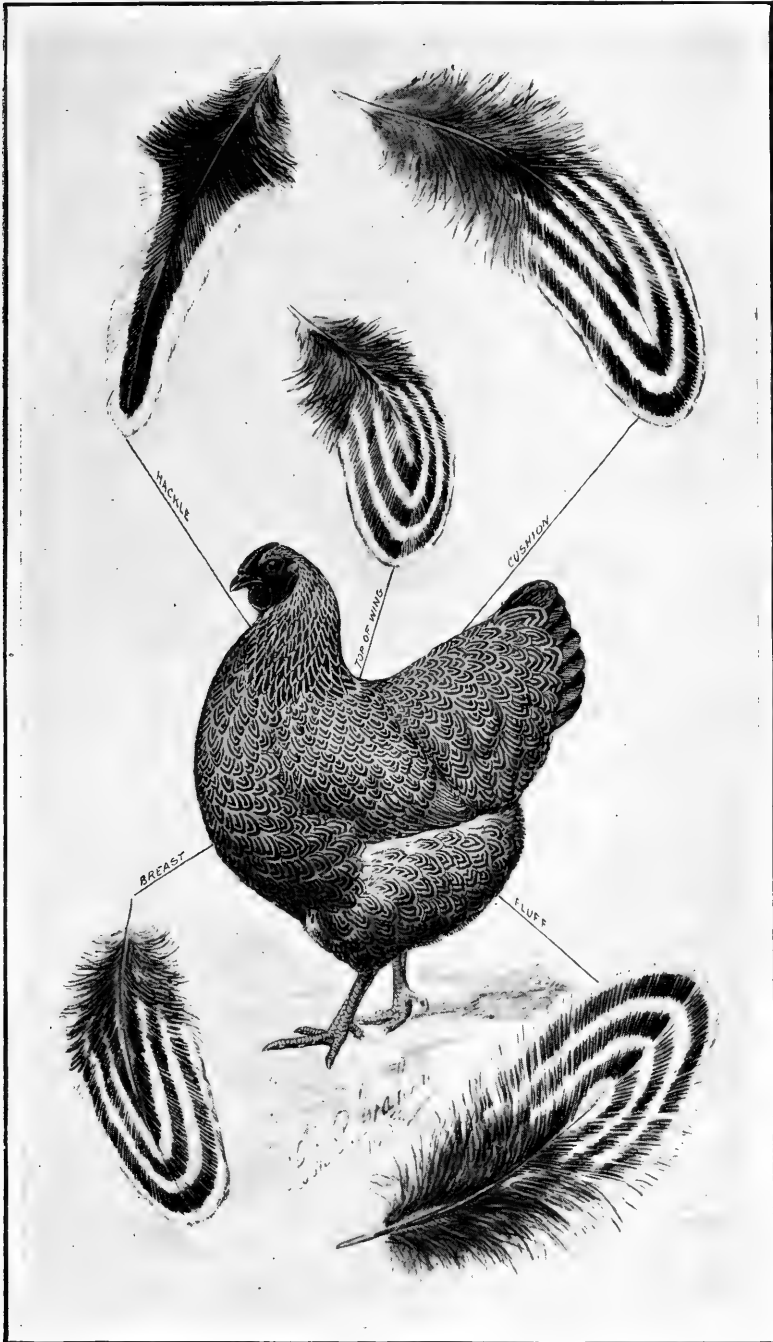
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The head of the Wyandotte should be round, surmounted with the double, or what is best known as the Wyandotte type of comb. The eyes of the Wyandotte should receive considerable attention regarding size and color. They should be prominent, in color—a clear, bright red; neck short, thick set, with plenty of hackle, which flows down over the back, thus shortening its appearance. The back should begin to rise just a few inches in the rear of the hackle plumage, and should swell out toward the tail into a very broad formation having considerable cushion. The tail should grow out of this in the male somewhat like the tail formation of the Cochin, the female having the A-shaped tail like the Brahma, surrounded with coverts that carry the markings to the extreme end of same; in the male beautifully striped. The wings of the Wyandotte are never carried as close to the body as the wings of the Plymouth Rock; this gives the broader appearance at the shoulder. When the point of the wing is entirely tucked away beneath the breast plumage, it gives the well-rounded breast formation so desirable in the Wyandotte. Top color of the male silvery white, including the entire top plumage from the comb to the beginning of the main plumage of the tail; hackle beautifully striped with black, the saddle the same. Wing-bow and middle portion of back should be silvery white; wing-bay white; between the bow and bay, two half-circles of white centers edged with black, forming what is known as the double wing-bar. One of the most important features in the color of the male is the presence of a diamond-shaped center of white in the saddle plumage; this so far back as to be hidden from view on the surface. This white centering is very valuable. The breast, thighs, and under-body plumage should have the white center edged with black, the more open the lacing, the more beautiful the specimen. The beak should be dark, or yellow shaded with dark; shanks and toes, yellow; tail plumage, glossy black; primaries of wings, black, with an edge of white on the lower side; secondaries black, lower portions white. In the female, the



Plate XX Silver-penciled Wyandotte Male and Feathers



Silver-penciled Wyandotte Female and Feathers Pl. XXI



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hackle, silvery white centered with black, the balance of the entire body plumage, white in the center of each feather, completely laced around with black—the more open lacing being preferred; the main tail feathers, black; wing-flights, black; secondaries, black, the lower portion of both of these, white edged with black. Clean, beautiful shanks in both are much admired.

**GOLDEN WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** Shortly after the recognition of the Silver Wyandotte, the Golden Wyandotte was produced by Mr. Joseph McKeen, of Wisconsin, and others through a union of the Partridge Cochins, Brown Leghorn, Golden Hamburg, Black Breasted Games, and the Silver Wyandotte. The ground color of these birds at first was much like the early-day Partridge Cochins. Black and golden bay were the distinguishing colors of these birds instead of the black and silvery white of the Silver variety. Less difficulty was experienced, probably, in bringing these into shape and color, as the makers of this variety had the Silver variety as a foundation and a model. These were naturally larger in size than the Silvers. This is true in many strains at the present time. For many years the Golden Wyandottes excelled in shape and color, and the best grades were distinguished by a cleaner, clearer plumage, and better markings than are usually seen in the Silvers at the present time. For many years there was a brisk demand for these birds both for exhibition and utility purposes, and as a class they have kept pace with the others.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Golden Wyandotte must be identical in type and breed characteristics, not only with the Silvers, but with all varieties of the family, and there should not be any difference whatever in type throughout the entire Wyandotte family. Wyandotte characteristics are the same throughout, and whenever there is any deviation from the true Wyandotte type, they lose their identity as a fowl of beauty and quality.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** There is no difference whatever in shape between the Silver and the Golden Wyandottes. Both of these varieties have become known as the Laced Wyandottes, and the markings of both should be alike, the only difference being in the plumage color, which in the Golden Wyandottes should be a

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clean, clear, golden, the top color in the male being of a richer shade than the centers of the breast and body plumage. Wherever the Silver is black, the Golden is the same, and the white markings of the Silver are golden bay in the Golden variety, while the centers are equally open and attractive in both varieties.

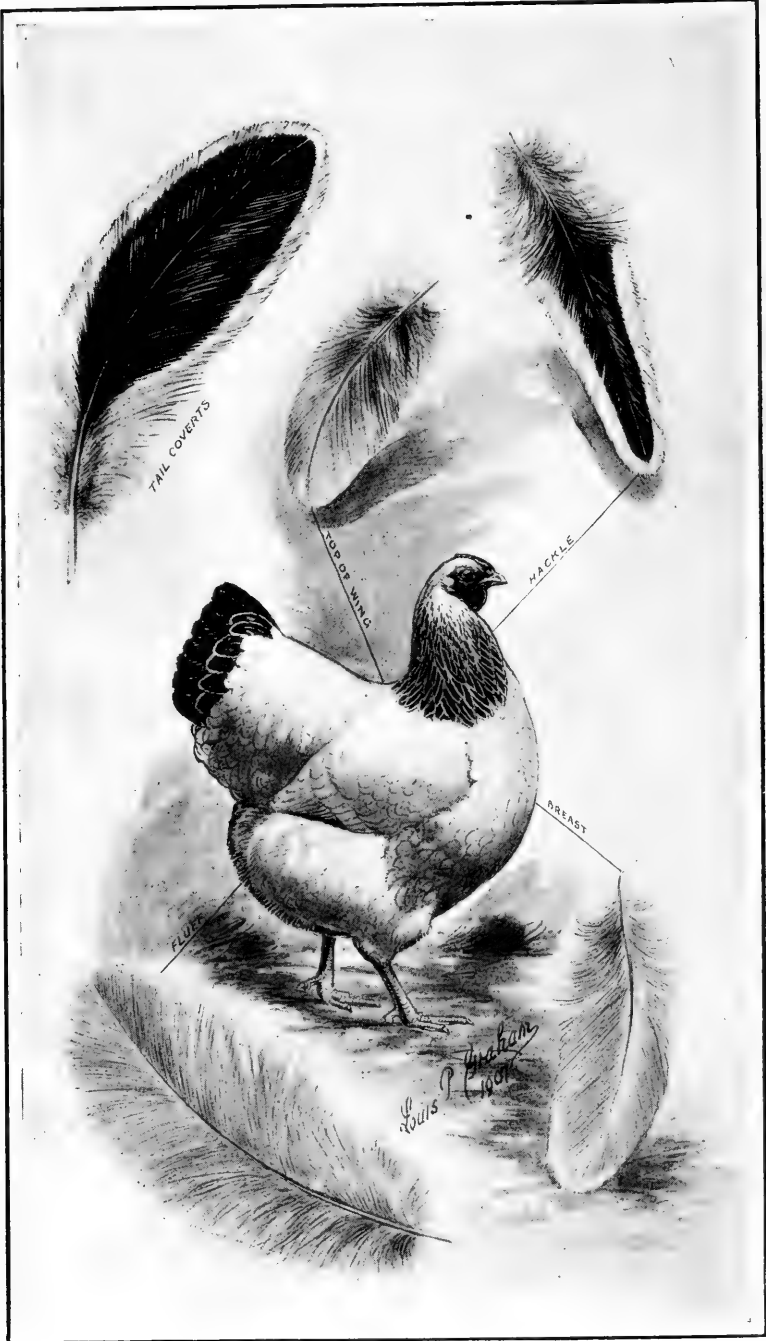
**WHITE WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** In 1872, before the Silver-laced variety was well distributed, some white sports were produced from them, which were gathered together and carefully bred until they had proven to be a true variety that would reproduce both shape and color. Mr. Hawkins states that the first and best of these were in New York about 1885. From these original New York White Wyandottes, crossed with other fowls to improve size, shape, and color, has been built up one of the most attractive and most popular varieties of Wyandottes. Breeders throughout the country have established strains possessing distinct characteristics, but the best White Wyandottes may be traced back to the originals that came as sports from the Silver-laced variety.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The White Wyandotte should have the true Wyandotte shape to a greater degree than any other variety. Coming as they did, as sports from the foundation strain, they naturally inherited the proper Wyandotte shape.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** They must be true Wyandottes in shape. Color of the plumage throughout, pure white to the skin. The whiter the plumage color, the more they are valued as exhibition fowls. Beak and shanks, rich yellow; eyes, bright red. An important feature in all the Wyandottes is the clear, clean, bright-red color of comb, face, wattles, and earlobes. Whenever metallic white shows in lobe or face, it is a blemish which should almost bar the fowl from the exhibition pen. This metallic white should not be mistaken for the whitish appearance that sometimes shows in these sections, which is caused from lack of condition or the absence of a full flow of blood into the head and face. Metallic white is like the white on the earlobes of the Mediterranean family.

**BLACK WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** Black Wyandottes first made their appearance in the yards of Mr. F. M. Clemens, Jr., Mechanicsburg, Ohio, about 1885. The first of these were a

Pl. XXII Columbian Wyandotte Female and Feathers





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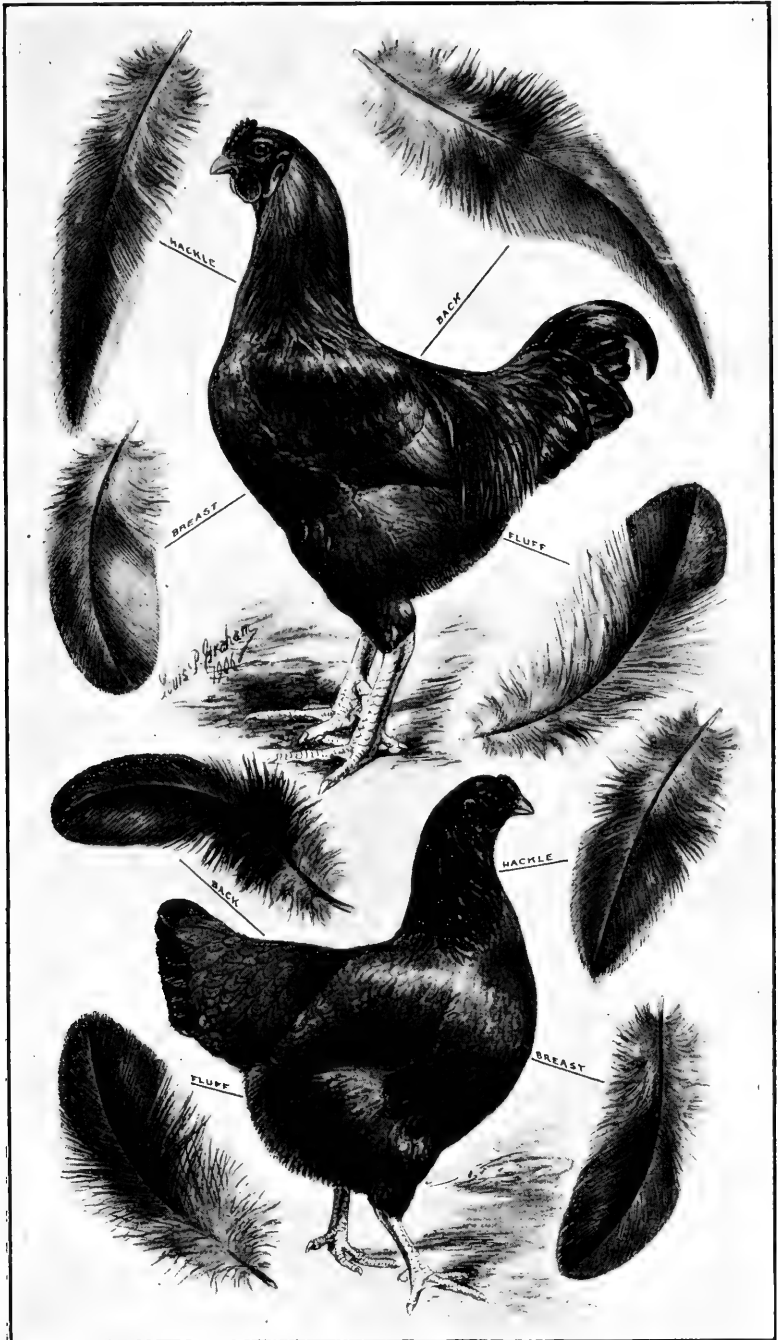
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pen of black pullets, sports from the Silver Wyandottes, mated to a cockerel that was almost entirely black. These were carefully bred and selected until they were of sufficient quality to secure them recognition as a pure variety, in 1893. For many years, in fact, until recently, they were bred but little, and seldom ever seen even in the showroom. Of late years they have become more popular both in this country and in England, and it seems that the special favor now being bestowed on black fowls has brought them more into prominence. Size, shape, and color have improved considerably since the dark, or black-colored shanks, have become admissible, when the bottom of the feet are yellow.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Black Wyandotte characteristics are identically the same as in all other varieties of the Wyandottes.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** In shape the Black Wyandotte must be true to the demands made upon the other varieties. The color of the beak, black, at times shaded more or less with yellow; eyes, a beautiful red; face, comb, wattles, and earlobes, bright red; shanks and toes, black preferred; the more brilliant the black, the better the influence on the body plumage. If shanks and toes are shaded with yellow, or willow, it is not entirely against them, but the bottom of feet must, however, be yellow. Plumage throughout a rich, glossy black, carrying a finish of greenish sheen; this is more striking in the top color of the male than in the breast color, or in the plumage of the female.

**BUFF WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** The Buff Wyandottes were originally conceived by Mr. George H. Brackenbury, of Auburn, N. Y., who used as the foundation for buff an almost clean-shanked Buff Cochin pullet. Dr. Aldrich and other fanciers used Wyandotte and Rhode Island Red crosses. Mr. Forsythe began with buff sports from the Golden Wyandotte. These, with other crosses, were used as producers, and the selections formed the foundation for the present day Buff Wyandottes. The best of these did not make their appearance until the lines were closely drawn between the Rhode Island Red and buff varieties of the American classes. When the demand was made for Wyandotte type, and true, clear, clean buff color





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throughout, the improvement was quickly noticed, and they fell in line with the other varieties in the qualifications of size, shape, and color.

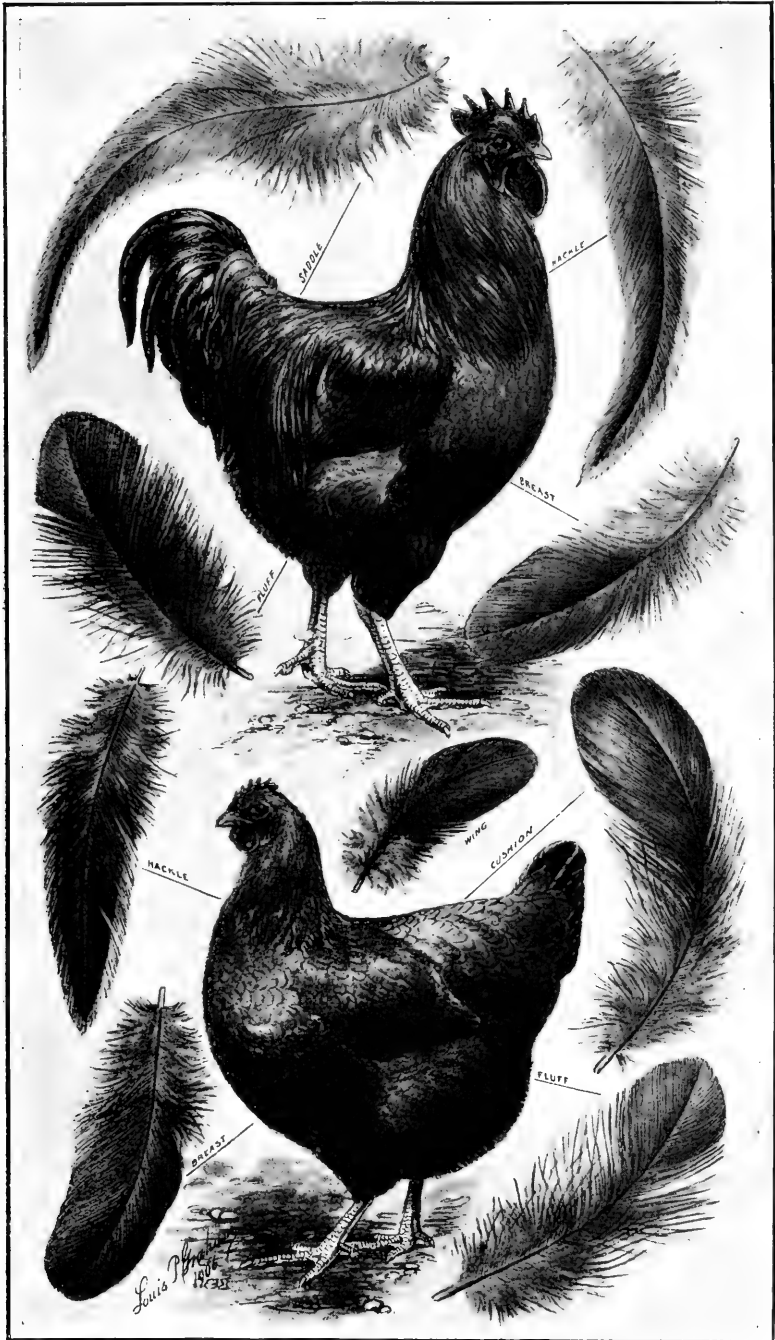
**CHARACTERISTICS.** Breed characteristics must be the same in the Buff variety as in all other Wyandottes, and nothing short of this is permissible.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Shape is the same as in all Wyandottes. Beaks, shanks, and toes, yellow, the richer and more golden in shade the better; eyes, bright red; comb, face, wattles, and earlobes, bright red; surface color of plumage an even shade of golden buff, so evenly laid on as to entirely fill the web of the feather and prevent a lighter under-color to show through. Nothing but a true, golden buff is correct; a tint within the lemon shades not to be considered. Under-color should be buff, a shade or two lighter in color than the surface color. Thinness of color in surface, showing ticking, or shading through the plumage is not to be permitted.

**PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** In New York State Messrs. Cornell and Brackenbury produced a strain of Wyandottes having the color of the Partridge Cochin, known as the Golden-penciled Wyandotte. In the western portion of the country a strain was originated having the same color and known as Partridge Wyandottes. After some discussion, they were both accepted as Partridge Wyandottes. All of them were made from the Partridge Cochin, Golden-laced Wyandotte, and Golden Hamburg crosses. Since their recognition they have been greatly improved in size, shape, and color. They have grown from a crude beginning to a beautiful Partridge Cochin-colored variety of Wyandottes, which fills a very enviable position as an exhibition fowl.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** Breed characteristics for the Partridge variety are the same as demanded for all varieties of Wyandottes.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Partridge Wyandotte should be the same as for all Wyandottes. The color of the male quite like the Partridge Cochin. All head points, including the eyes, bright red. The plumage of the neck, back, and saddle, red, shading in the center of the back darker than the hackle and the saddle; hackle and saddle beautifully



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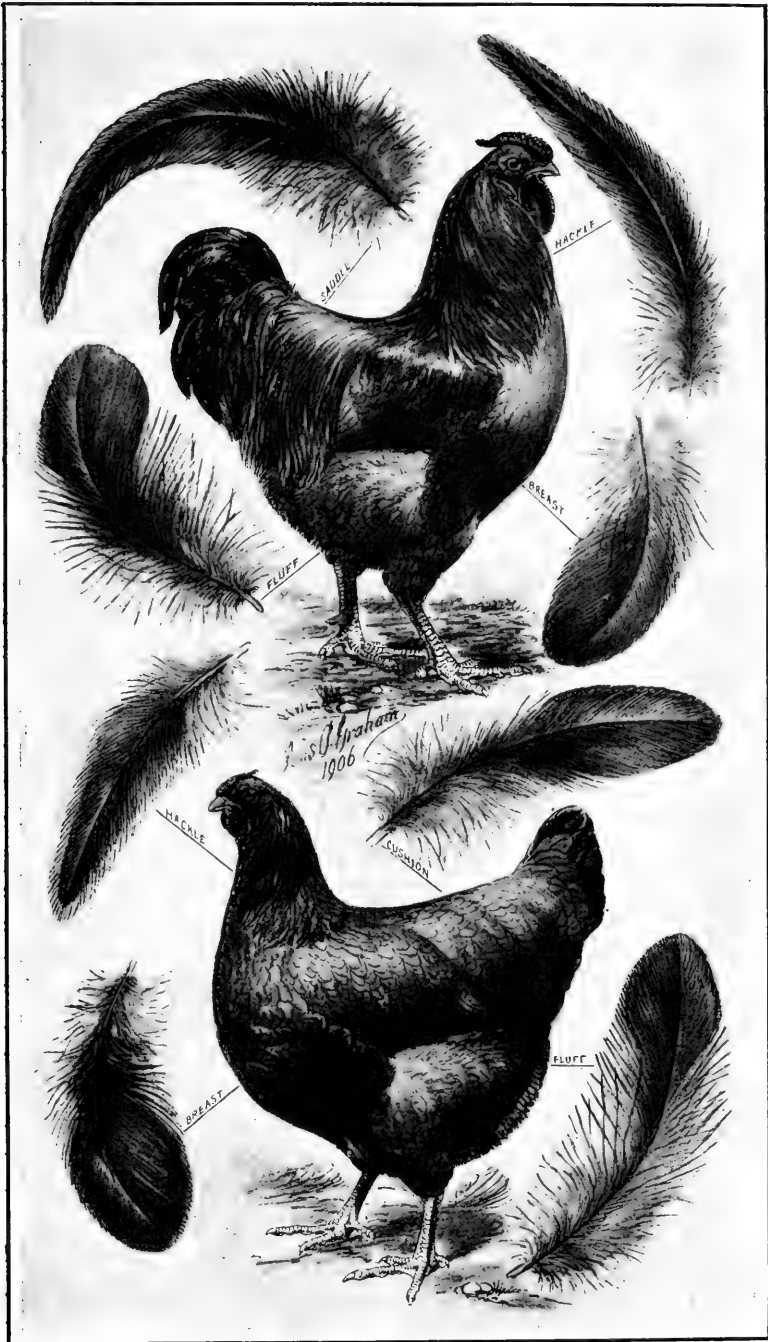
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striped with black. Breast, body, and fluff, black; tail, black; sickles, well glossed with a sheen; wings have flights of black edged with red; secondaries the same; the wing-bow almost as rich in color as the center of the back. Shanks and toes of both male and female should be yellow. Often the shanks of the female are badly shaded with dark. The color of the plumage of the female, the same throughout as the Partridge Cochin, being a mahogany red, or reddish brown, penciled with a very dark brown, the shape of the penciling always following the outline of the feather. The main tail feathers of the female a brownish black, the upper ones powdered more or less with the brown color; the more beautiful and finished the color of both the better.

**SILVER-PENCILED WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** Mr. Brackenbury, of Auburn, N. Y., as above mentioned, originated the Silver-penciled Wyandottes. Many crosses were made, using the male of the Silver Laced having a black breast, with a female Dark Brahma, and Silver Hamburgs were crossed with the original crosses, which created the original ground work of the Silver-penciled Wyandottes. Other crosses were made from Silver-laced Wyandottes and Dark Brahmas. These, through careful selection and mating, have produced a Wyandotte of great character, with even more beautiful plumage and markings than are found in the Dark Brahmas. The males of this variety are by far more beautiful in plumage than the males of the Silver Laced. They have become a most attractive and beautiful variety of Wyandottes. The Buff, the Partridge, and the Silver Penciled can all, more or less, trace their source back to the home of Mr. Brackenbury at Auburn.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** Breed characteristics are the same as with the other Wyandottes.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** They have, to a marked degree, an excellent Wyandotte shape. The color and markings are identical with the Dark Brahma. The top color of the male, silver-white; hackle and saddle, penciled with black; wing-bow, black; breast, and body color, including tail, black; shanks and beak, yellow; female, hackle, silver-white, with a distinct black center; balance of plumage, gray, with dark lines marking each feather, the shape of which follows the outline. The entire



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plumage of the body is distinctly marked in this way. Main tail feathers, black; primaries and secondaries, black, edged with gray. Shanks and toes should be yellow; this is true to a marked degree in the males. Many of the females lack very much in shank and toe coloring. Comb, face, wattles, and earlobes, rich, clear, red, with no markings or disfigurations.

**COLUMBIAN WYANDOTTE HISTORY.** The first Wyandottes created had as one of its names, Columbias. Later, a variety was originated by Rev. B. M. Briggs, who used Barred Plymouth Rocks and other fowls. The present-day Columbian Wyandotte descends from an original cross of White Wyandottes with almost bare-shanked Light Brahma fowls. These have been carefully selected and bred until now we have a variety of the Columbian Wyandottes that are a credit to the Wyandotte family, and follows close in line with the rich, Light Brahma color. Those most interested in the future of this variety kept away and apart from all crosses excepting the one in which the union of the White Wyandotte and Brahma was carried out. They have become very popular within the past few years. Having been accepted as a variety of the Wyandotte family, they have been taken up and carefully bred by the most successful fanciers until they have obtained their present high qualities.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** Breed characteristics should be the same as for all Wyandottes.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Nothing but true Wyandotte shape is permissible. Color of beak, and shanks, beautiful yellow; comb, face, wattles, earlobes, and eyes, rich red; color of plumage, the same as for the Light Brahma; the hackle, beautifully striped with black; tail, rich, glossy black; coverts of male, edged with white, with a double row of laced coverts about the tail of the female; flights and secondaries, black, edged with white, black predominating, but in many instances at present, the white has the ascendancy in color of flights. The Columbian Wyandotte must be a true Wyandotte in every section. Color of body plumage an exact imitation of the Light Brahma.

**HISTORY OF OTHER VARIETIES.** In making the several varieties of Wyandottes, the Buff-laced variety cropped out, which has the buff center and the white edge in plumage. Be-

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sides these, what is known as the Violet variety was produced, resulting from a cross between the Golden and the White Wyandotes, but with which some other color was, perhaps, intermingled. The Violets have the ground color like the Golden, the feathers being edged with a violet blue color. The Cuckoo Wyandotte is an imitation of the Pea-combed Plymouth Rock, and the only difference seems to be that the Pea-combed Plymouth Rock had the pea-comb of the Brahma, while the color of the Cuckoo Wyandotte is that of the Plymouth Rock. These three have had but little consideration. The most successfully handled are the Buff-laced, which have the plumage color the same as the Buff-laced Polish. The late Harrison Weir made a color-plate of this variety, and called them White-laced Red Wyandottes. In a letter received from Mr. Weir, he stated that the pair illustrated by him were really as described—fowls having a reddish-bay plumage, edged with white.

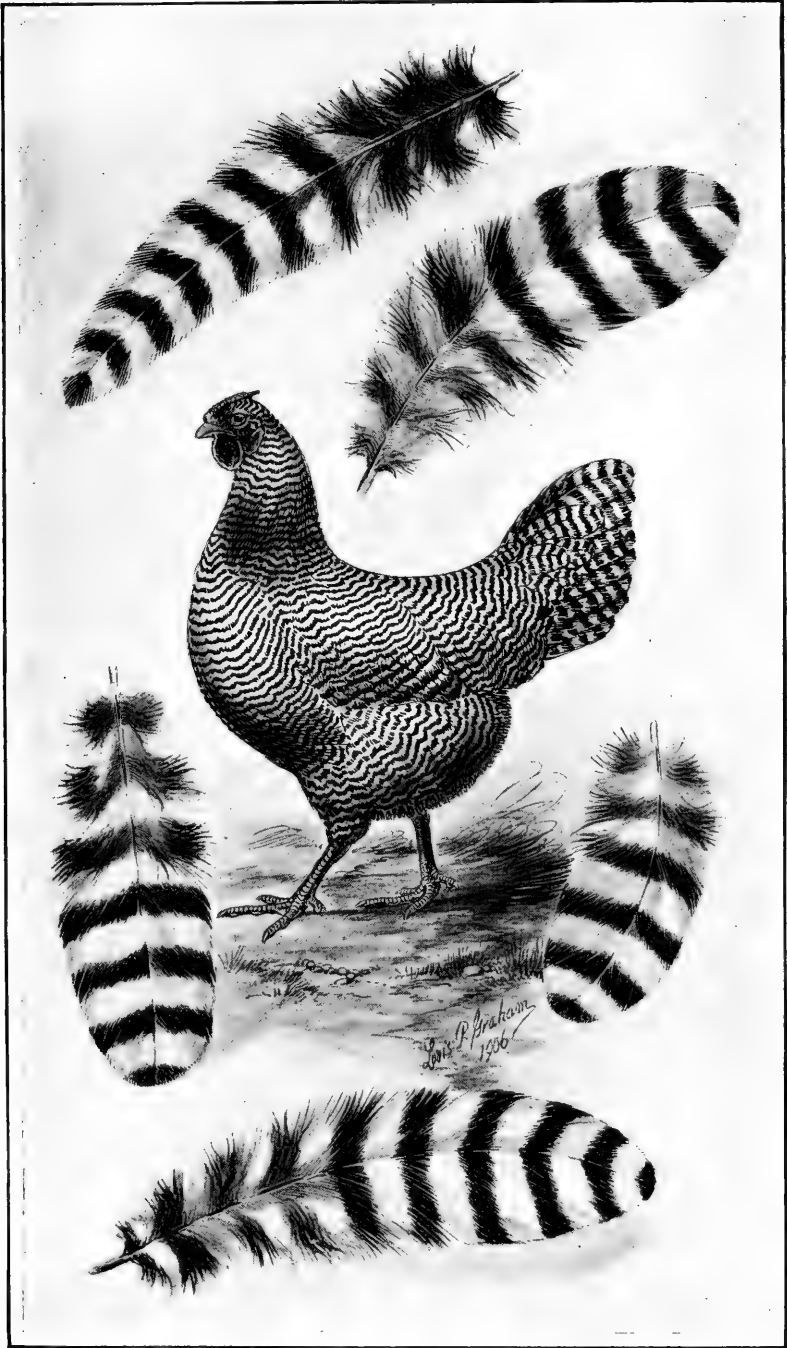
**JAVA HISTORY.** The Javas as now bred are not the same fowls that were used in the original cross for producing the Barred Plymouth Rock. Javas are mentioned by writers as early as 1850; some of the birds were described as black, others as having a brownish colored plumage. The Javas as we have them to-day are thought to be the result of careful breeding by fanciers in some one of the western states. Specimens of these were taken by New York breeders many years ago, and by the most painstaking efforts were grown into the present-day type, which is a large-sized, long-bodied fowl, midway between the Plymouth Rock and Langshan. They have short shanks, long bodies, and were bred for the production of eggs and market poultry. Later, the Mottled Java was produced by crossing the Blacks with the White Plymouth Rock female. However they may have been created, there is nothing more attractive than a beautifully finished Mottled Java fowl.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The marked characteristic of the Java is the full length of body, having considerable breadth and depth, with a long breast bone, heavy thighs, and well-rounded back. The comb is single. Entire body formation is best described as having better length than either the Plymouth Rock or the Wyandotte.

Plate XXVII American Dominique Male and Feathers



American Dominique Female and Feathers Pl. XXVIII





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**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of both the Black and the Mottled varieties require the single comb, the well-formed wattles and ear-lobes, the long, heavy formation of neck, full length of breast, back, body, and fluff, the heavy thigh and great length and depth throughout. The color of comb, face, wattles, and ear-lobes, in both, bright red. The plumage color of the Black variety, lustrous black throughout; beak and shanks, black; toes, black; under part of feet, yellow. In the Mottled variety, the color of plumage is of a mottled black and white, the darker shade predominating. Shanks a mixture of yellow, shaded with darker color, but the preferred color would be yellow, spotted with a bluish-black scaling throughout; no metallic white whatever is permissible in the face or ear-lobes of either of these.

**DOMINIQUE HISTORY.** No one has definitely placed the origin of what is known as the Rose-combed American Dominique. These birds represent a color that in some localities is termed blue-barred fowls, by others, cuckoo-colored fowls; with us it belongs to what is known as the American Dominique and the Barred Plymouth Rock. Just how the original American Dominique was created no one will ever be able to tell. The suggestion is made that they were bred from a crossing of the original Dutch Hamburg with the white and black fowls of America. They were known as a profitable egg-producing fowl for the farmer, and their great egg-producing qualities led to the union of the black fowls called Javas, which were heralded throughout the country as the greatest of all egg producers, which cross eventually resulted in the Plymouth Rocks. The Dominiques have been neglected in recent years. If an equal effort were given to their advancement that has been devoted to others, they might regain some of their early day popularity.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The American Dominique is more like the Hamburg in type than any other fowl, but they are more than double their size, with the double or Hamburg comb, with short legs, and quite different from the Plymouth Rock.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** They are of medium size and length; can be described as medium in all sections compared with the

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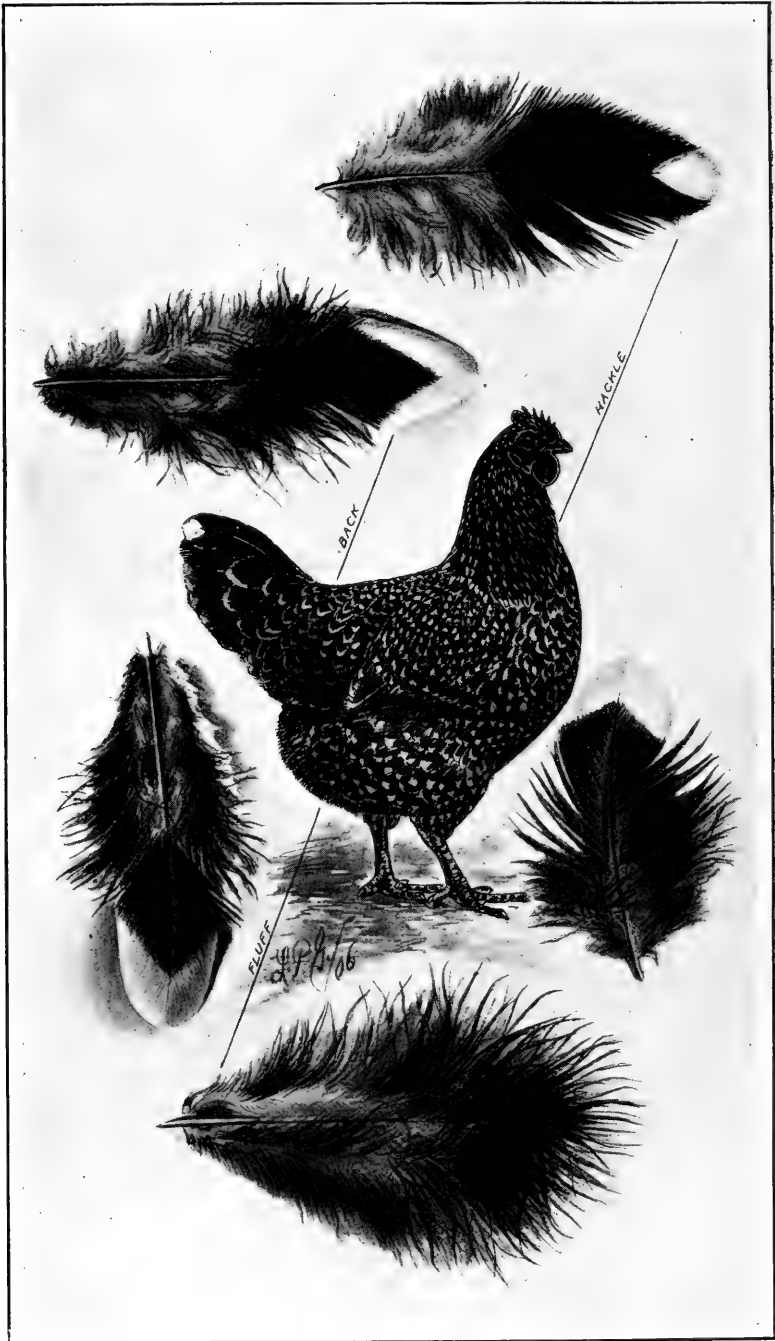
other American breeds. They should have their own peculiar form. The female is quite like the Penciled Hamburg, or the Leghorn, and the male is fashioned somewhat after the Hamburg, with more black in body plumage; length of tail plumage, not near so long; color, light and dark; the body-color a light grayish white, barred throughout with parallel lines of very dark, bluish black. Shanks and beaks, yellow; comb, face, wattles, and ear-lobes, rich red; eyes, red.

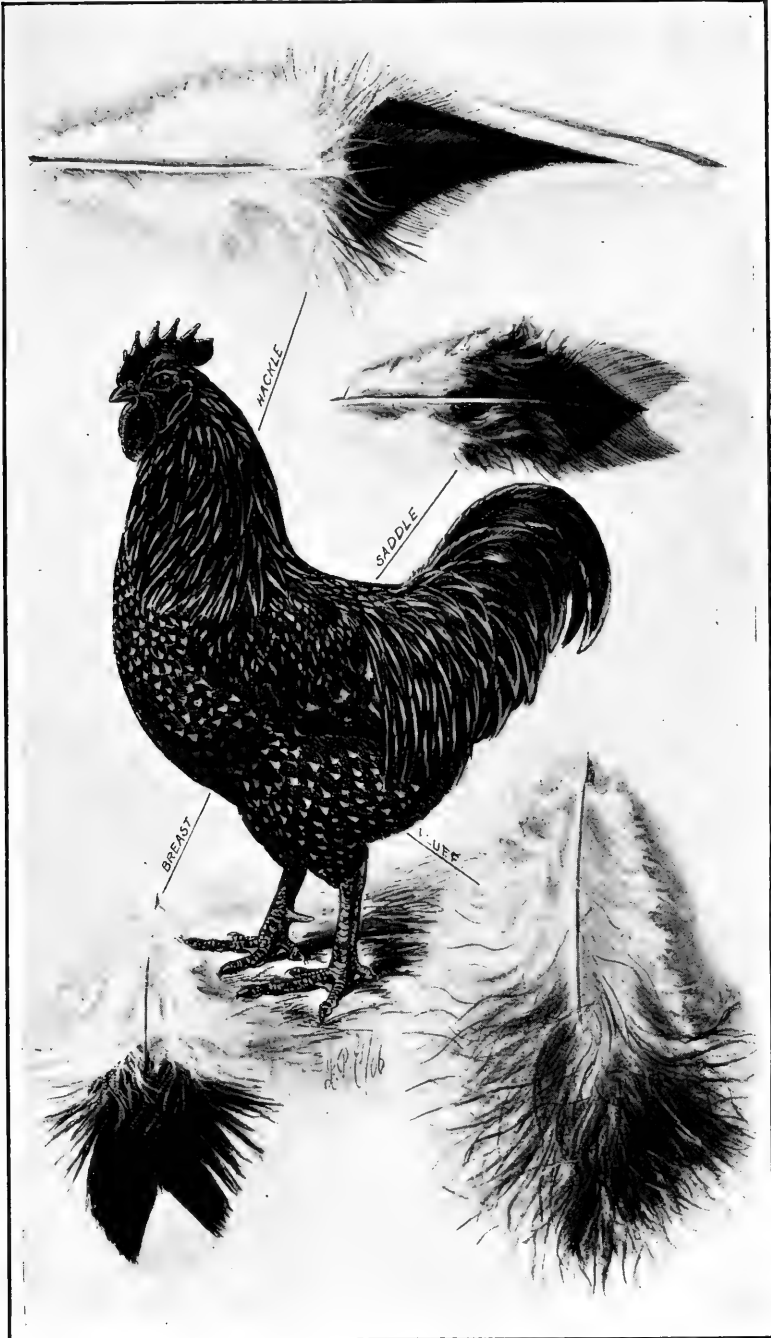
**THE RHODE ISLAND RED.** This fowl is the result of the general effort throughout New England to produce the best grade of utility fowls. All kinds of poultry have been intermingled with the farm stock to improve the character of the product, and Rhode Island became the most persistent along these lines. This section has helped through the Rhode Island Red to improve many varieties of the American family, especially the Buff Wyandotte and the Buff Plymouth Rock.

**RHODE ISLAND RED HISTORY.** Even the most active enthusiasts of the Rhode Island Red can not say more of their history than that they were created through the mixture of Shanghais, Cochins, Malays, and every other known kind of fowls that could be found upon the farms of Rhode Island, and which were cross-bred for utility purposes. From the best of these fowls those were selected having the finest shape, and combs, with color markings that were admitted to be best fitted to the purpose. An army of fanciers in New England took them up, and brought them strongly into public prominence.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Rhode Island Reds are fashioned more after the Plymouth Rock than any other breed. But while they are very much like the Plymouth Rock, in general appearance, they differ considerably from them in the formation of back and tail. Notwithstanding the fact that it is desirable to have both varieties the same shape, the Rose-combs at the present time are not a facsimile of the Single-combed variety.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Single-combed and the Rose-combed Rhode Island Reds may both be described as having a broad, deep body, of medium length. They are proportioned and built along utility lines, and carry a large amount of flesh





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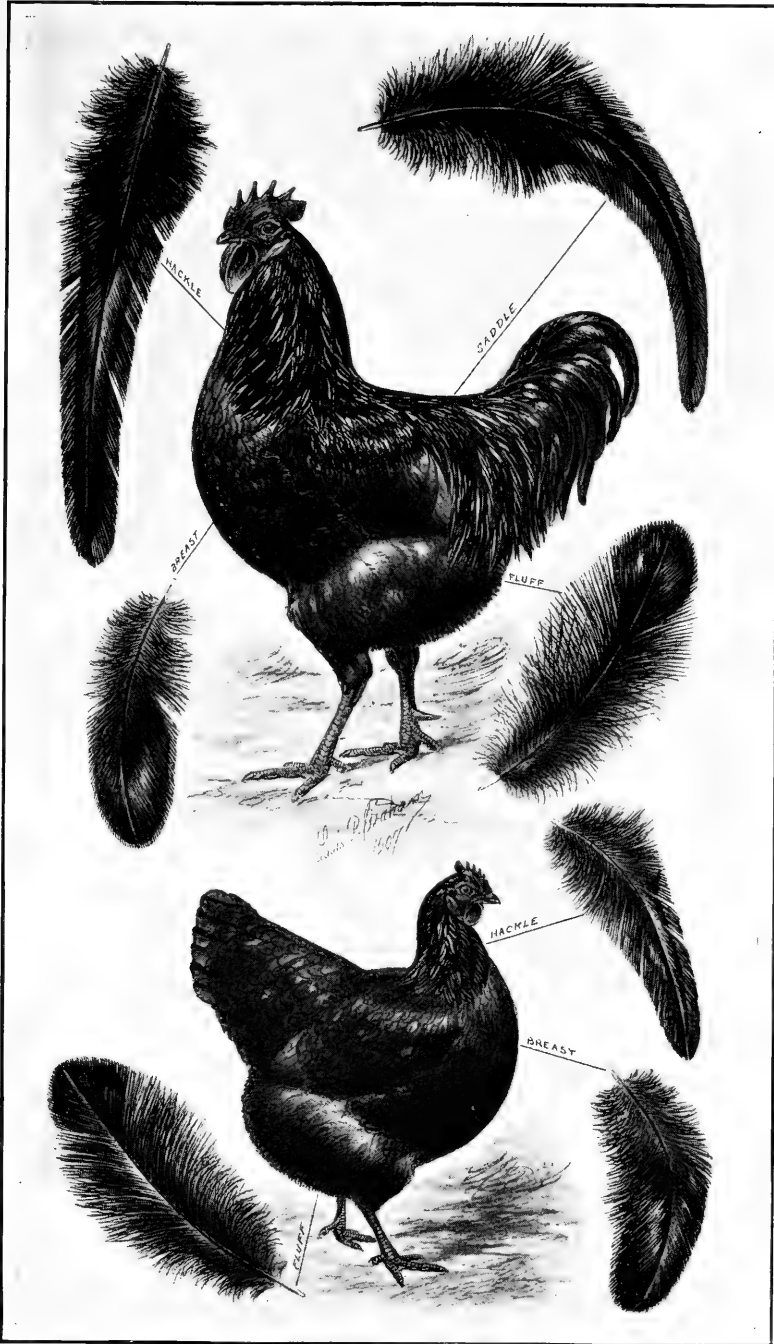
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on their unusually well-formed bodies and breasts. The length of the body indicates fine egg production. They are rather low built, heavy set, having equal poise of body front and back of the shanks. The color of shanks and toes is yellow or reddish yellow; beak, the same; comb, face, wattles, and ear-lobes, including the eyes, red; main tail feathers, including the sickles, black, having a greenish sheen; coverts mainly black, powdered with red; surface plumage in males, top color, rich, brilliant red; breast, and under-body color, not so brilliant as top-colored plumage. In the plumage of the male or female, no color should appear, but the rich red, with the black shadings; no white permissible. The plumage color of the female is of a lighter shade of red and more even throughout than the color of the male; the under-color of both male and female is red or salmon; the tips of the lower hackle feathers of the female should have a black ticking, not striped or laced; the wing primaries in the male and female, black; upper web, red; secondaries, lower web, red; upper web, black. In the male, wing-bow, and coverts, red. The main tail feathers of the female, black, or greenish black.

**BUCKEYE HISTORY.** The Buckeye was originated by Mrs. Metcalf, of Warren, Ohio, and was originally called Buckeye Red. In the production of these birds a cross was made of the Asiatics, Black, Red, and Indian Game Fowls. From these a type of fowl was bred that has the appearance of both the Asiatic and the Indian Game. They have been carefully guarded for the best results in egg production and market poultry, and they were accepted as a member of the American family, under the name of Buckeye.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Buckeye is a large, well-proportioned fowl, resembling the Indian Game more than any other individual breed. They are strong and vigorous, about equal in size to the other members of the American family.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** In shape one might best describe the Buckeye as an imitation of both the Indian Game and the Plymouth Rock family. They are large and full in breast and body; tail, of a medium length, carried rather upright; strong in thighs and thick in shanks, and well proportioned throughout. They have a pea-comb, which is smaller than the average







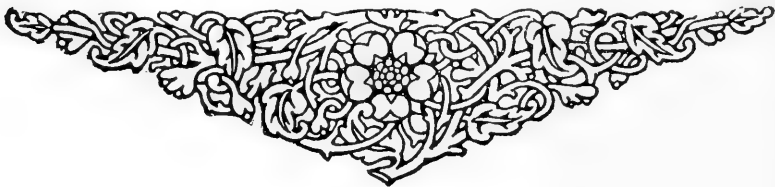


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Brahma comb, attached close to the head. Wattles, ear-lobes, face, including comb, a bright red, and well proportioned for the size of the bird. Beak and shanks, yellow; general surface color of plumage, dark red, shaded in top color with garnet, or very dark cardinal. There should be a total absence of yellow or buff color in the plumage. The female is not so dark in shading as the male. They are not unlike the Rhode Island Reds in color, except that the general run of the specimens in this breed are not quite so deep in surface and under-color as the most admired shade of the Rhode Island Reds. Nothing is more attractive in these birds than an even shade of surface color throughout, no matter what the shade may be. The wings contain more or less of black coloring.



## THE MEDITERRANEAN BREEDS



THIS FAMILY of fowls has become so generally distributed throughout the world as the Italian or Mediterranean breeds. These comprise the Leghorns, Minorcas, Spanish, Andalusian, and Anconas, and like all European varieties, produce eggs having the white shell. White-shelled eggs belong almost exclusively to the European races of fowls, while the tinted shell is a characteristic of the Asiatic.

Leghorns have been classed with the Spanish, Minorca, and Italian families, and in some instances the Anconas have been classed with the Spanish or Minorcas, and still in other cases they are counted as a branch of the Leghorn family. Leghorns were so designated from the fact that the first importations were credited to Italy, the Minorcas, Spanish, and Andalusian were classed as Spanish, while at the present time Anconas are mentioned as belonging to the same race as the Leghorns.

These five families are recognized as the egg-producing fowls. Originally, the White-faced Black Spanish, or, as termed in the early years of their existence as a recognized breed, Black Spanish, were the producers of the largest eggs having the white shells. Of recent years, however, the Minorcas have been credited the best producers of the largest size white-shelled eggs. Many persons class the Minorca as a red-faced Spanish fowl, and claim they are both of one and the same original family. The claim is made that one had been cultivated as an egg-producing market fowl, with red face and white ear-lobes, while the other was bred as a purely ornamental fowl, with the extended white face, wattles, and ear-lobes.

The Andalusian, the blue Mediterranean fowl, has always been classed with the Spanish family, especially by the English writers. Just why this should be, we can not say, nor do we believe that they should be classed with either, from the fact that they are evidently the result of the White and Black

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Mediterranean fowls. Some of these fowls show a very marked resemblance to the Minorca, while others have the appearance of the Leghorn, but as seen to-day, the greater portion of them are strongly Minorca in every way, excepting carriage.

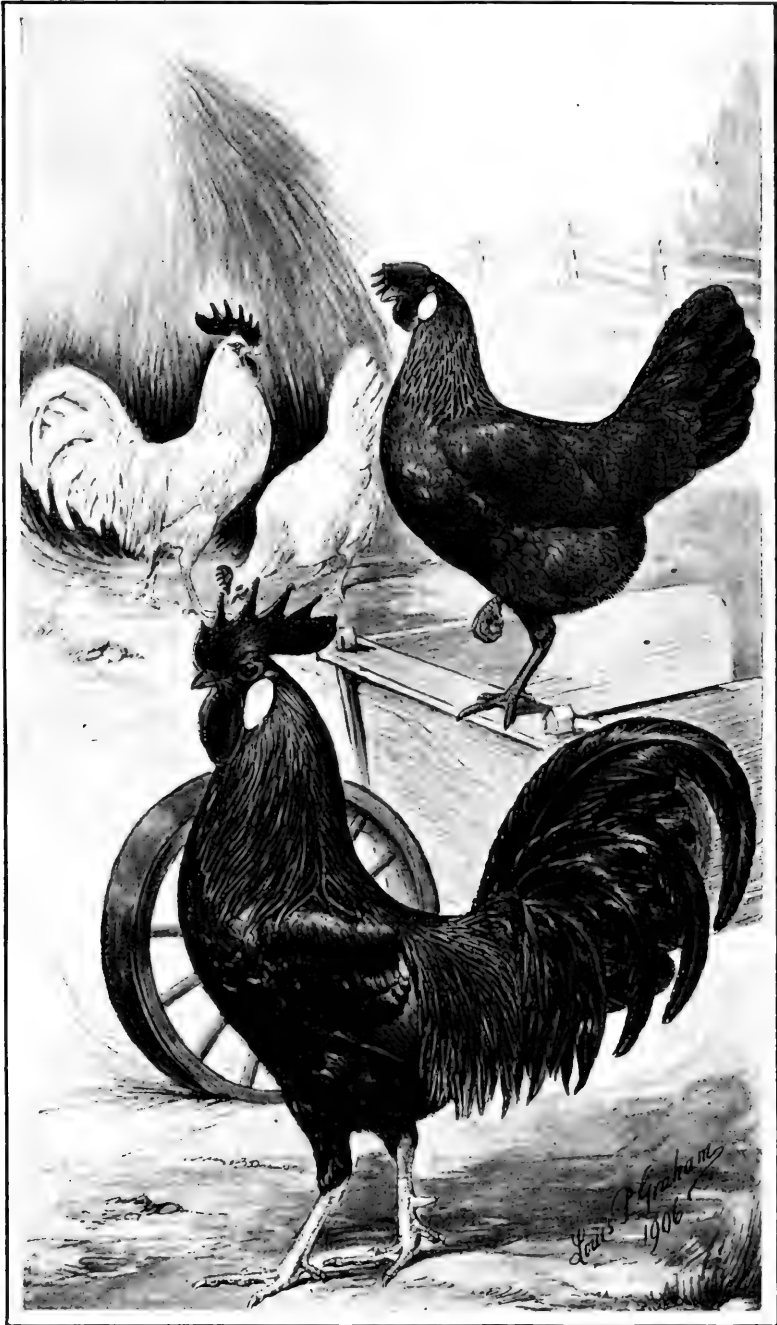
The Ancona is classed with the Italian or Leghorn family, and while this is true and generally accepted, the comb of the Ancona more closely resembles that of the Andalusian than of the Leghorn, but with greater size and more serrations than are admissible in the Leghorn. They also have the same kind of fold in the comb of the female that is desirable in the Minorca.

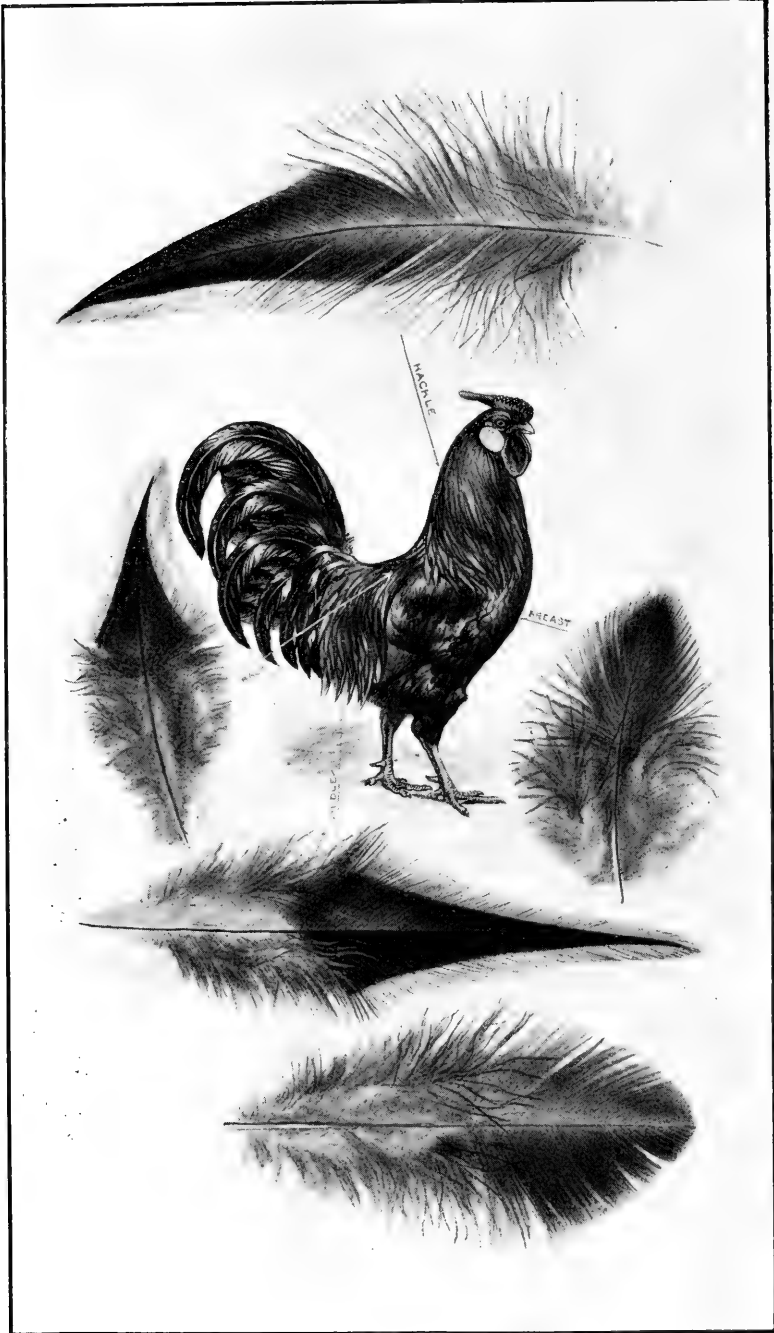
## Classification in Detail

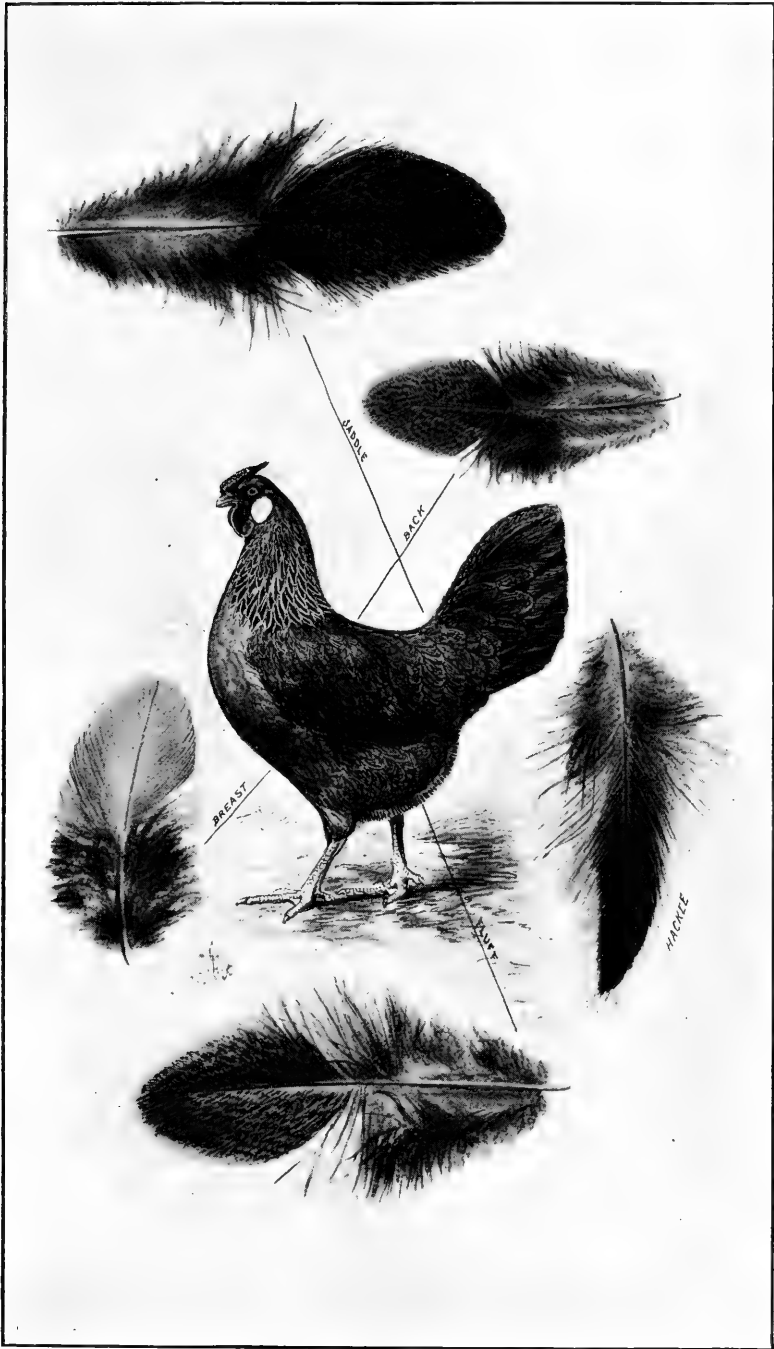
**THE LEGHORN.** These birds are the most extensively bred of the Mediterranean family, which has nine well authenticated varieties. These varieties are divided into single and rose-combs, as follows: In Whites, Browns, and Buffs are both the rose and single-combed varieties, while in Blacks, Duckwings, Pyles, and Dominiques, there is only the singled-combed kind.

The first to be considered are the Whites, from the fact that they were the first to become generally known throughout the world. They were placed first in order in what might be called the original standard. The Browns followed in regular succession; then the Dominique, and then the Black variety.

**WHITE LEGHORN HISTORY.** Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Simpson, of New York, believed that he was the first in America to breed Leghorns, later developments seem to have proven that other varieties might have come in advance of these. Undoubtedly, the first real White Leghorns that came to this country were purchased by Mr. Simpson from a ship owner in the year of 1853. This lot of birds was composed of a cock and four white hens and one blue hen. The fact that these were rather large in size and had white shanks, coupled with the presence of the blue hen, leads to the conclusion that they must have come from Spain. These were bred together, and produced among others, some birds of well defined Dominique markings. Later Mr. Simpson received other importations of White Leghorns with yellow shanks, which were credited to the port of Leghorn as their original home.







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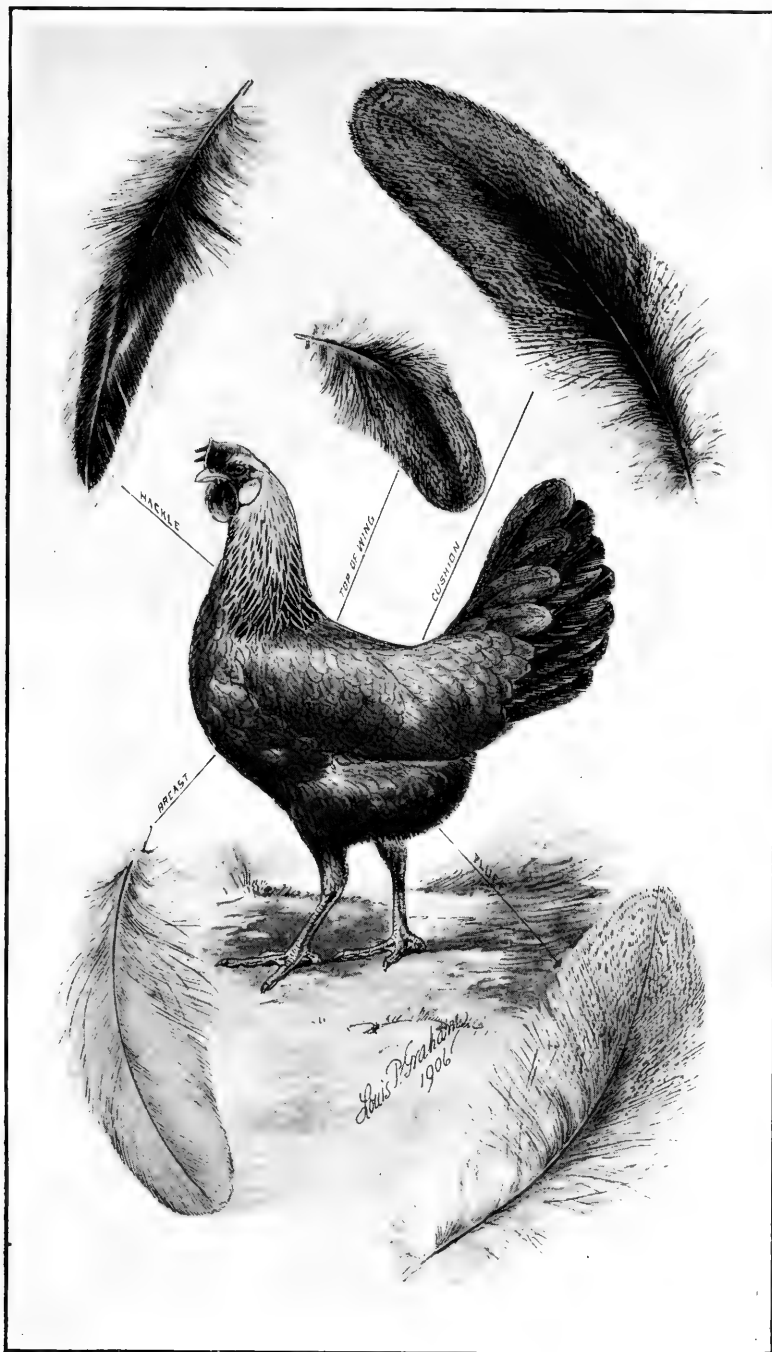
These facts seem to establish the belief that the original white specimens with the blue hen were of the Minorca breed, as was indicated by the color of the shanks; the second lot were from Leghorn, Italy, and had the yellow shanks, which were much preferred to the white. Some contend that the originals having the white shanks were crossed with some of the Asiatic fowls. This is scarcely worthy of credence, from the fact that of all the varieties of Leghorns none produce whiter shells than this variety. They have been improved to such an extent that no other variety of the family has been as popular. The single-combed variety, the original of the White, so far outnumbers the rose-combed variety as to scarcely warrant giving them the same consideration. Undoubtedly, the rose-combs were created by crossing the White, or some other variety of Hamburgs, with the Leghorns, to produce the so-called rose-comb, which is, in fact, a Hamburg comb, and this result was influenced by the Hamburg cross with the points of head, comb, and wattles. The White Rose-combed Leghorn should be the same in all requirements as the Single-combed, with the exception of the Hamburg comb in place of the single-comb of the Leghorn.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The White Leghorn is one of the most active, hardy, and prolific of all domestic fowls; none seem to equal them in activeness, egg production, and in their general inclination to forage in search of food. The Leghorn has the single-comb above mentioned, which should not be overly large in size, nor coarse in texture. The true Leghorn comb is of beautiful formation, with the distinctive feature of not following the shape of the neck, as it extends back beyond the head, and with five equally divided, perfectly formed points or serrations. In the rose-combed variety the comb should be nicely formed, of rather small size, well developed throughout, with a prominent spike in the rear, the whole top of the comb covered with small, round points. Wattles of both varieties should be thin, soft in texture, nicely formed, and fairly well developed. Ear-lobes smooth, soft in texture, of generous size, carried close to the head, opaque white or enamel white in color. The neck of the Leghorn should be rather long; back, breast, and body of a well-proportioned









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length, rather long for the size of the bird, and of equal poise, front and back, from the line of the shank; the breast full and well rounded; abdomen, prominent, which is a desirable and necessary formation for egg production. The tail of the Leghorn is called a spread, or fantail, and it should not be carried close, that is, the feathers should not be confined to a common center, but spread well out with an A-shape between the separated row of feathers. Thighs, strong and prominent; shanks, rather long, and smooth; toes, strong, and well set. The carriage of the tail in the male is distinctive from the female, which should be prominent, rather low, full and with long, sweeping sickles. The comb of the female should be of fairly good size, turning over in the rear against the side of the head, with the two forward spikes erect. Some claim that but one spike of the comb should stand erect, but the most beautiful combs carry the two forward spikes just a little more upright than the others, the forward one being quite erect.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Leghorn is a fowl rather undersized when compared with the American varieties. This is a characteristic of the breed which should be cultivated to a reasonable extent. Notwithstanding the fact that large size is much admired, Leghorns should not be larger than is necessary to maintain their proper shape. They are naturally upright in carriage, and have the appearance of the Game rather than the general-purpose fowl. In shape they are long in back and body, full in breast and abdomen, deep, and full, from center of back to breast, end of keel, and abdomen. The tail is carried rather down; back, fully formed, and well developed, in both male and female. The Leghorn is generally described as long in neck, back, and body, but medium length might better be applied to them. They have the full, round, plump breast and abdomen, so well known and characteristic of them.

In color, both varieties of White Leghorns must have the yellow beak, shanks, and toes; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, bright red; ear-lobes, white; plumage, pure white, including the quills. Any inclination to white in the face of the males or females is detrimental.

**BROWN LEGHORN HISTORY.** No other variety of the Leghorn family has had the same trouble to establish their his-

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tory as this one. Perhaps the most conservative statement we have is contained in the Brown Leghorn book by H. H. Stoddard, wherein it is recorded that the first Brown Leghorns came to New York City in 1835, but others say that the first importation did not reach here until 1853, and that these were crossed with the Spanish and Black-red Game. Undoubtedly, the first specimens of real merit were bred by Mr. A. M. Halstead, of Rye, N. Y. One would be easily led to accept the statements made that this variety was crossed with the old type of Black-red Game, from which they gained the distinctive color, but with loss of the true Leghorn type. The original Brown variety was not inclined to have the white ear-lobe, which is credited to the Black Spanish cross.

The writer carried on a spirited controversy relative to the white ear-lobe and the rose-comb in Leghorns. Those who took part in this controversy were the original breeders. Mr. Halstead said the early importation had red ear-lobes, while Messrs. Beard and Bonny claimed that they had white ones. Mr. Kenny, of Worcester, stated that his birds came in 1853, while Mrs. Maples claimed that her rose-combed Browns came, through Captain Gates, to Mystic, Conn., the same year, and that they had the rose-comb when they arrived. This controversy brought out the fact that one fancier, who visited Italy, could not find a rose-comb, nor did he find a standard Leghorn of any kind except the Black variety. Going over past records leads us to some of the early-day statements, when it was claimed that only Black Leghorns could be found in Italy. More recent statements tell us that they are not separated for any distinctive variety or color in their native land, but that they have been taken to other countries and bred, as in America, to the many beautiful varieties that now make up this family of interesting fowls.

The original Brown Leghorns were of very inferior character as to color, but this was improved, as above stated, through crossing with the Game and Spanish. Later, when the mania came for the heavy striping in hackle and saddle, Black Leghorn females were crossed with Brown Leghorn males. This produced males with the heavy black stripe, and the male line of females almost black in color. It has been claimed, on the other hand, that the Duckwing female was crossed with

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a well-selected female producing male, giving the original strain from which has been produced the more delicate and soft-tinted shades of color in the female.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general characteristics of Brown Leghorns should be identical with the description given for the White variety. Each individual point of breed characteristics should be exactly the same in all varieties, including the two styles of comb. While there should not be any difference in the actual type, yet there is more or less diversity of form between the White and the Brown variety. Both male and female of the Brown variety are somewhat heavier in body formation than the White. The tail of the male is not so much inclined to droop down and back, as is most desirable for the highest type of Leghorn.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Brown variety is the same as given above for the Whites. In color the Brown Leghorn differs materially from the others. Head, eyes, face, and comb, of both male and female, a bright red; beak, of a darker color; ear-lobes white. In the male the neck, back, and saddle, are of a rich, bright red; the hackle, and saddle plumage, both heavily striped with glossy black, which must follow the shape of the feather to the extreme point, the red edging about the black to be absolutely free from taint of foreign color. At times the best quality of exhibition specimens are so dark or black in striping as to form a black color about the neck, which is absolutely wrong and much to be despised. Breast, body, and fluff, black, with a glossy sheen; wings, red on the bow; primaries, black, lower web, a rich brown, which forms the wing-bay when it is folded. Between the wing-bow and bay, should be a broad bar of rich, brilliant black. Entire tail, black, sickles, and coverts, a rich, glossy black. Shanks and toes, yellow. In the female, the color of plumage of neck, orange yellow, with a bright, black stripe in the center. The beauty of the neck of the female depends upon the clear, distinctive orange yellow, centered with black. The web of the surface plumage, light brown, stippled with a darker shade of same color, the lighter shade strongly predominating. This produces the soft, even, light-brown surface color, so much admired in the Brown Leghorn female. Breast, salmon; wing

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primaries, a slaty brown, edged with the body-color; coverts, about the tail, the same as body-color; main tail feathers, and tail, black, the principal ones stippled with a light brown; shanks and toes, yellow. The real beauty and attractiveness of the Brown Leghorn female depends upon the absolute evenness of color throughout. Any deviation detracts from the beauty and value of the specimen.

**BUFF LEGHORN HISTORY.** Mr. Edward Brown, in his "Races of Domestic Poultry," states that White, Brown, and Black Leghorns were taken direct to America from Italy, and that these same colors also went to Denmark, and in addition to these some yellows were taken there. He also claims that White, Brown, Black, Cuckoo, or Dominique, and Yellow Leghorns are all to be found in Italy. The original Yellow or Buff Leghorns from Italy and Denmark were most successfully handled by Mrs. Lister Kay, who crossed these with Buff Cochins, from which were produced the original Buff Leghorns that came to this country. The first of these were far from attractive in either form or color, but with care and selection in breeding they have been brought to a type of form and color fully the equal of any of the Leghorn family.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general breed characteristics of this variety must conform to the description for the Whites.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** There is but one acknowledged Leghorn shape. All varieties, including the Buffs, must conform absolutely to this. The Buff variety being produced both in single and rose-combs, the conditions must be considered under each description. In color, the Buff Leghorns have eyes, face, comb, and wattles, of a bright red shade; ear-lobes, white, beak, shanks, and toes, yellow. The entire plumage of the Buff throughout must be an even shade of rich golden buff, free from shafting or foreign color of any kind; the color so close and finely laid on as to present the smooth even surface of golden buff, with an under-color of a lighter shade of the same color. Evenness of color with no foreign tint is most desirable in this variety.

**BLACK LEGHORN HISTORY.** There has never been any question raised as to the existence of Black Leghorns in their home country. Great improvement has been made in them by

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selecting the best specimens, and carefully pairing and mating them for the rich, glossy black plumage most desirable in this variety. Prior to a few years ago, yellow shanks and beaks were thought best for them, but this has been altered in recent years and many more of the proper type and color have been produced than ever before.

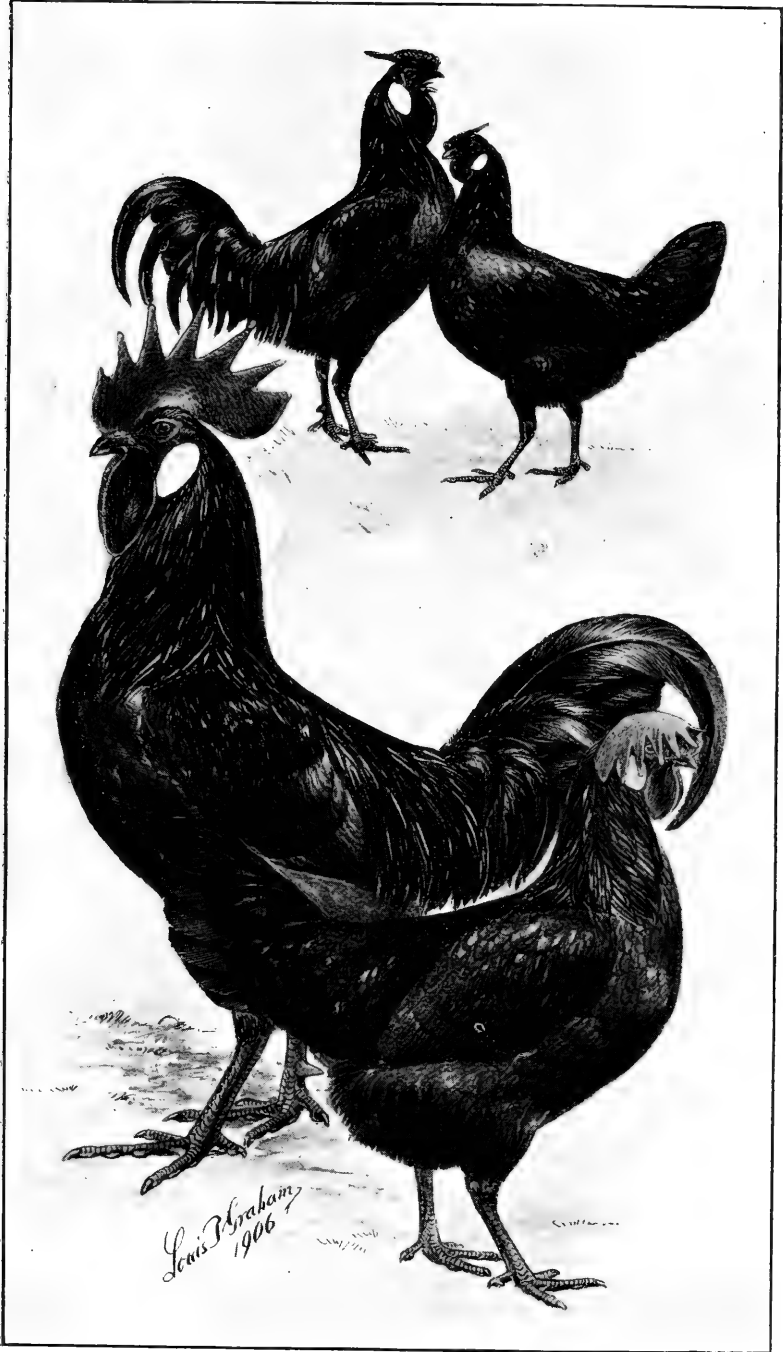
**CHARACTERISTICS.** The breed characteristics of the Black Leghorn are the same as in all varieties of Leghorns, except as to color of shanks and plumage.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Black Leghorn must have true Leghorn shape. Many of them surpass the other varieties in this. The color for both male and female: Beak, of a dark, yellowish-orange color; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, bright red; ear-lobes, white; shanks, and toes, yellow, or yellowish black, in color. Notwithstanding the fact that black shanks should disqualify under the Standard, there are many specimens of the highest character with legs almost absolutely black. This is most desirable for producing the best colored specimens. Bottom of feet should always be yellow. Plumage throughout of a rich, glossy black, finished with a greenish sheen. It should be remembered in all varieties of Leghorns that the most undesirable features are white in face, red in ear-lobe, and badly formed combs. Where yellow shanks are demanded, they should be true yellow, and not shaded with any other color. The darker the shanks of the Black Leghorn within the bounds of yellowish black, the better for breeding.

**SILVER DUCKWING LEGHORN HISTORY.** These birds have undoubtedly been produced from the Duckwing Games and other varieties. It has been claimed that a pyle-colored Japanese Game cock crossed with a Pyle Leghorn pullet produced the original Silver Duckwing Leghorn. As there is not any absolute certainty as to how they were originated, the above is given as the best information to be obtained.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Duckwing Leghorn should have the same breed characteristics that are possessed by the best of the family. This they have not yet attained, but have been greatly improved in the last few years.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** True Leghorn shape is demanded in this variety. Color of the male, silvery white, including all the





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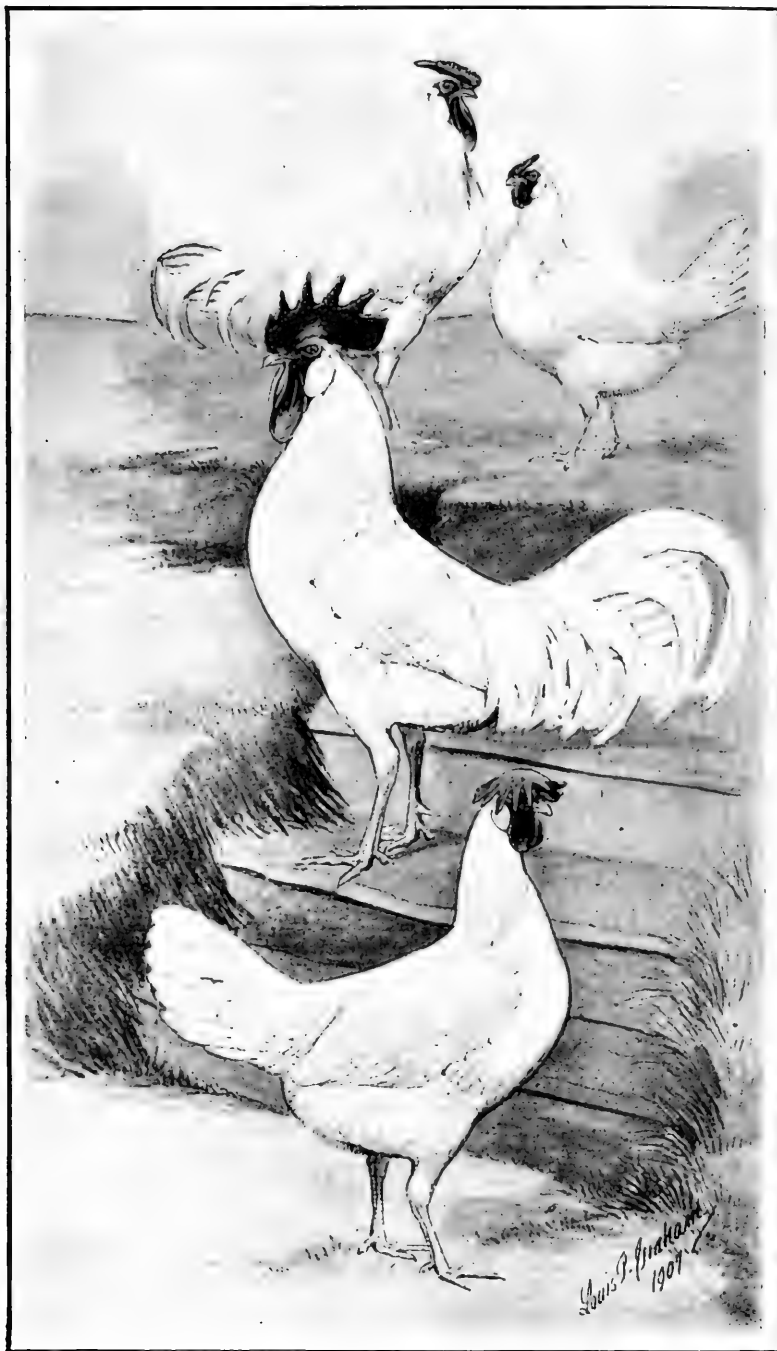
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plumage from and including the head, down over the back, to the main tail feathers. Beak, shanks, and toes, yellow; breast and underbody color, including fluff, black; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, bright red; ear-lobes, white; hackle plumage, silvery white, with a narrow black stripe down the middle, almost to the end of the feather. Black, and saddle plumage, including wing-bows, silvery white; the wing having a bar of black. Wing-bay, white; tail, black; sickles, long and lustrous, black. The male, and, in fact, the female as well, should be colored like the Silver Duckwing Game. Beak, shanks, and toes, of the female, yellow; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, red; ear-lobes, white. The neck, from the throat down the breast to between the thighs, light salmon; color of hackle, silvery gray, having a narrow, black stripe; back, light gray; body and fluff, an ashy gray; wing-bows, light gray, the upper part of both primaries, and secondaries, gray; lower web, slate gray; tail, black, upper feathers, powdered with a light gray color. The entire plumage of both male and female free from shafting or foreign color.

**PYLE LEGHORN HISTORY.** The Pyle Leghorn can be created almost at will by crossing the Brown Leghorn male with the White Leghorn female. The first cross occasionally produces fairly good birds. Careful selection and breeding these for years has produced some remarkably fine specimens. They are kept but little, and then more for the fancy or for the novelty of having a rare variety.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Pyle Leghorns should be of the same general type throughout as the other Leghorns. The majority of them, however, have overly large combs, but this may be reduced by careful breeding and mating to a medium size, which more nearly meets the requirements for comb on Leghorns.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Pyle Leghorn should have the same formation demanded in all these varieties. Color of beak, shanks, and toes, yellow; eyes, face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes, red. In the male, the hackle is light red; back, dark red or crimson, shading off to a lighter color on the saddle, and free from all foreign color. Breast and body, white; wing-bow, red or crimson, the wing having a white bar; entire body-



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color, including tail, white. The color of the female is white throughout, except the hackle, where the feathers end with an edging of golden shade, and the breast, which is salmon color. The beauty and attractiveness of the Pyle Leghorn consists in the clear color markings of red, orange, and white, properly divided, as are the colors on all varieties of Games, but the Pyle color to be attractive must be clean and true. Weak colored specimens, too deeply colored specimens, and specimens showing bad markings are undesirable.

**DOMINIQUE LEGHORN HISTORY.** While this is one of the earliest color varieties, they are seldom seen at the present time. They are Leghorns having the true bred characteristics, and clothed in the plumage of the Barred Plymouth Rock. In America they are called Dominique Leghorn, and in England are known as the Cuckoo Leghorn. Their plumage throughout is barred and colored, like the plumage of the Barred Plymouth Rock, which has been produced by crossing White and Black Leghorns, and also White Leghorns and Andalusians. These birds are mentioned, whether true or not, as one of the natural productions of Italy. They have been neglected and allowed to disappear almost entirely from public notice, and were dropped from the Standard ten years ago, owing to the fact that they were seldom, if ever, exhibited in the show-room.

**THE MINORCA.** Some of the best writers claim that the Black Minorcas have been in existence for over a hundred years, and were known at one time as Red-faced Spanish. Whether they and the Black Spanish fowl were originally of the same character can not be stated positively. The Island of Minorca, near the coast of Spain, is the accredited home of the Minorca. The peculiarity of this fowl is its white skin and dark-colored shanks, which places them beyond all question in a class by themselves.

**BLACK MINORCA HISTORY.** Scientific writers claim that the Minorca descended from a fowl called Castillian, which was considerably bred in Spain. Whether this is true or not, the fact still remains that Minorcas, which were brought from an island of that name, were of a type quite like the present-day Minorca, except that they were smaller in size, and not as well formed as the best specimens bred at this time. Many

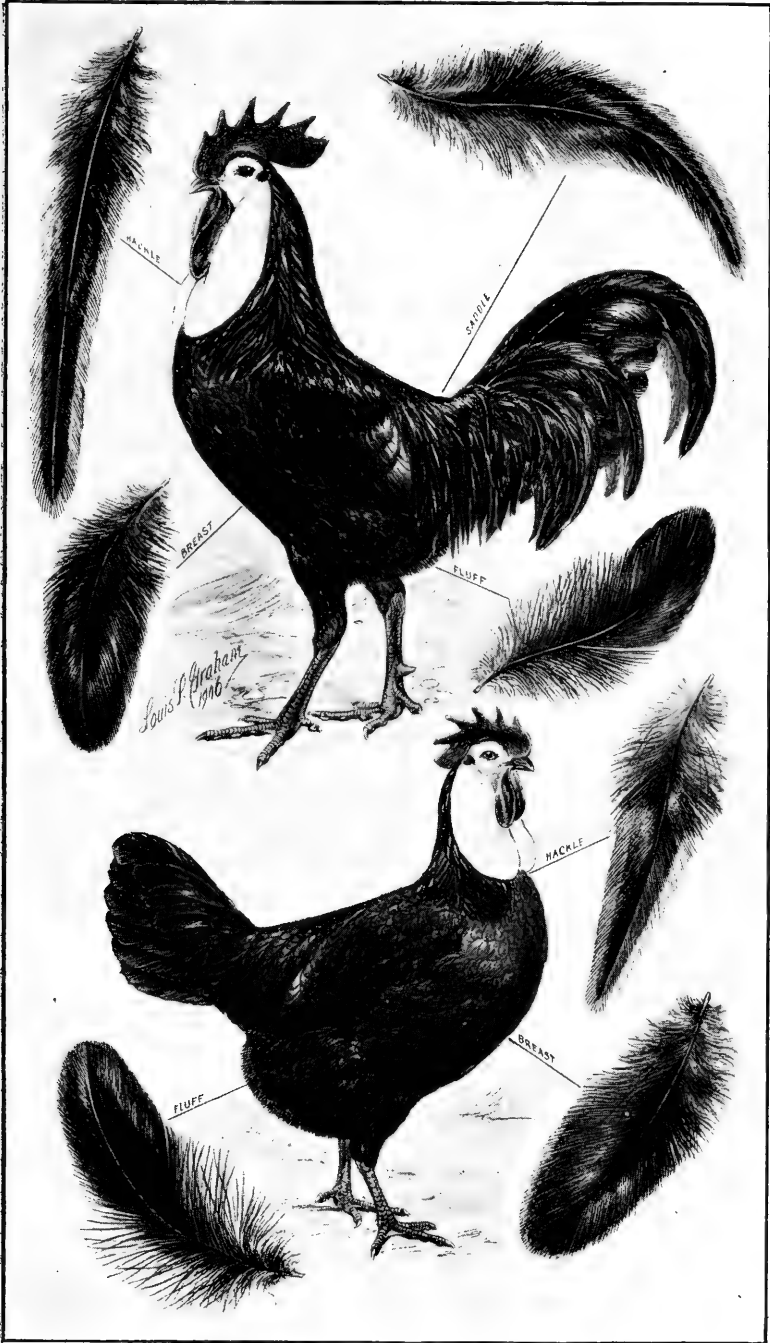
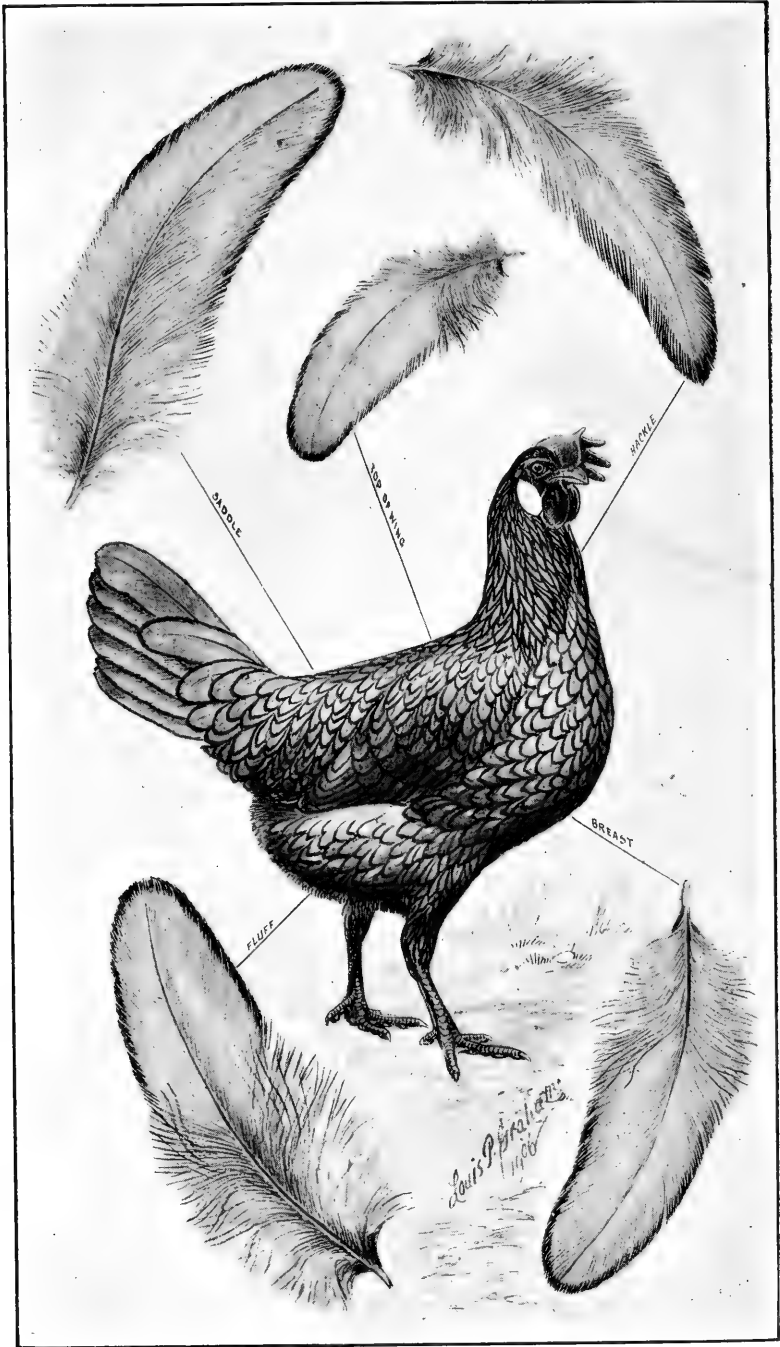
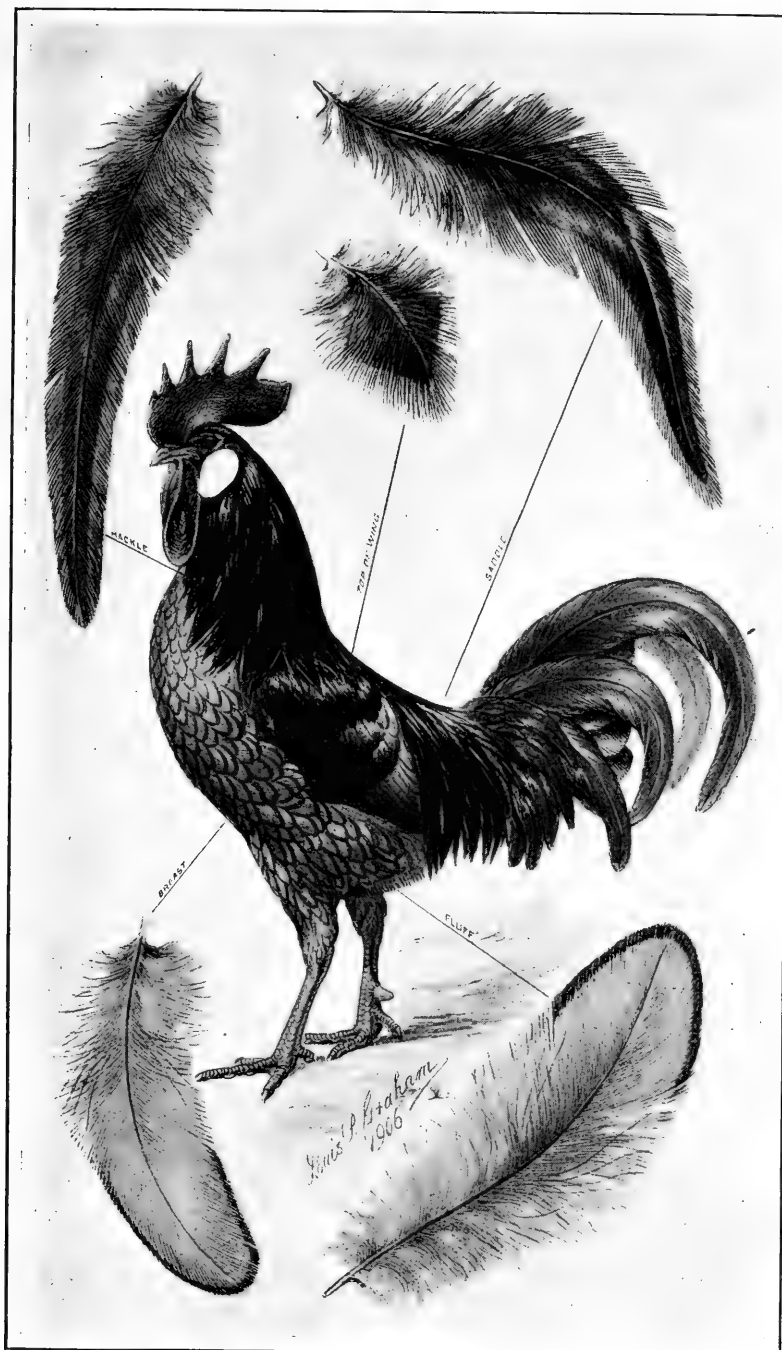


Plate XLIII Blue Andalusian Female and Feathers





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specimens of the black Minorca variety have been grown that would tip the scales at ten pounds or better. Both the males and females are very much larger than they were a dozen years ago.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Minorca is a very large fowl, has a very long body and breast formation, considerable tail plumage, which grows down and back, and of erect carriage. The best type of tail slants more to the rear than is seen on the average specimen and is valued as a great addition to the bird.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Minorca might properly be termed an oversized Leghorn as far as shape is concerned. They have a very long, slanting back, which is broad at the shoulder, a natural tendency toward a dropping tail, with rather an erect carriage in the males. The females are correspondingly larger in size than the Leghorns, but not nearly so active. They produce very large eggs with white shells, but do not seem to give as many eggs in a season. The size of the egg is undoubtedly influenced by the size of the specimen and the unusual length of the back and breast. Color of the Black Minorca is a rich, glossy black throughout, entirely free from any foreign color. Beak, shanks, and toes, a dark slate, approaching black; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, red; ear-lobes, white; the ear-lobes of the Minorca are considerably larger than the ear-lobes of the Leghorns, and they are very pure and white in color.

**WHITE MINORCA HISTORY.** The White Minorca seems to have been originally of that color in their home country and are fashioned similar to the Blacks. They have been taken up by those anxious to have a larger white fowl of the Leghorn type.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** All Minorcas are of the same general make-up, and the White Minorca represents the largest white fowl of the Mediterranean breeds, which was strongly in their favor from the start. A number of them were crossed into the White Leghorn, which worked an injury to the Leghorn, from which it took considerable time for them to recover.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The White Minorca has the same general form as the Black variety. In color, plumage through-

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out a pure white; beak, shanks, and toes, white, or pinkish white. The ear-lobe of all the Minorcas is considerably larger than that of the Leghorns.

**ROSE-COMBED MINORCA HISTORY.** The first of the Rose-combed Minorcas were the Blacks, which were originated in this country, and bred to a greater state of perfection as egg-producing and general-purpose Mediterraneans. The creator of this variety states that they came as sports from the Single-combed Blacks. Following these the Rose-combed White Minorcas made their appearance but have never been as plentiful or popular as the Rose-combed Blacks.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Rose-combed Minorcas have the same general breed characteristics that are demanded for the Single-combs. Some of the Rose-combed Blacks have been produced fully the equal of any of the single-combed variety, but the Whites have never equalled the Blacks in the most desirable features.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Both of the rose-combed varieties must be bred to true Minorca shape. This has been attained by the Blacks, and bids fair to soon be equalled in the Whites. The color of both of these is identical with the single-combed varieties.

**BLACK SPANISH HISTORY.** Almost as old as history itself are the Black Spanish fowls. To-day these are known as the White-faced Black Spanish. In early days they were of modest size, having only the white face, with slight markings of white upon the wattles, while to-day they are bred with white face and ear-lobes which extend considerably below the line of the wattles. These large white faces have been produced after many years of constant care in breeding for this one feature alone. In doing this both type and constitution have been more or less undermined and lost, and there are not nearly as many of them bred as in former years. In some localities they are considered unprofitable for table purposes, but we know from our own experience that a Black Spanish fowl may be fed into fairly good table poultry.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Black Spanish of to-day is an unusually tall fowl of upright carriage, having almost unnatural length of thigh and shank, giving them a stilty appear-







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ance. They are long in breast and body, and built for egg production. Formerly, they were very hardy fowls, but as now bred for the white face points, they must be continually protected from frost and dampness, which seems to injure their health and is detrimental to their white-faced wattling.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Black Spanish, while Mediterranean in character, is more elongated throughout. Every section of the Spanish has more than ordinary length in its make-up. The face, wattles, and ear-lobes are more than double the size of any other fowl. The tail has a peculiar formation something like the tail of a game fowl. In color: Beak, horn-colored; shanks, and toes, blue or darkish-blue; eyes, face, and wattles, red; ear-lobes and face, clear enamel white. Color of plumage, greenish black throughout.

**ANDALUSIAN HISTORY.** The Andalusian has no other history than that the blue fowl has been known and grown since the beginning of poultry, and they have been produced throughout the world as the result of crossing Black and White varieties of the same breed. The Blue Andalusian, the Jersey Blue, and the Slate Turkey have all been created after the same fashion, while the details of beautifying and general improvement are the result of great care and attention in breeding and establishing a type distinctive to the breed. The best specimens came from England and from Canada, where the largest size, and type markings have been produced.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Andalusian is next in size to the Minorca and is larger than the Leghorn. The combs of both the male and female are considerably larger than the American type of Leghorn. They are rather more erect of carriage than the Minorca.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Blue Andalusian is a compromise between the Leghorn and Minorca. While they are Mediterranean in shape, they do not conform exactly to either the shape of the Leghorn or the Minorca. In color they have been bred with a body color that might be described as a soft bluish tint. The main body color is a glossy bluish-black, the feathers edged with a darker shade of color. Beak, shanks, and toes, of a leaden-blue color; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, bright red; ear-lobes, white. The most beautiful Anda-

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lusians have a softer bluish tint in body color than would be described as a bluish black. This color throughout the female, and upon the breast and underbody color of the male, is most attractive. Naturally, the top color of the male is very much darker than the other portions of the plumage. The main tail or sickle feathers are bluish black, which usually conforms to the shade of the breast-color. The general description of color of the female would be for a lighter shade than the coloring of the male.

**ANCONA HISTORY.** Many claims have been made as to the origin of the Ancona. Some claim they are the result of crosses of either White and Black Leghorns, or White and Black Minorcas. The most recent investigations lead to the opinion that the Ancona color is quite as natural in their home country as that of the Leghorn or Minorca. Fowls colored like Anconas are said to exist plentifully in Italy, and they were imported into other countries where they were successfully bred. All of these claims are undoubtedly true. No matter from whence they came, they are a perfected fowl created by the true fancier, and their color and markings prove the care and attention given to them. Some writers claim they are true Leghorn in shape, while others call them of the Minorca type. The fact that they have the yellow shank like the Leghorn, and not the Minorca-colored shank, would lead to the opinion that they belong to the Leghorn family.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general characteristics of the Ancona are the same as the Leghorn. While some of them are larger, others average in size with the Leghorns. Whenever the unusually large size exists, the increased size of the comb, and the darkening of the shanks, point to Minorca influence. The Ancona should be of the true Leghorn type and of fairly good size.

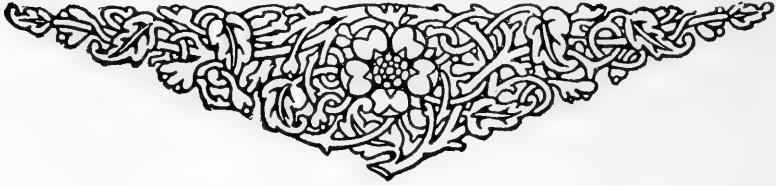
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Naturally the Ancona would be called the Mottled Leghorn. In color: Beak, shanks, and toes, yellow, mottled with black; the shanks have the ground color of yellow, some of the scales showing the darker color frequent in Houdans and Plymouth Rocks; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, red; ear-lobes, white; plumage, greenish-black ground

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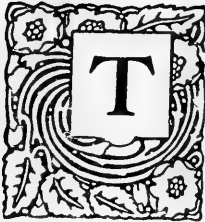
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color, each feather tipped with white; the more even the mottling, the more attractive the specimen. Some of the most beautifully marked specimens have a crescent formation of white, tipping the end of each feather. The main tail feathers of the male often show more white than is desirable. This same tendency is prevalent with other broken-colored fowls.



## THE ENGLISH BREED

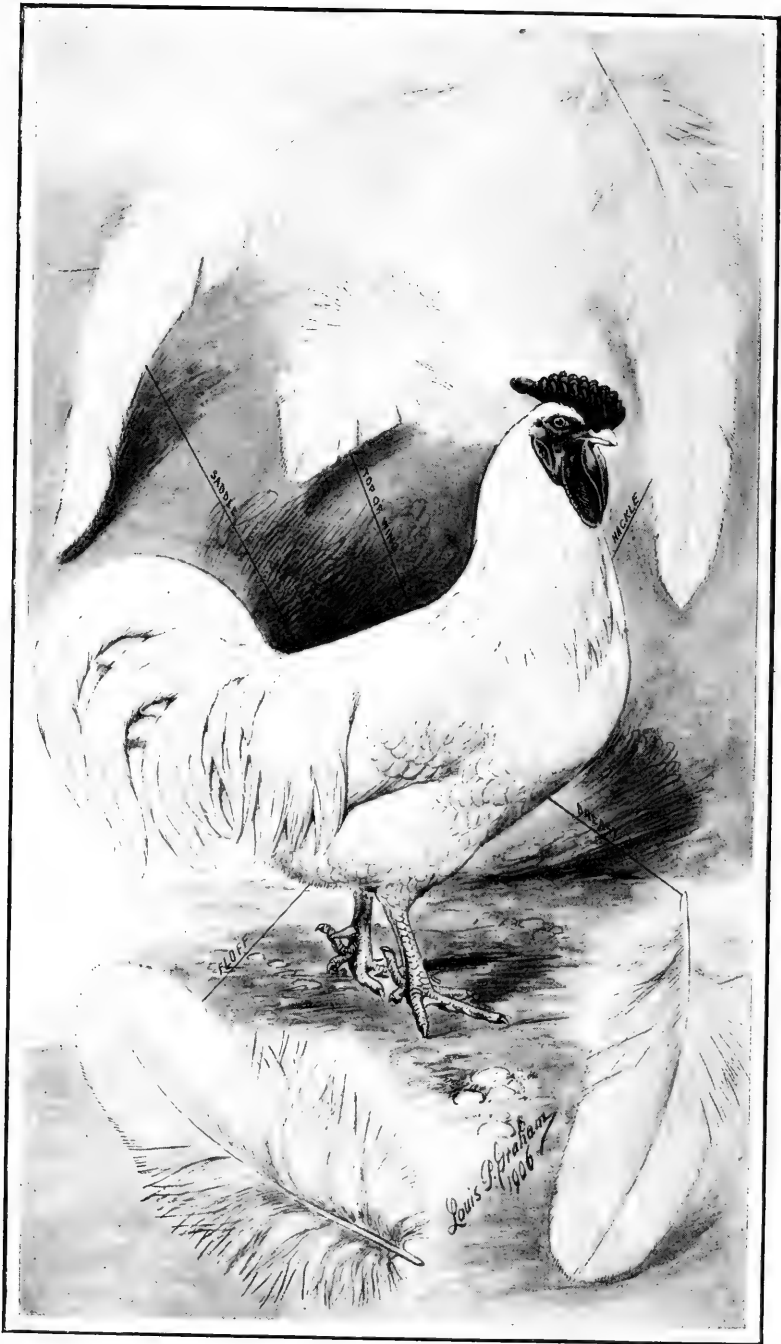


THE oldest, perhaps, of all fowls known to poultry literature are the Dorkings. The fifth toe, so peculiar to them, was mentioned in the earliest agricultural history. The only other breeds having the early-day existence with the fifth toe, are the Silkies and the Sultans. One of these is known as the Polish fowl of Turkey, and the other, the Silkie, is attributed to Japan. This brings the fifth toe of the Dorkings from the Roman Empire, the other two from Turkey and Japan. The original of all Dorkings is thought to have been brought into England by the Romans. Facts tend to show the Dorkings as being bred to the highest state of perfection about Surrey, England. The original Dorking was of the white variety, and had the peculiarity of the rose-comb, while all others and the Red Surrey fowl as well, have the single comb.

The White Dorking is undoubtedly the truest of all Dorkings, although not nearly so large in size as the other varieties. Lately they have been much improved. The other two varieties—the Silver-gray and the Colored Dorking—seem to have greater popularity than that enjoyed by the Whites. Why this should be can not be understood, but Dorkings have not been extensively bred in this country until of recent years, and a more complete test must be made to fully determine their true value.

**WHITE DORKING HISTORY.** White Dorkings were prominently mentioned as one of the most attractive breeds of fowls nearly one hundred years ago, by Moubray, the greatest writer on poultry topics of the time. From then until now they have been constantly bred and valued as excellent poultry.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The White Dorking has a very long body, full breast, and a broad and deep body formation. They are low-set on legs, long in back, plump, and compact in build,

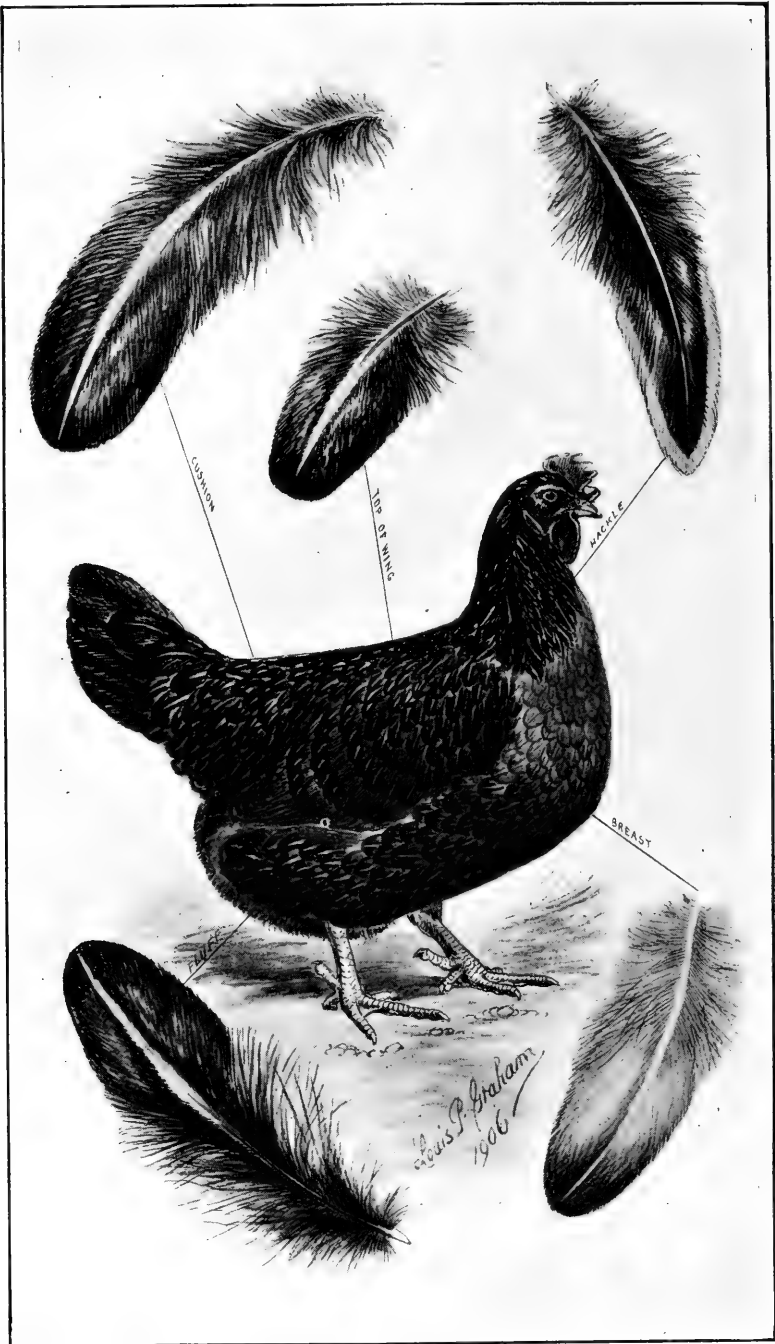


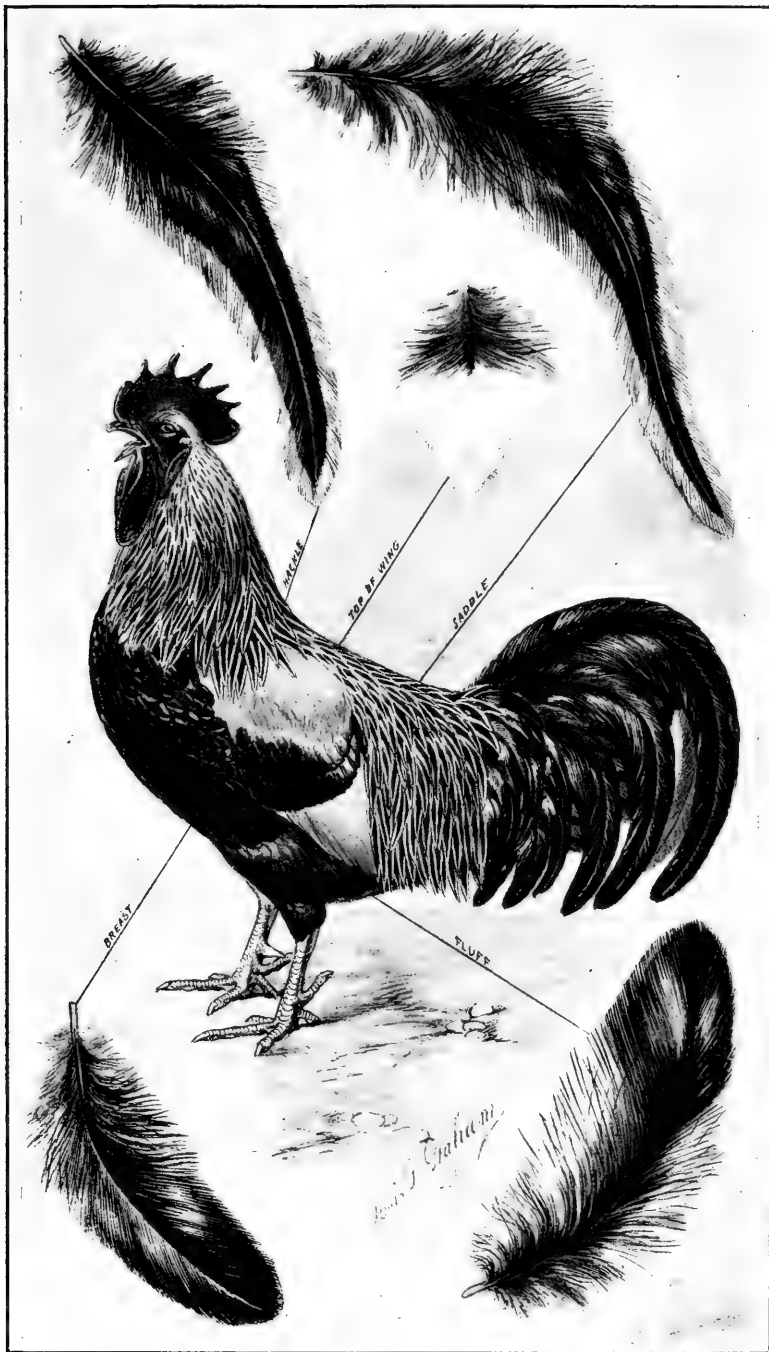
White Dorking Female and Feathers Plate XLVIII





Plate XLIX Colored Dorking Female and Feathers





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and have the rose-comb, the only one of this family having this distinctive mark; white skin, and shanks, with pinkish white colored meat. No other fowl, it seems, has enjoyed equal popularity with the Dorking for table poultry.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of all Dorkings demand the full-sized head; neck, full, and of medium length; back, long, broad, straight; body, very long, broad, deep, and full. The entire formation seems especially constructed for the production of eggs and market poultry. The color of the White Dorking: Beak, shanks, and toes, white; eyes, face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobe, red; plumage, throughout, pure white.

**COLORED DORKING HISTORY.** Authentic information relative to the Colored Dorking does not seem to prove satisfactorily the manner of their creation. Evidence points to the fact that they were produced by crossing some of the five-toed Dorking race, probably the White or the Red Dorking, with some of the very large dark-colored Surrey fowls. Since gaining the distinction as a true variety, they have been carefully cultivated and trained to gain attractive form and markings, and they have become one of the most admired varieties of the family.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Colored Dorkings have the same general breed characteristics as described for the Whites.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** All Dorkings have the same general shape. The color and markings of the Colored Dorkings, male: Head plumage, light gray; beak, dark; eyes, face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes, red; neck, straw colored, with a well defined black stripe in hackle; back and saddle feathers, straw colored, with a black striping in the saddle primaries, and secondaries of wing, almost black; lower web, edged with white, or entirely white; tail, black. The female: Neck, black, edged with gray; back, very dark gray, marked with black; breast, salmon colored, marked with black; body, brown, or black, mixed with gray. Primaries, dark brown; secondaries, black; lower web, dark gray. This color gives a much darker shade in the female than in the male.

**SIVER-GRAY DORKING HISTORY.** Of all the Dorkings, the Silver Gray, when well finished, is the most pleasing. It

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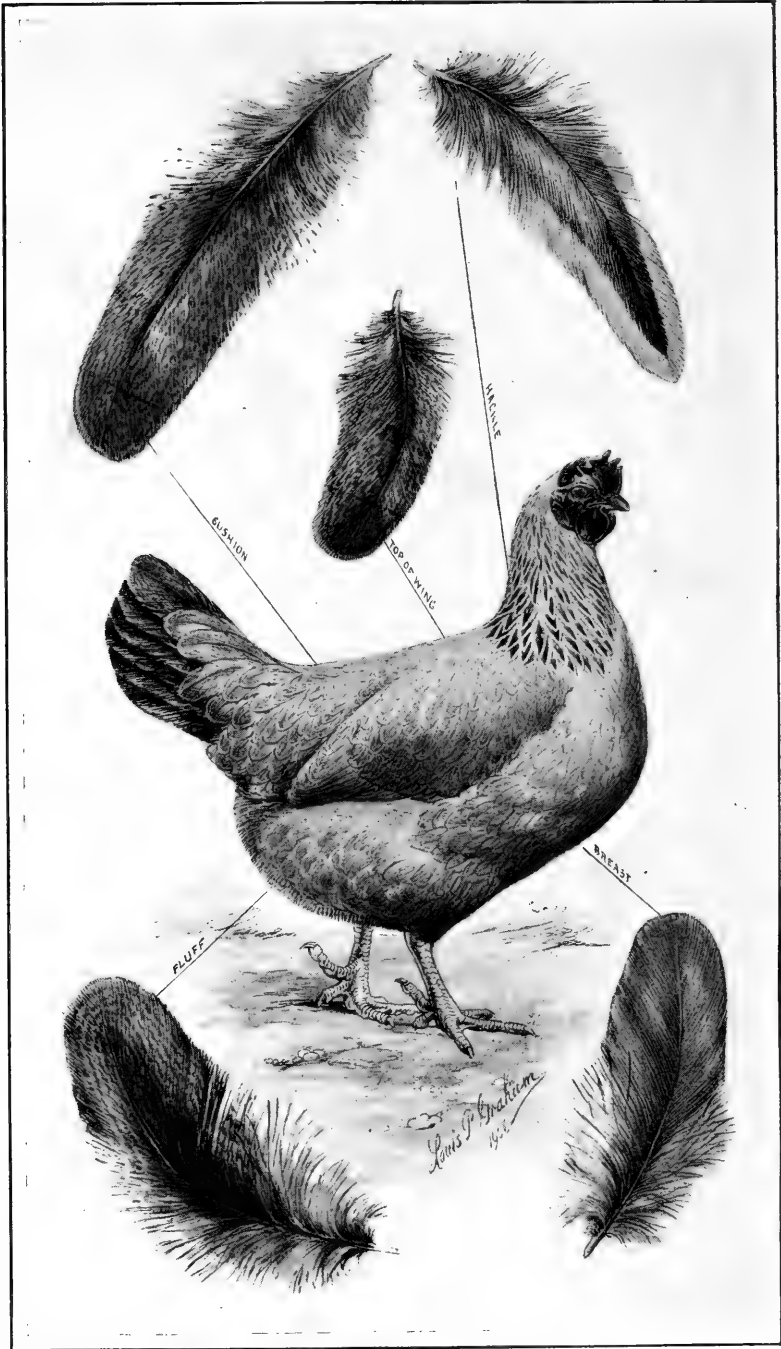
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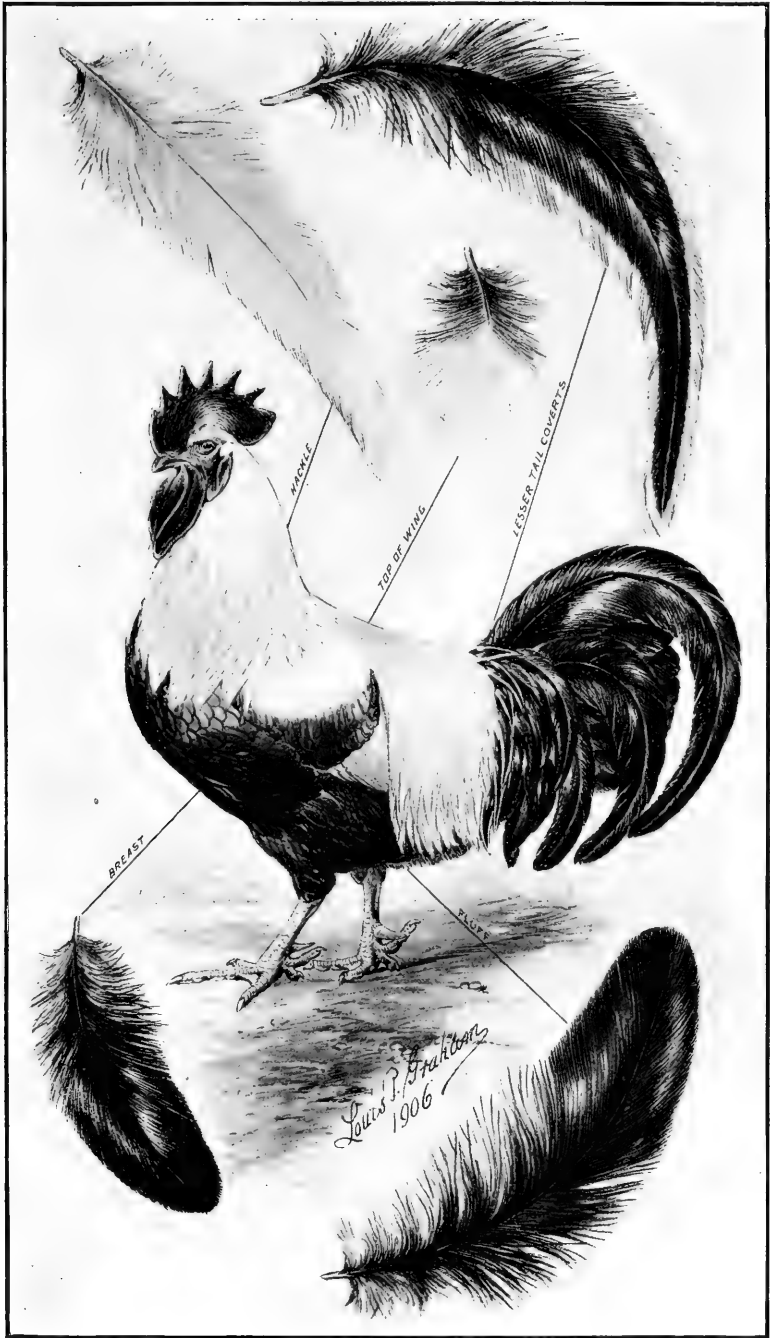
is thought that the rich, attractive color of the Silver Gray is the influence of the Silver-duckwing Game cross to fix the color.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** In breed characteristics the Silver-gray Dorkings are similar to the other varieties.

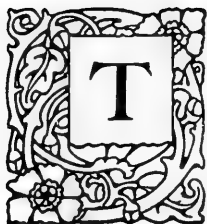
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of this variety is identical with the other Dorkings. Top color of the male, silvery white; breast, and underbody color, including tail, black; shanks and toes, white; beak, of the same color; eyes, face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes, bright red; some of the males show a narrow stripe in hackle, and occasionally a little shading in saddle. The wings have primaries and secondaries almost black, the lower web of each showing more or less white. The female has a silvery-gray body-color throughout, made from a mixture of white, finely stippled with gray. Breast, a reddish salmon color, shading off to an ashy gray, between the thighs; eyes, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes of all Dorkings have the same rich, red color; shanks, and toes, in all varieties, white.







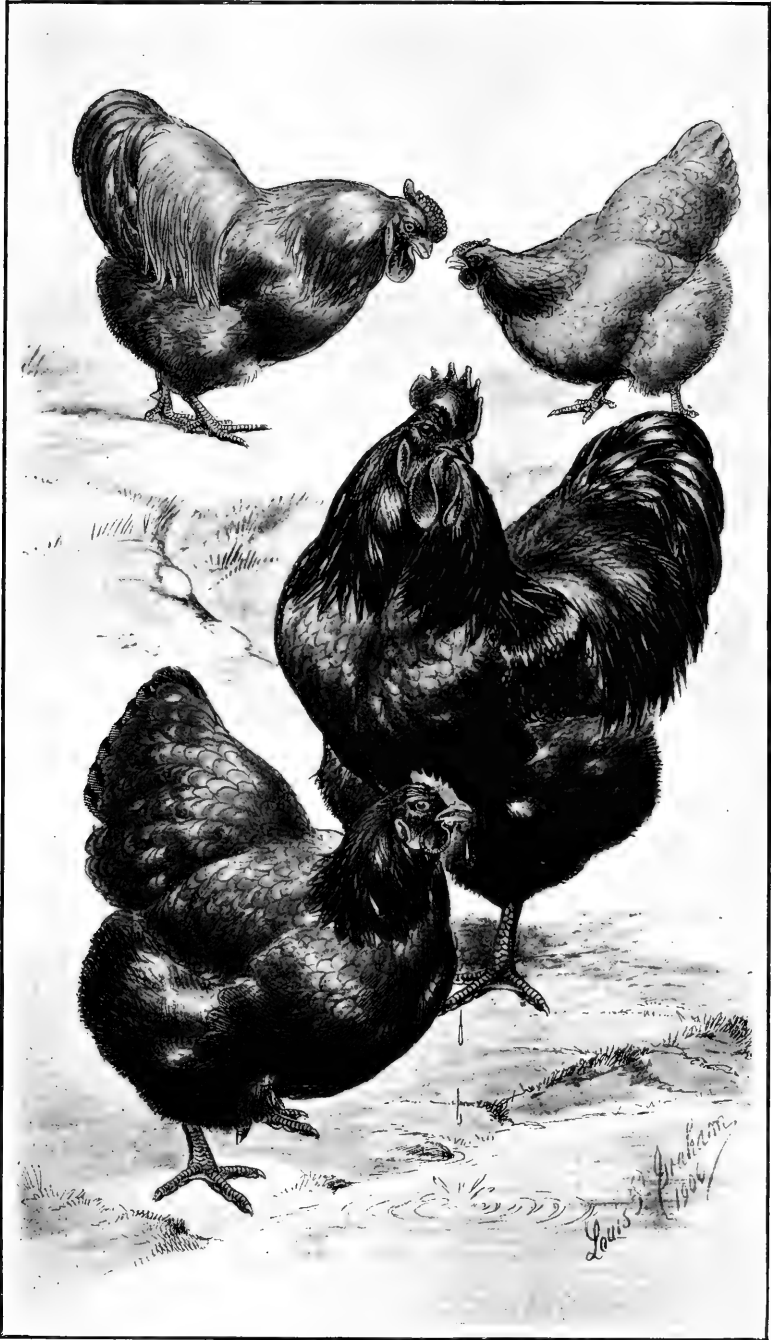
## THE ORPINGTON BREED



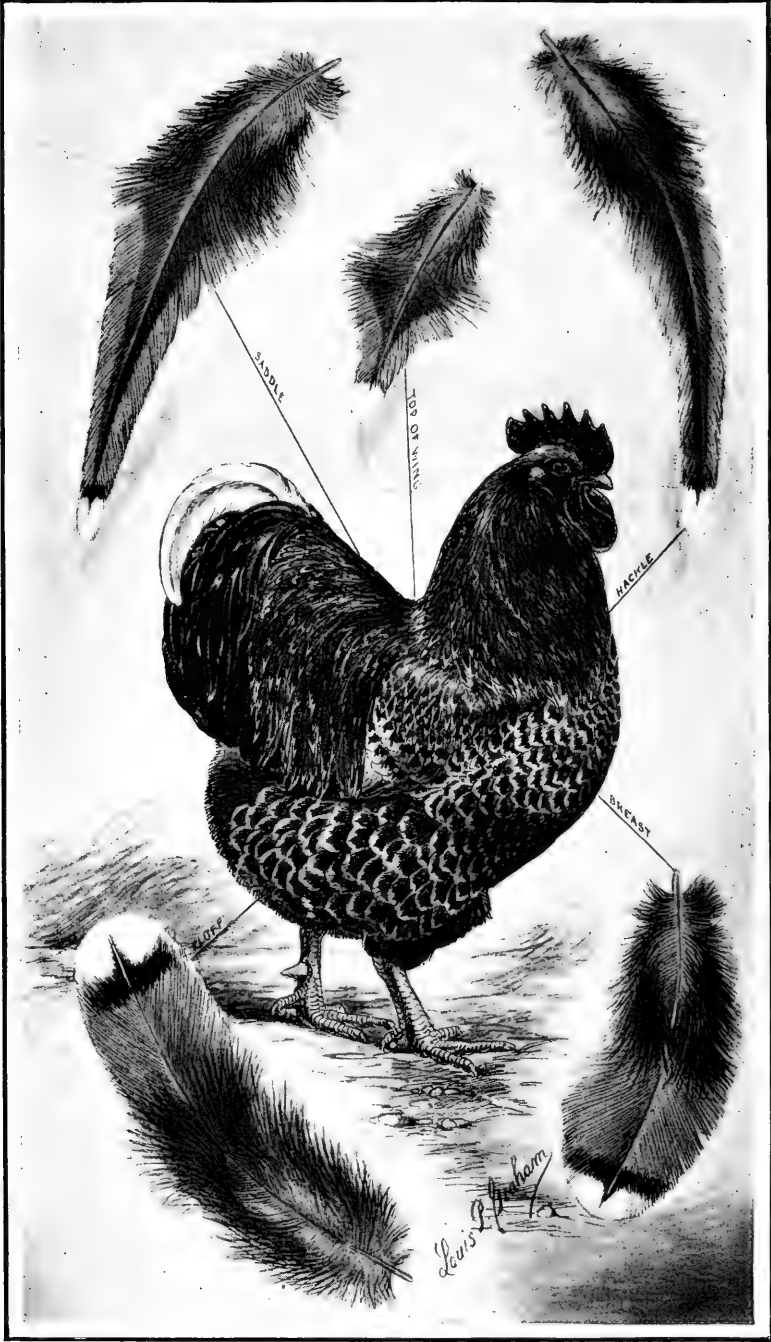
THE late Mr. William Cook is credited the honor of having originated the Orpingtons, which were named after his own home. There has never been any contention as to his having originated all the varieties, we believe, except the Buffs, and there was some little dispute about this, some claiming that what he called Buff Orpingtons were fowls known under the local name of Lincolnshire Buffs. The final outcome, however, recognizes them all as Orpingtons, and Mr. Cook has the credit of their origin.

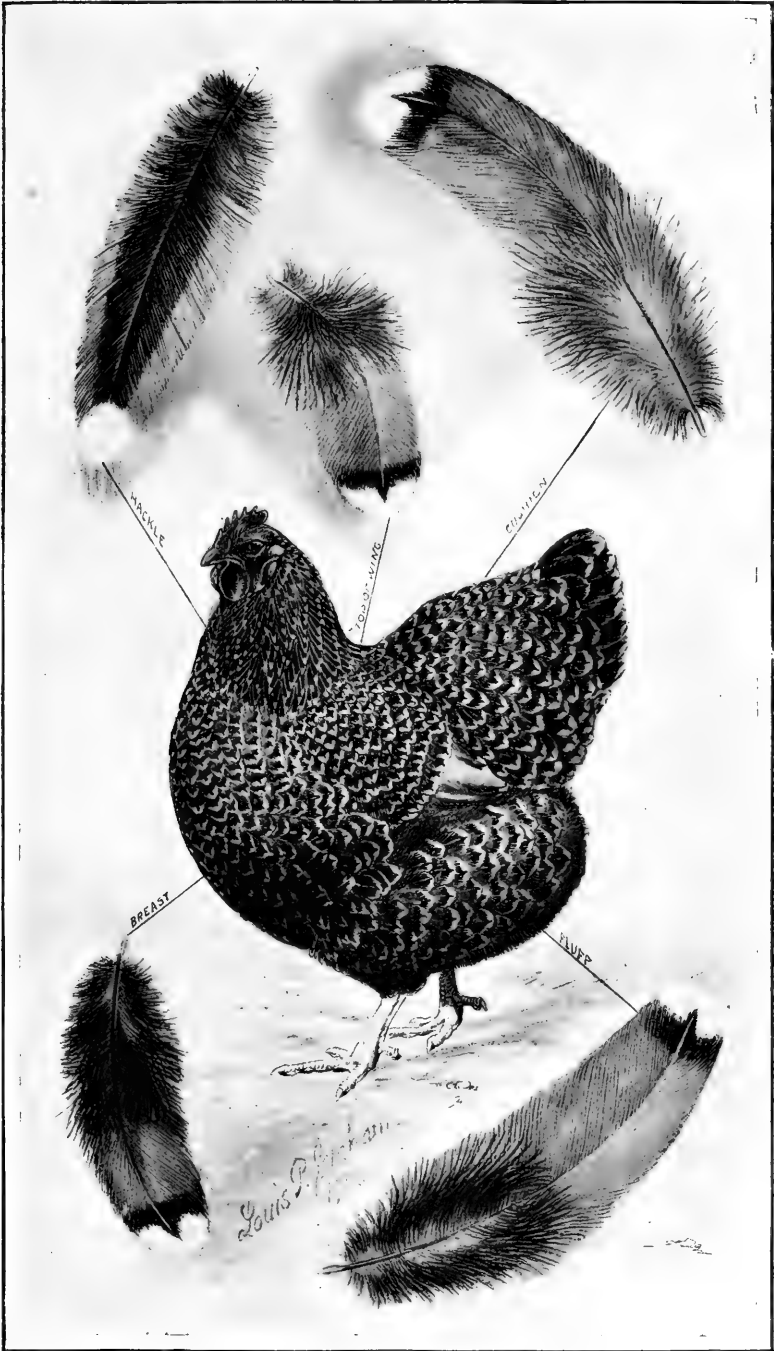
**BUFF ORPINGTON HISTORY.** As originated by Mr. Cook, the Buff Orpington is a compact fowl, created through the Golden-spangled Hamburg, Buff Cochin, and Colored Dorkings. Mr. Cook publishes in his own book a complete history of the entire Orpington family. This contains many pages, and we have selected from them the few statements that we consider of value for reference. The Lincolnshire breeders claim that their fowl was formed, perhaps, through the common fowls they had in their neighborhood, crossed with Dorkings and Buff Cochins. No matter which of these may be accepted, there can not be any getting away from the fact that Mr. Cook did produce a grand strain of Buff Orpingtons, which have been accepted throughout the world.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Orpingtons are a large-sized, compactly-built, general-purpose fowl, broad, deep, with a fairly good length of back and body, built perhaps a little more after the Cochin type than any other of the general-purpose fowls. They have wonderful vitality, are good egg producers, and highly valued as table poultry. Special claim is made for the length and fulness of the breast and plumpness of their carcass. All varieties of Orpingtons are very attractive fowls, and have gained great reputation throughout the world in a very few years.









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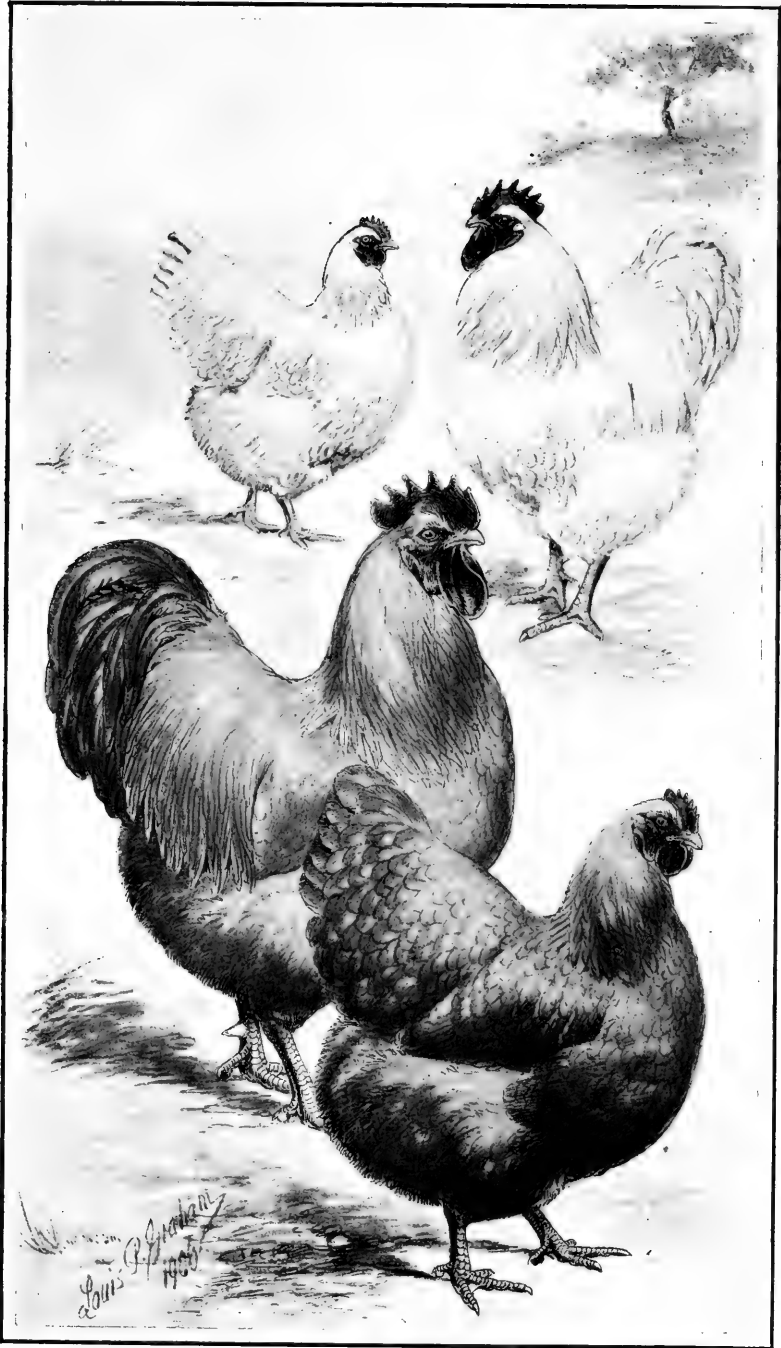
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** There are two varieties of the Buff Orpingtons, the single and the rose-combed. Their shape might be described as favoring our American breed, with the addition of a little more of the appearance of bulkiness like that found in the Dorking and the Cochin fowls. Their color is absolutely buff throughout; beak, and shanks, pinkish white; comb, face, wattles, ear-lobes, and eyes, red. The color of the flesh and skin of the Orpington, like the shanks, is pinkish white, which is typical of all English market-bred poultry.

**BLACK ORPINGTON HISTORY.** Mr. Cook states that the Black Orpington was produced from Black Minorca male birds, black sports from Plymouth Rocks and Black Langshan males, only clean-legged specimens being selected. This united the blood of the Minorca, the Plymouth Rock, and the Langshan, after carefully selecting their offspring to produce the present-day Black Orpingtons, both single and rose-combed.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** This variety has the same general breed characteristics demanded of all the varieties of the breed.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Black Orpington conforms to the Buffs, except that they lean rather toward the Langshan than the Cochin. They are naturally larger than the Buff variety, but are not so much like the Cochin as the Buff and Jubilee varieties. In color of plumage they are a rich, glossy black, some of them beautiful in finish; bottom of the feet showing the pinkish white; eyes, dark; face, wattles, and ear-lobes, bright red; skin, pinkish white. The only difference between the single- and rose-combed specimens of this variety lies in the combs.

**WHITE ORPINGTON HISTORY.** The White Orpingtons are supposed to have been produced from White Leghorns, White Dorkings, and Black Hamburgs. This might have produced the rose-combed variety, but the best specimens of the White Orpingtons seem to lead one to believe that they must have been produced in much the same manner as the Blacks, using White Langshans in place of Blacks. The history of all Orpingtons is so confusing as to lead one to



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believe that they must have been created through breeding many of the Mediterranean and Asiatic breeds.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The same general type of breed conformation belongs to all the Orpingtons. Notwithstanding this, there is more or less difference in the type of the several varieties. As stated previously, the Buffs and the Jubilee varieties lean toward the Cochin type, while the Blacks and Whites favor the Langshans. The White varieties, both single and rose-combed are quite strong in Orpington breed characteristics.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the White Orpingtons, both single and rose-combed, is similar to the Black variety, but the length of back in the female and the general carriage of the male have less of the Cochin formation than the others. Color of plumage, pure white throughout; beak, and shanks, white, or pinkish white; eye, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes, red. All of the Orpingtons lay eggs having tinted shells.

**JUBILEE ORPINGTON HISTORY.** In the creation of what Mr. Cook termed the Diamond Jubilee Orpington, he had in mind producing a fowl similar to the Speckled Dorking. These fowls were named in honor of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The experiment made for the production of this variety consisted in crossing Hamburgs, Cochins, and Speckled Dorkings. These crosses produced birds of fine size, possessing prolific egg-producing qualities. They must have four toes on each foot, white legs, light horn, or white beaks. These fowls have been but little bred in this country, but some very creditable specimens have been shown.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** These fowls are bred in both the single and rose-combed varieties. They have a deep body, long, prominent breast, skin, and flesh very white, with round, bulky formation, typical of the Orpington family.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** True Orpington shape is demanded in this variety. The color is brown, black, and white, the mixture of colors forming the combination in both male and female, quite like the old Speckled Dorking, and some what favoring the color of the Spangled Game; this intermingling of colors is quite attractive, especially when the brown is of a rich color. In hens, the tail and wings show considerable

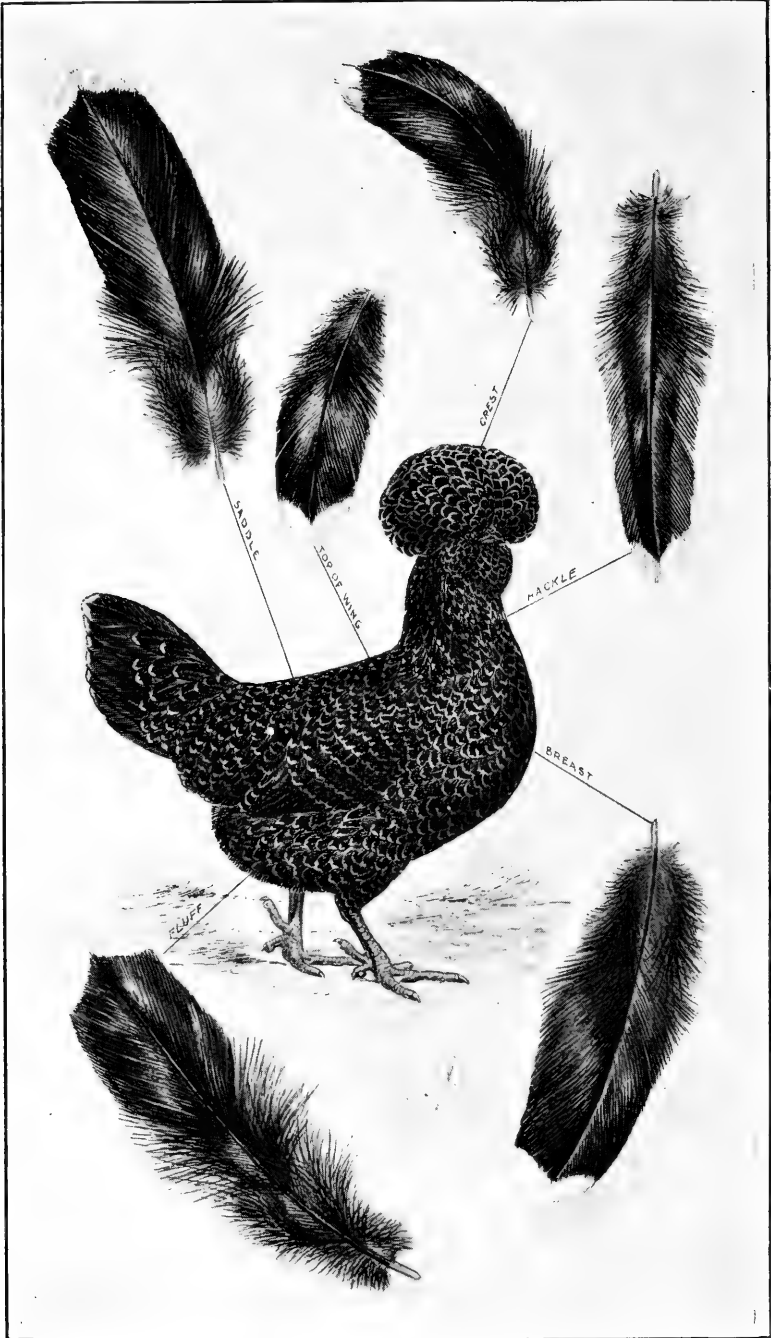
## The Perfected Poultry of America

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white. The tail is always carried fairly well back. The breast of the male bird is of a reddish-brown color, with white and black conforming to the shade of the female; hackle, saddle, in fact the entire top color, of a reddish shade; the feathers stroked with white and black; flights—of the male—and the greater part of the tail, white predominating; the eyes of this variety, reddish bay; beak, horn color, grading to white; shanks, white or pinkish white, some of them marked with darker shading.

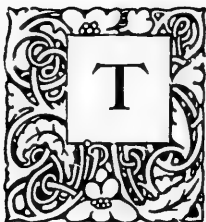








## THE FRENCH BREEDS



THE French breeds familiarly known in this country are the Houdan, Crevecœurs, La Flèche, and Faverolles. All of these originated in France and are largely cultivated there for table poultry. They are thought to have more or less of the Polish blood in their veins. The French are credited with some fifteen or twenty separate kinds of poultry, cultivated principally for the production of eggs and meat for market, and of all these, but four kinds have been cultivated as American poultry. The French fowls have the peculiarity of the pinkish-white skin and flesh, and all but the La Flèche have more or less of the bulky Asiatic type in their make-up. The La Flèche are fashioned somewhat after the type of the Andalusian.

### Classification in Detail

**THE HOUDAN.** This is the most favored of all the French breeds throughout the world. They are heavy-set, long-bodied, full-breasted fowls, and their general appearance would lead one to accept them on sight as a model type of table poultry. Being short in shank, there is the least possible amount of waste when dressed for the table, and having attractive plumage, and a beautiful make-up of form and feather, they combine the several qualities that go with the general-purpose fowl. They are producers of white-shelled eggs, are fairly quick in growth, and easy to rear. They must be protected from dampness, possessing as they do large crests. They can not be exposed to heavy rainstorms without danger of their crests becoming so wet that they contract colds unless quickly dried. It is not unusual to see their crests closely cropped during the breeding season.

**HOUDAN HISTORY.** From the fifth toe of the Houdan and their crest and beard, one might readily suppose that the Dorking and the Polish had been largely used in their original

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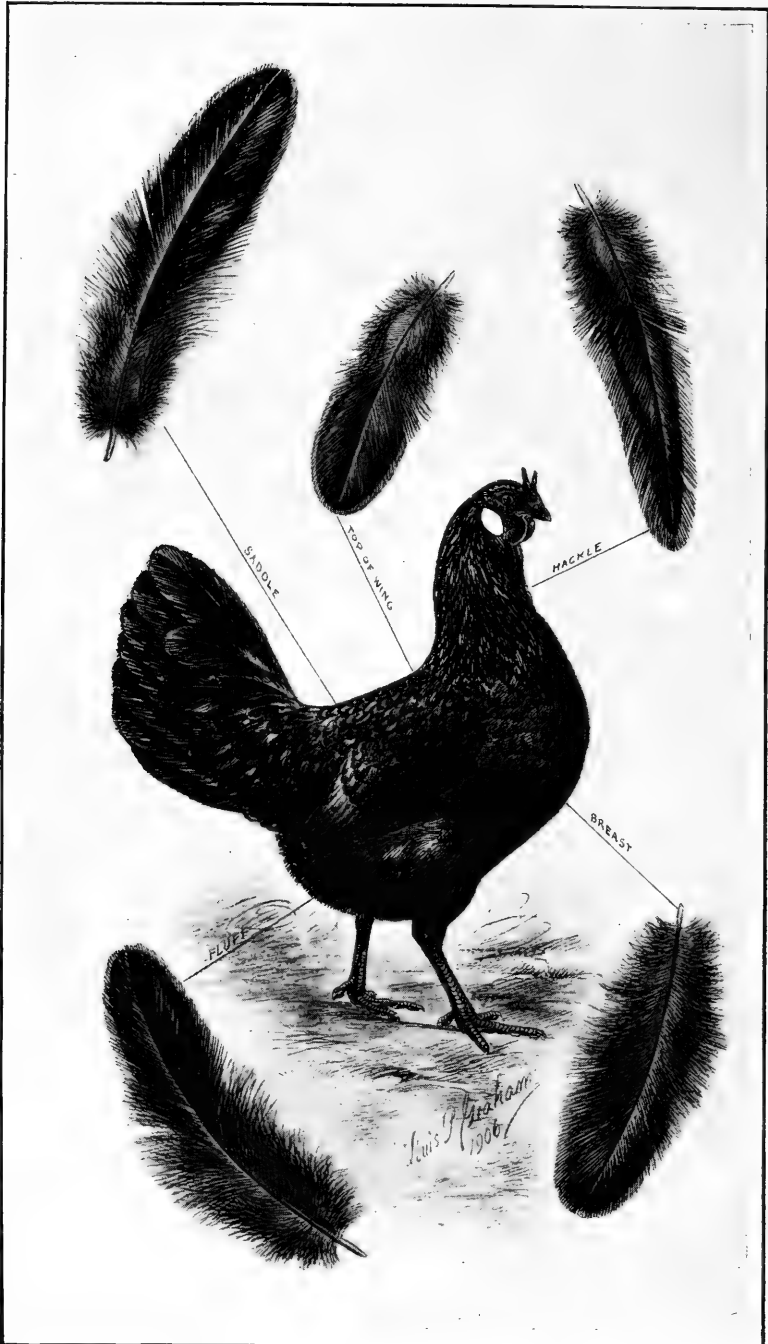
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making. Some writers disclaim the use of the Dorking, but admit that common five-toed fowls, Crevecoeurs and Polish, were used in creating the Houdan. Many writers have discussed the subject. Mr. Wright suggests that the fifth toe was not strongly defined in many of the early-day specimens. The leaf-comb is not even credited to them as a certainty in the early stages of their development. In the past twenty-five years the leaf-comb had been considered a mark of purity until the American fanciers changed to the V-comb. Originally Houdans were bred in this country with the true English leaf-comb, but at present leaf-combs have been almost entirely displaced by the V-combed type.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general make-up of the Houdan justifies us in calling them the ideal general-purpose fowl. They are built for egg production, meat production, quick growth, and are a valuable poultry product from four weeks of age to the full-grown roaster. To say that they are nearer like the Orpington or the Dorking than any other varieties of our poultry, best describes the general characteristics of the breed. There is a little too much disposition on the part of some breeders to change this general formation into a type more like the Game, but the true value is largely in the compactly-built, long-bodied fowl, with a great deal of breast meat.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** In head points the Houdan is fashioned after the Polish. The description of crest, head points, and beard of the Polish will apply equally well to the Houdan. The comb is V-shaped, of small size; crest, very large; the beard, full and prominent; the ear-lobes are almost if not entirely hidden from sight by the crest; back, rather long, broad, and sloping to the rear; breast and body, round, plump, fairly long, and well proportioned; tail of the male, full and flowing; female, of a closer formation, something like that of the Plymouth Rock. In color, beak, dark; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, red; ear-lobes, white; shanks, and toes, pinkish-white color, marked with dark-colored scales; plumage, a beautiful black, the ends of the feathers tipped with white, black predominating

**CREVECOEUR HISTORY.** Accepting the fact that the Houdan owes part of its ancestry to this breed, they are nat-





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urally an older fowl than the Houdan. They are accredited to a town of the name they bear. Just how they were created can not be positively stated, but the general impression is that they owe part of their origin to the Polish fowl. They have always been highly considered in their own country, but bred very little in America

**CHARACTERISTICS.** They are a large-size, squarely-built fowl, broad and deep in their general make-up, with large, round, black crests, with a muff or beard; full in tail; very deep in breast and body; short of legs, indicating the general-purpose fowl. Like the Houdan, they are medium in size, ranging from five to nine pounds from the young pullet to the old male bird.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Crevecoeur is medium in comparison to the Asiatic family. Heavy set, well proportioned, compact in formation, with the long, deep, broad body, so distinctive in the French table fowls. The color of their plumage throughout is a rich, glossy black; beak, shanks, and toes, quite dark, almost black; eyes, face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes, red. The V-comb is most pronounced in this breed.

**LA FLECHE HISTORY.** This might be called a local fowl of France, being more prevalent in given localities than elsewhere. We remember having seen some of the early-day La Flèche with a small tuft or crest upon their heads. Whether these were true to the breed or not we can not say, but we know that at one time the small crest was cultivated. Prominent writers state that they have never become very popular even in their own country. They are not considered as hardy as the other two breeds above mentioned. They have not proved a marked success in this country.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The La Flèche might be called a Mediterranean type of French fowl, the male favoring the Andalusian in general carriage. They are longer in shank than the other French breeds, but not so prominent in breast and body. Their tails are carried rather low and fashioned after the Leghorn type.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** They are rather long in all sections, including neck; round and plump in body; full in breast; the

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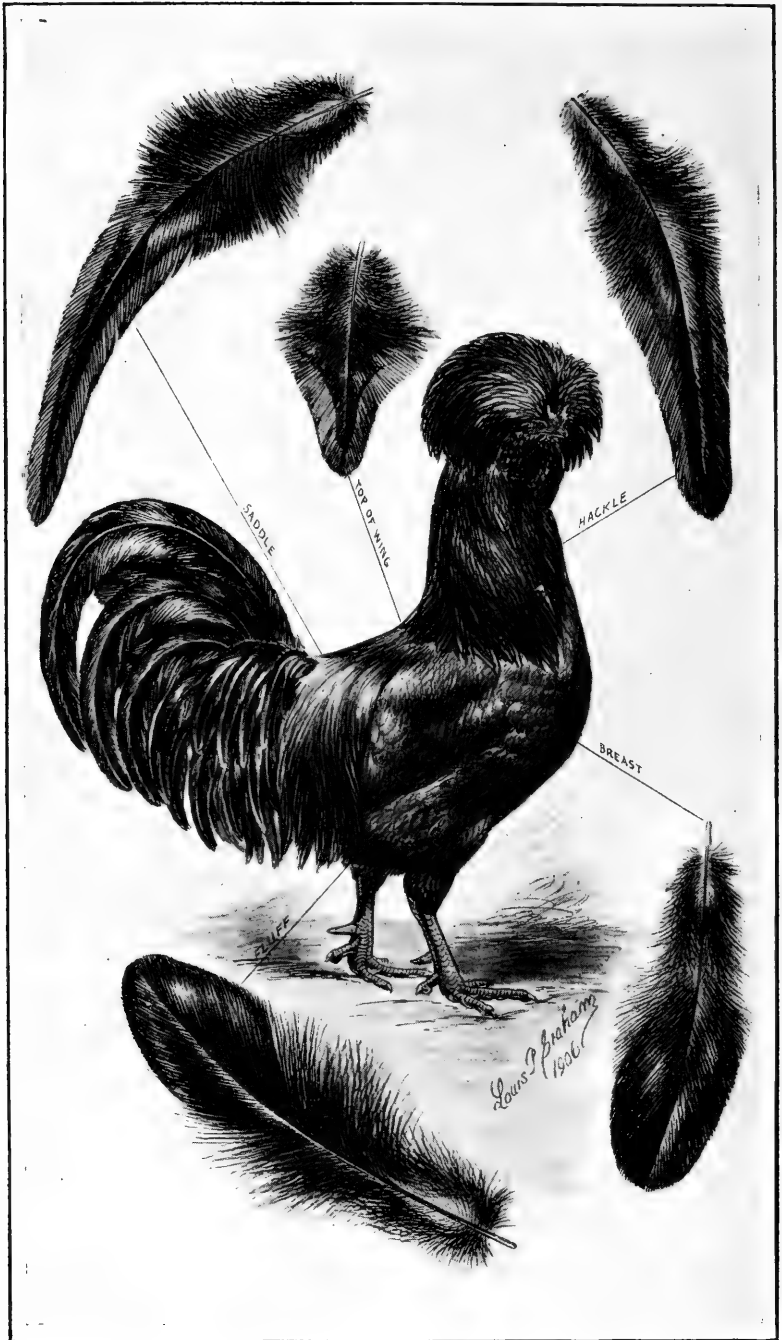
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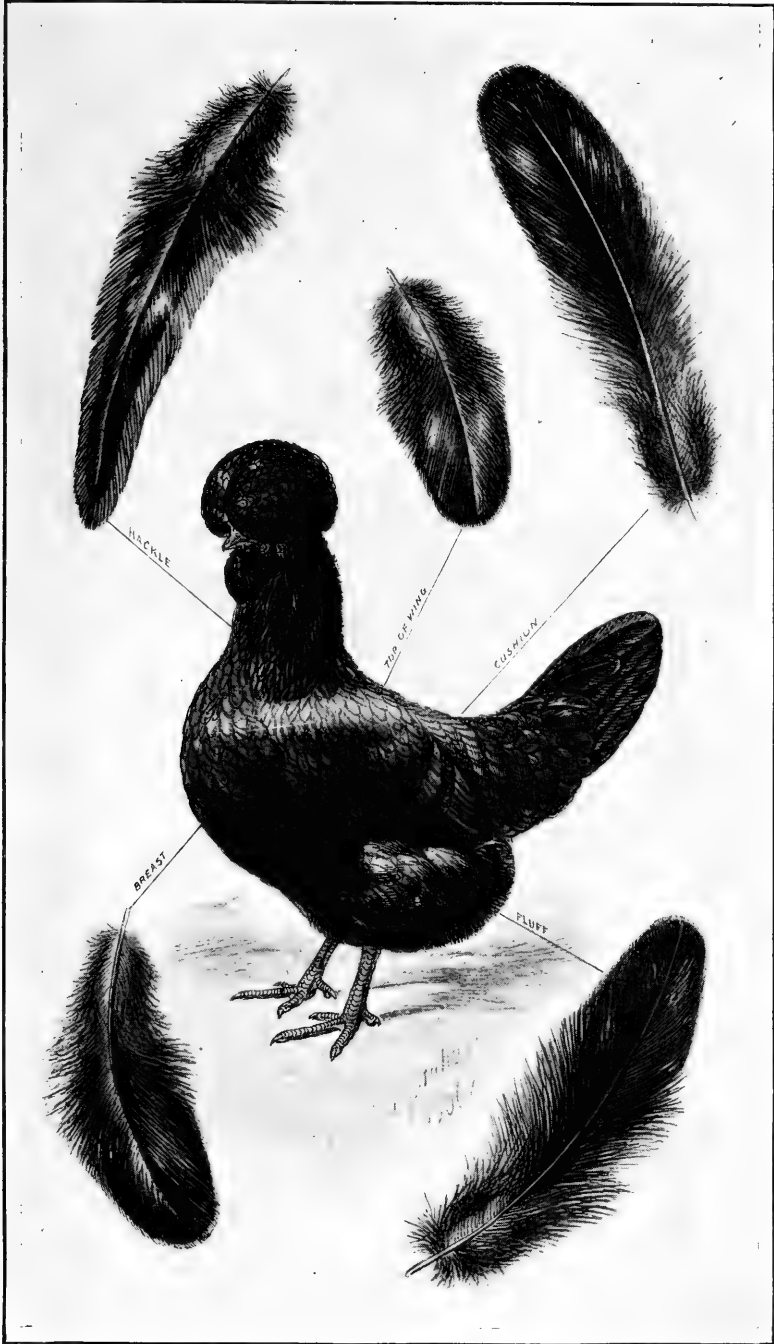
female resembling the medium type of the present-day Minorca. They have the V- or antler-shaped comb. Carriage of the male erect; color, beak, shanks, and toes, quite dark or black; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, red; ear-lobes, white; the entire body plumage throughout a rich, glossy black.

**FAVEROLLE HISTORY.** From the French we have the origin of the Faverolle as being mixed varieties crossed with the Dorking and the Cochin, or the Dorking and Brahma, with the Houdan or Crevecoeur. In all the different varieties, whether the Cochin, the Brahma, or the Langshan crosses were used, either the Houdan or the Crevecoeur was largely represented. They were carried from France to England and from there to this country. Of recent years they have been considerably bred in this country, greater attention being paid to the Salmon Cochin cross of Faverolle, the Brahma, and the Dorking type. They were named after a village from which they were thought to have emanated. The peculiarity of this breed is the single comb.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The characteristics of the Faverolle resemble the composite make-up of the Dorking and the Cochin. They have the single comb, and the beard, with no crests, some feathers on their shanks, and possess five toes.

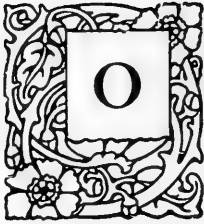
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape is a composite type, such as might come from the union of the Houdan, the Dorking, and the Asiatic family. In color, they are described as partridge, black, white, salmon, and red. The Salmon Faverolles, which are most generally bred in this country, have in the male much the same color as the Silver Dorking; the female, a salmon-buff color, with light and dark markings throughout Tail plumage, dark, and at times, almost black in the female. There is as yet no set rule for color, each variety favoring the color which describes the variety.







## THE POLISH BREED



OF ALL the many breeds of poultry there is none that has a more striking individuality than the Polish family. The peculiar formation of skull and nostrils, and the distinctive comb belonging thereto are peculiarities found in no other breed of fowls. It is not necessary for us to go into their details from a naturalist's point of view, as has Aldrovandi and others of the early time. Even Darwin himself does not venture beyond classing all fowls of this kind under the "crested or Polish breeds," including all fowls with crests under the same classification.

The marked peculiarity of skull in the crested or Polish family is the formation of the rounded knob on the top of the head, from which the crest grows. Polish fowls having small crests naturally have the smaller-sized knobs on top of the head. As a long-time Polish breeder remarked to the writer, "To have Polish with enormous crests, you must breed from specimens with the largest protuberance on the top of the head." Some writers claim that the French are the only nation that has fully realized the commercial value to be obtained from the Polish by crossing them with other varieties. The Houdan and the Crevecoeur are remarkable evidences of the value of the Polish blood used in creating new breeds. The La Flèche and Faverolle have the same influence in their general make-up, and all of these are valued highly as market poultry.

The varieties of the Polish family are the White-crested Black, Bearded, and the Non-bearded, and Non-bearded Silver, Bearded and Non-bearded White, and the Buff-faced. Of all these, the most beautiful are the White-crested Blacks and the Bearded Silvers. Well-formed crests upheld by a profuse bearding adds to their beauty as an ornamental fowl, and the more of these ornamentations they possess, the more attractive are they to the amateur and fancier.



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**WHITE-CRESTED BLACK POLISH HISTORY.** The Polish fowls were originally called Polanders, from the fact that Poland was credited with being their original home; and from this comes the present name Polish. Contentions have been raised against the name of the Cochin and the Hamburg, but we are of the opinion that no other name would be more applicable to these breeds. The Black Polish fowl of fifty years ago had but a small crest. They were kept and valued for their hardiness, and were prolific producers of beautiful white-shelled eggs. The English fanciers have done more for the improvement of the Polish fowls than any other breeders. The Canadian fanciers, being closely allied with their home country, imbibed the love and ability of improving the breed. Some of the most beautiful specimens that reach the show-rooms of America are brought here by Canadian fanciers.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Polish family in general conform more to the type of the Leghorn and the Hamburg than to any other breed. They are fairly long in body; tails, carried rather low; body, slightly upright; shanks, of medium length, set well apart; the back, very symmetrical. The most striking breed characteristic is the head formation and the crest. The head, rather large, with a knob forming a half circle, like the half of a small-sized ball on the top of the head. They have a V-shaped comb, rather small in size, lying against the front of the crest, often entirely hidden. The larger and the more globular the crest of the female the better. The crest of the male is composed of feathers like the hackle feathers of the same specimen; the crest of the female of feathers more like body plumage. The long, flowing crest of the male appears somewhat like a very long head of hair flowing three ways from the center, while that of the female stands out like a ball. The beard, of the Bearded variety, grows upon the throat beneath the beak, extending from right to left, to beneath the eye growing down to a point forming a very wide V of feathers beneath the beak. The wattles are small, as are the ear-lobes. They are close feathered birds, having very long tail plumage in both male and female, the former carrying long, flowing sickles.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Polish is similar to the European and Mediterranean fowls; and is termed the

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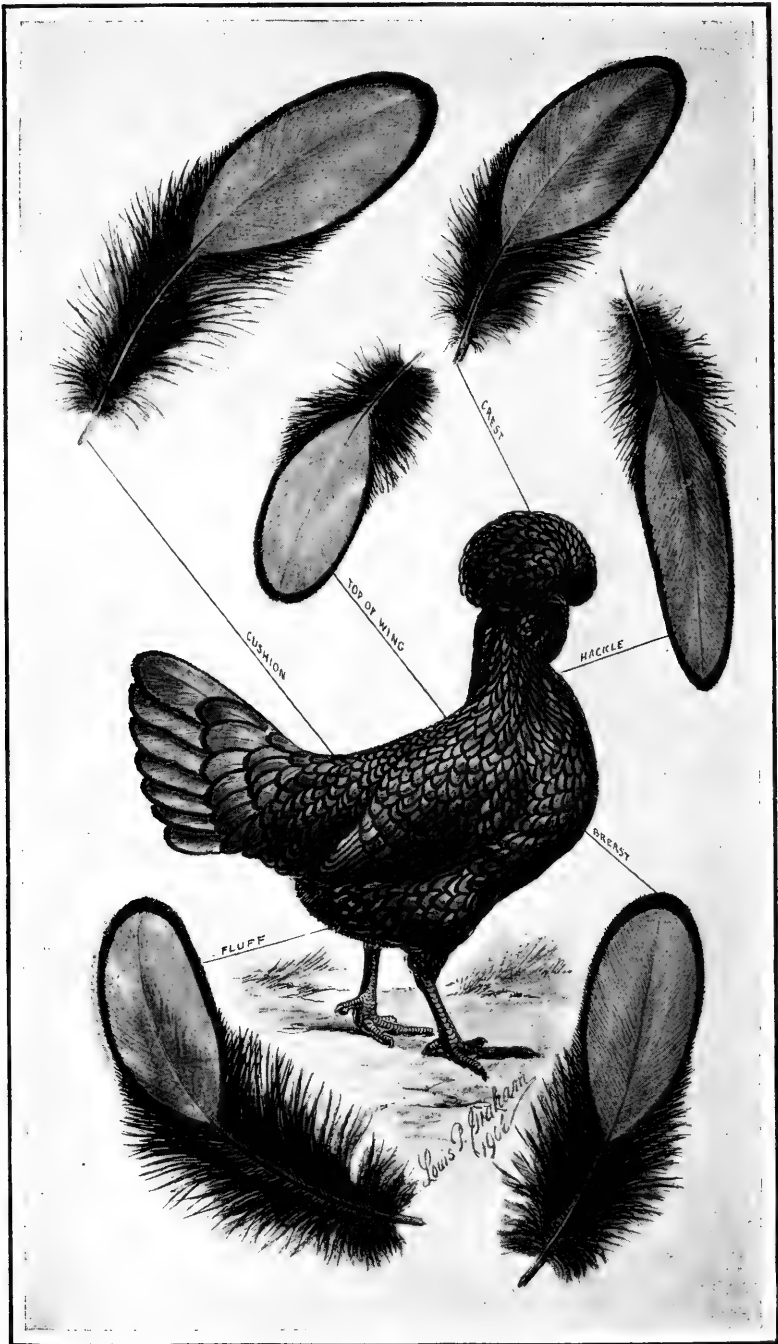
egg-producing type, with the long, straight back, broader at the shoulders than at the saddle; rather full in abdomen; wings of good size, closely placed against the body; thighs and shanks of medium length. The color of the White-crested Black Polish plumage is pure, glossy black throughout, excepting the crest, which is pure white, bordered in front with a few black feathers; beak, and shanks, of a bluish shade of color; eyes, face, and wattles, red; ear-lobes, white. One of the most difficult problems in breeding this variety is to gather all the white plumage into the crest, and avoid the presence of any foreign color in the body plumage.

**GOLDEN POLISH HISTORY.** There are two varieties that have the same colored plumage, one having the beard, the other without it. Both have the same color and undoubtedly the same origin. These are evidently a made variety created through the art of the fancier.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The same general characteristics apply to these varieties as those previously described.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of all the Polish varieties is the same. The Golden varieties have the ground color known as golden bay, each feather edged with a narrow band of black. All the plumage must be free from mousing or bad color in the center. The center of the Polish plumage is quite like the center of the Laced Wyandottes; the specimens gaining beauty as the center becomes more open and expanded. The tail of the male is most pleasing from the fact that the long, flowing sickles edged with a darker color match so well with the hackle-shaped plumage of the crest. As the feathers of these two specimens become more expanded and beautifully tinted and laced, the birds are considered more attractive. Shanks, beak, eyes, face, and wattles conform to the color of the White-crested Blacks; all Polish should have the same color in these sections. The non-bearded variety conforms in every way to the bearded, with the exception of the absence of the beard.

**BEARDED AND NON-BEARDED SILVER POLISH.** The history and characteristics of this variety are exactly the same with the Golden, except the color. Where the Golden have the bay color of plumage, the Silver have pure white. Nothing is





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more beautiful than the plumage of the Silver Polish. The clear, clean white, edged with black, seems to fit most beautifully the general make-up of these two varieties.

**WHITE POLISH.** The two varieties of Bearded and Non-bearded White Polish must conform in every way to the general make-up of the other two varieties, with the exception that they have pure white plumage throughout.

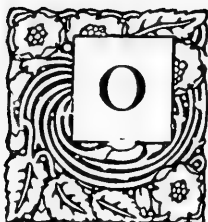
**BUFF-LACED POLISH HISTORY.** Whether the Buff-laced Polish have been cultivated from the Golden Polish is not easily determined. When first seen in this country, they were of a very weak, or pale buff color, with a narrow light edging in the plumage, which looked more like supplementary lacing than actual marking. With care and attention, both here and in other countries, they have been improved into one of the most beautiful varieties of the Polish family. But few are seen from the fact that they are most difficult to produce in good quality.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general breed characteristics of this variety are the same as in all Polish.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Laced Polish is similar to that of all Polish. The plumage throughout is fashioned after that of the Golden Polish, the color being a rich, clear buff, each feather having a narrow white lacing. All other sections are the same as in the Golden Polish. When they possess a clean, clear, buff center, with the perfect white lacing, they are magnificent specimens; the color of the male is always of a deeper shade than that of the female.



## THE DUTCH BREED



**F** HAMBURGS there are six varieties: Golden and Silver-penciled, Golden and Silver-spangled, White, and Black varieties. The original was undoubtedly the Penciled. The Spangled, the White, and the Black, were probably created in England from some of their own varieties of spangled-plumaged fowls, the selection being made to gain what is to-day among the most beautiful of all varieties of exhibition fowls.

**PENCILED HAMBURG HISTORY.** The story of the “everlasting laying hen from Hamburg” has been written and re-written so often, that it is only necessary to know that fowls came from the port of Hamburg that have since been cultivated into the beautiful Penciled Hamburgs. Why they were called Penciled Hamburgs, we are at a loss to understand. The female of the two varieties is barred, not penciled, but has been known under this name and has become so dear to the heart of Hamburg fanciers that nothing could ever change it.

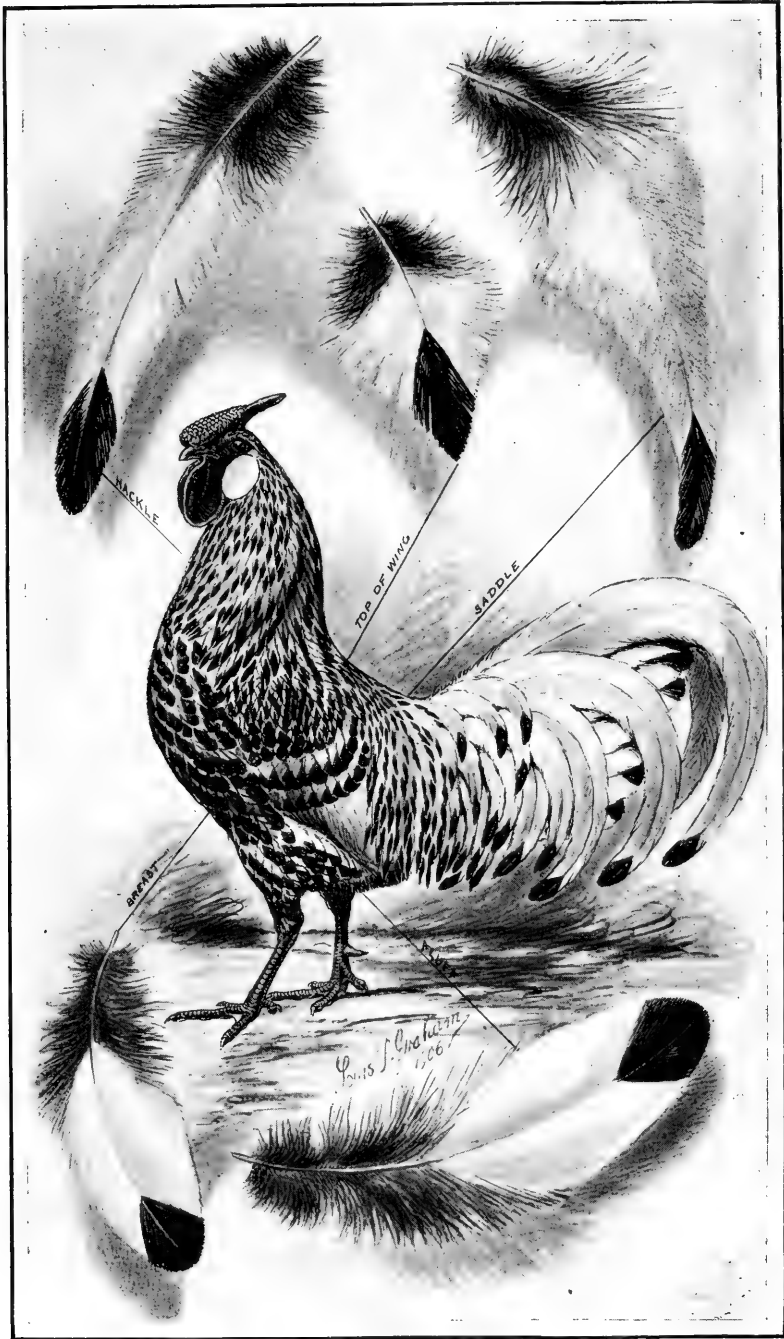
**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Penciled Hamburgs have a breed type to themselves. Their general make-up is quite different from the spangled varieties. A grand pair of Rose-combed Leghorns conforms almost to the same description that would be given to describe the Penciled Hamburgs. They are Mediterranean in their general appearance. If there were rose-combed Italian fowls, and if some of them found their way into the Dutch territory and had their influence in the making of the Penciled Hamburgs, they could not have been truer to such a type.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The most distinctive feature of the Hamburg is the Hamburg comb. It can be pictured, but scarcely described. It has a formation all its own. Other fowls have received the comb influence through crosses, but none have the beautiful comb of the Hamburg, save the Ham-



Plate LXVI Silver-spangled Hamburg Female and Feathers





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burg or Rose-combed Bantams; the wattles, like other fowls; the ear-lobes, prominent, smooth, and closely placed to the head, are of a most beautiful white color. Otherwise the shape of the Penciled Hamburg is more like the Leghorn than any other fowl. In color there are two varieties. The Golden Penciled has plumage of a reddish-bay color; the sickle feathers of the tail we will describe as black, many of them having a coppery bronze shading that conforms to the body plumage. This, edged with a reddish bay, gives the appearance of black sickles, edged with a reddish bay, and the whole surface glistens with a coppery bronze shading. When folded, the wings beneath the saddle show some of the markings the same as the female. The hackle plumage of the female, reddish bay; balance of the entire body plumage, reddish bay, each feather barred across with straight bars of glistening black; beaks, of both male and female, dark; shanks, and toes, of a bluish color.

**THE SILVER-PENCILED HAMBURGS.** The only difference between the Golden and the Silver-penciled Hamburg female lies in the fact that where the one has the reddish-bay body-color, the other has the pure white with the barring of black. In the male the same conditions exist, the body-color being pure white. It is usual in the Silver-penciled males to find more or less shading of black in some parts of the plumage. The fluff of all males is powdered with gray; the tail, black, edged with white; the purer and clearer the white, and the more distinct the dark markings, the more attractive the specimen.

**SPANGLED HAMBURG HISTORY.** Some of the English fanciers suggest that more than likely the Spangled Hamburgs were made by intermingling other English fowls with the Penciled Hamburg, and that by selecting the best from these the present type has been built up. There are two varieties, the Golden and the Silver-spangled Hamburgs. Both have been produced in much the same manner; and have been brought to a distinctive type and beauty that is solely their own.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Spangled Hamburgs have a type to themselves, being heavier in body, and are naturally

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of larger size. Otherwise they are Hamburgs in general make-up and breed characteristics.

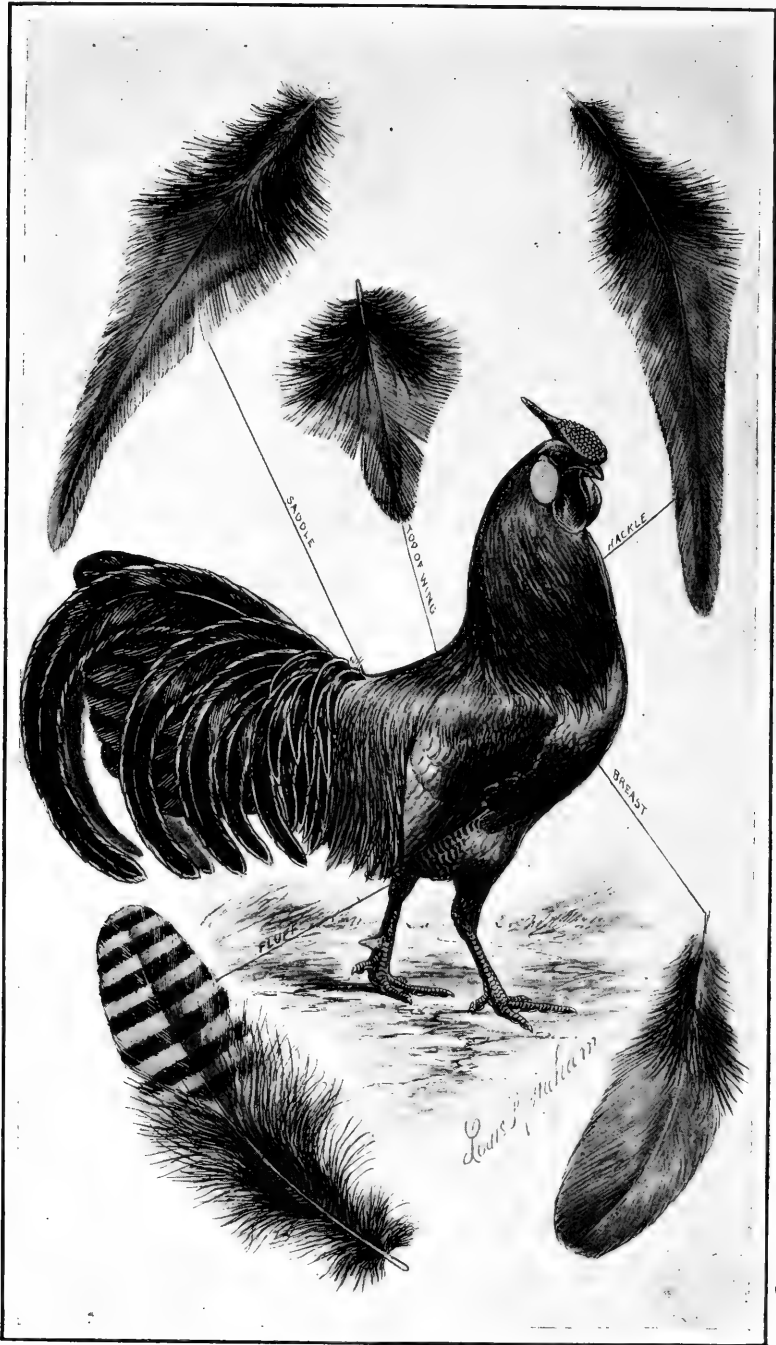
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The comb, wattles, the ear-lobes, are the same as the other varieties. In body they are heavier throughout. The color of the Golden-spangled variety is deep bay, spangled with greenish black; the formation of the spangling, the bay, web-color, and the under-color is better described in our illustrations. The male is more profusely marked with black than formerly; the hackle, saddle, wings, and the breast plumage, carrying more dark shading than formerly; these attractive features are shown by illustration. Beak, shanks, and other sections are the same in color as the Penciled variety.

**SILVER-SPANGLED HAMBURGS.** The same as the Goldens with the exception that the body plumage is white, spangled with black.

**THE BLACK HAMBURG.** Whether the Black Hamburg is a sport from the Silver-penciled or a made variety, we presume will never be absolutely known. They are beautiful black fowls, having the distinctive Hamburg features, and clothed in the most beautiful black plumage possible. They are of excellent quality, and attractive in every manner, and are not as difficult to produce as some of the other varieties, yet to have the best quality, they must be bred in line for years from the very best strains. Beak, dark in color; shanks, dark blue or black; eyes, face, comb, and wattles, red; ear-lobes, a most beautiful enamel white. Plumage, greenish black throughout.

**THE WHITE HAMBURG.** The White Hamburg has failed in quality for many years, but recently they have been improved, and some attractive specimens are occasionally seen. They are truly Hamburg in every way, an exact counterpart of the Blacks, except their beak, and shanks are not so dark in color, and their plumage is pure white.

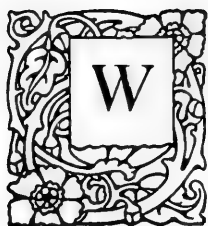
Pl. LXVIII Golden-penciled Hamburg Male and Feathers



Golden-penciled Hamburg Female and Feathers Pl. LXIX



## THE REDCAP BREED



WE HAVE examined authorities, going back to the oldest poultry publications, and find that from the beginning the Redcap has been described as a portion of the Hamburg family. One writer calls them cross-bred Hamburgs, and ascribes the cross as the Golden Hamburg, with the market poultry in the neighborhood where the cross was made.

**REDCAP HISTORY.** Messrs. Hewitt and Wragg, two of the most accomplished English fanciers, seemed to be the accepted authorities, as what they have written has been rewritten in almost every poultry book published in recent years. They write that the Redcap is one of the oldest breeds, having been kept in the counties of Derbyshire and Yorkshire prior to their becoming popular as exhibition poultry. Over thirty years ago fairly well filled classes were seen. Mr. Lewis Wright, in the last issue of the Book of Poultry, states that Redcaps were then largely kept in the United States and other foreign countries, and that they are a near relative to the Golden-spangled Hamburg, the old English Game having been used in their conformation.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** To describe the characteristics of the Redcap it can be well said of them that they are Hamburg in general make-up, the male being fashioned somewhat like the old English Game, while the female is a Spangled Hamburg, with the addition of the heavy formation of the present-day Minorea. The prominent breast, long back, and deep abdomen, point to a naturally heavy egg production. The unusually large comb that is peculiar to this one breed alone, is undoubtedly responsible for the name they bear, for it is a very large and a very red cap upon their heads. They are usually of the one distinctive golden color, yet mention is made of some showing the silver-spangled influence in the cross.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the present-day Redcap male leans rather toward the English type of heavy-built

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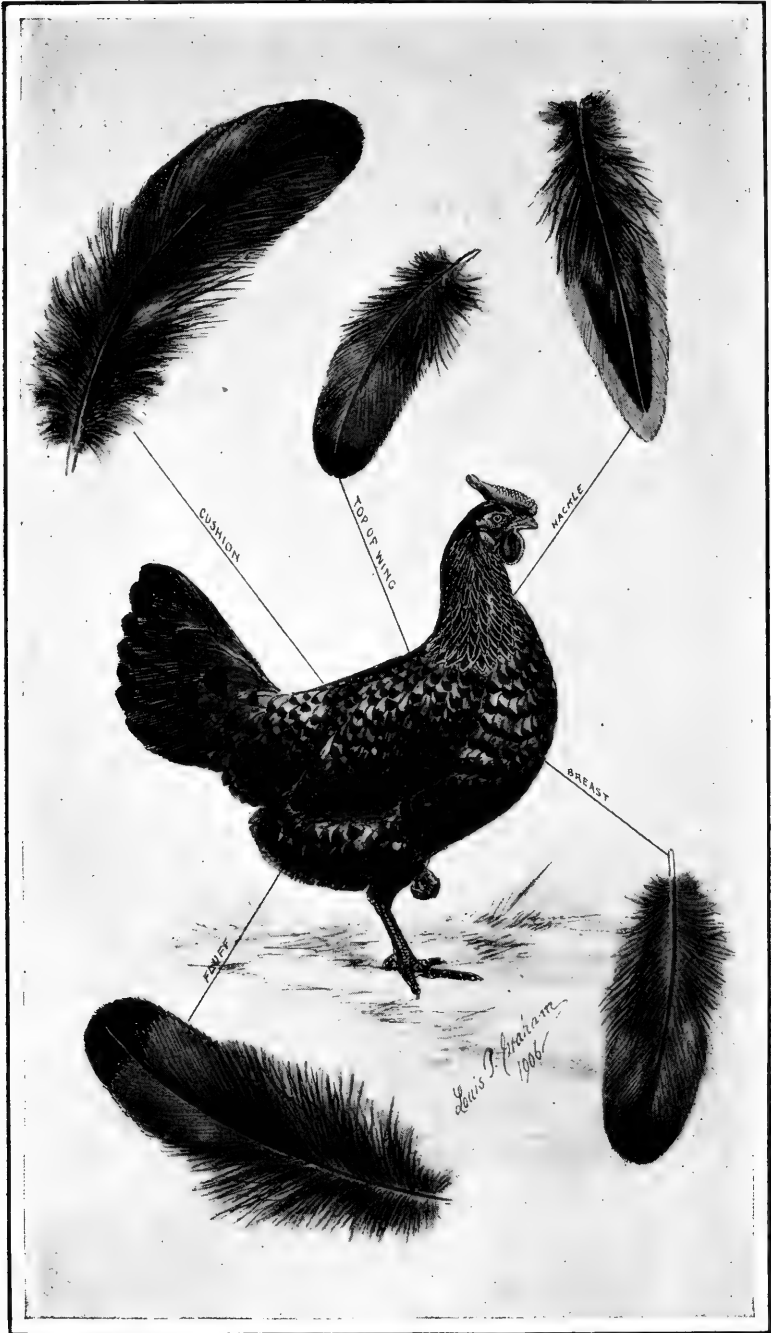
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fowls. While they are Hamburg in general formation, the body is somewhat like the Dorking, with large comb and wattles, and the full flowing tail of the Hamburg. The female is of Hamburg formation, with a longer body and more prominent breast and abdomen, with full spread Hamburg tail, having more the appearance of the possibilities of market poultry than the Hamburg. The foundation or body-color is brown, the male having a richer shade of color, which often imitates the shading of the Partridge Cochin. The ear-lobes are bright red. The male has rich, brilliant black color in the tail, which is not so pronounced in the female. The markings are crescent shape, of a glossy black shade.

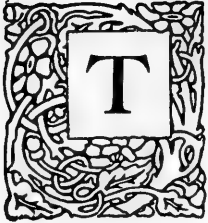








## THE GAME BREED



THE Game fowls have been in existence as long as poultry has been known. The earliest personal information came to us from a friend who had traveled the world over, and who told us that he saw a large flagon that was said to have been taken from the ruins of Pompeii, on one side of which was engraved a peafowl, on the other a game cock. If India is older than history tells, this would indicate that Game fowls were in existence beyond the records, and establishes the fact that Game fowls of some kind seem to have existed in India as long as it has been inhabited by man.

There are eight well-defined varieties of the perfected Game fowl of America, known as the Black-breasted Red, Brown Red, Golden Duckwing, Silver Duckwing, Birchen, Red Pyle, White, and Black. The present type has come to use from the English fanciers, and the American fowl differs but little in the same varieties from those bred in England.

**THE GAME FOWL.** The evolution of the Game fowl from the original Pit Game type to the present standard variety has been gradual. Through selection and careful mating they have been brought to their present form. No other fowl has this upright characteristic tail carriage, and their peculiar formation and general appearance is that of stiltiness. Their station, as it is termed with Game fowls, describes an erect carriage from the sole of the feet to the top of the head. Usually the exhibition game, when of the best quality, carries its head in the position that places the eye almost directly over the hock joint. This has been brought about through years of careful study and mating, and a few fanciers of America have lent their aid in the improvement of these fowls. Their commercial value is so limited as to exclude them from general cultivation. Their history travels back over such an expanse of territory as to make it impossible to record it, and they have come from the originals through many stages and changes up to their present type.

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**BLACK-BREASTED RED GAME HISTORY.** The original Black-breasted Red Game was of the Pit Game type, and they are commonly known as the Old English Game. Among Pit Games there are numerous kinds of Black Reds. The Derby Game has the distinctive chaacter of white or very light-colored shanks, but the type that conforms to the present-day exhibition Black-breasted Red have the willow shanks. This variety has been more extensively bred than any other, and undoubtedly have descended direct from what might be called the Old English Black-breasted Red Game, having the dark-colored willow shade of shanks.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general characteristics of all exhibition Game fowls are the same; it is a type that has an individuality. The body might be called egg shaped, from the fact that it tapers from the shoulder to the tail, much like the formation of an egg. The carriage is quite erect; the tail, gathered so closely as to be termed whip tail. They have long thighs, with shanks placed very near the center of the body, in a direct line below the neck, and almost straight. The back slopes downward from the neck to the tail, the tail being carried down and back, the lower line of which forms almost a direct line from the thighs to the end of the tail.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The general make-up of the Game is short, even the breast formation is rather short; they are strong across the shoulders and through the body at the point of the thigh. The neck is rather long, and carried erect, with a beautiful curve under the throat to the end of the beak, and they have rather a pugnacious appearance; the shape of the female conforms to that of the male. The color of the Black-red Game is, for the top color, red; throat, breast, and body-color, black; tail, black; neck, of an orange-red shade; wing-bows, red; wing-bay, of a darker shade than the bow; back, red, shading in the saddle to conform with neck plumage; beak, shanks, and toes, of a dark willow color; face, and eyes, red. The female has the golden-colored plumage in hackle, which is slightly striped with a darker color. The general body-color is brown, penciled with a darker shade. The birds most admired at present have the lighter shades of brown that have a golden appearance rather than a dull brown; breast,





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salmon, shading off to a light, or ashy brown; the main tail feathers, brownish black, some of the feathers powdered like the body-color; beak, shanks, and toes, dark or willow; face, comb, wattles, ear-lobes, and eyes, red.

**THE BROWN RED GAME.** So far as the history and general characteristics of this variety are considered, they conform to the same description given for the Black Red variety, and the only difference between the two varieties is found in the color and markings. Where the Black Red variety has the red plumage, this variety has the lemon, or frequently the orange shade of plumage. Where the Black Red variety has black plumage, the Brown Red variety is black. The breast plumage of both the male and the female of this variety is laced with a lemon shading. Beak, shanks, and toes are usually darker in color than the same sections in the Black Red. The female, throughout has the ground color of black, with a lemon hackle, carrying a narrow striping and a lemon lacing on the breast plumage, as above mentioned. The eyes of the Brown Red are quite dark in color, and they have what is known as the gypsy face; this dark purple color is the same in comb, face, and wattles.

**THE BIRCHEN GAME.** This is the companion variety to the Brown Reds, having all the features of the other variety in general as to color and markings, except where the Brown Reds have the lemon or orange markings, the Birchens have silvery white, and the breast plumage laced with silvery white. They are the exact counterpart of the Brown Reds, with the exception of color; in one, the color is lemon, orange, and black, while in the Birchen it is black, marked with white; hackle plumage, silver white; top color of the male, silver white; the female, black, with the silver-white hackle and lacing of same.

**THE GOLDEN DUCKWING GAME.** This is one of the most beautiful of the Game varieties. The color of the male and female can hardly be excelled except in the most beautiful of the silver colors. The Golden Duckwing male has yellowish white, or straw color, in hackle; with a little darker shade of same on back; top color of a lighter shade of yellow than in the other variety. The female has a gray body-color

penciled with a darker shade; breast, dark salmon; tail, brownish black; some of the feathers stippled with gray; eyes, face, wattles, and ear-lobes, of this variety, red; the wing-bow conforming to the top color in the male.

**THE SILVER DUCKWING GAME.** This variety is the companion to the Golden Duckwing, but they are of a lighter shade of color throughout. The top color of the male is white; the balance of the body-color, including tail, black; shanks, and beak, willow; beak, darker in shade than the shanks. The general color of the female is of a light silver gray, penciled with a darker shade of gray. The general distinction between the two varieties of Golden and Silver Duckwing is in the shade of the plumage; the Silver Duckwing is naturally lighter throughout than the Golden, but as shown sometimes there is not the marked distinction between the females that there should be. The difference between the Golden Duckwing female and the Silver Duckwing female should be that of a dark-gray body plumage compared to a light gray. The penciling in one should naturally be darker than in the other; the breast of the Golden of a darker salmon color than the Silver.

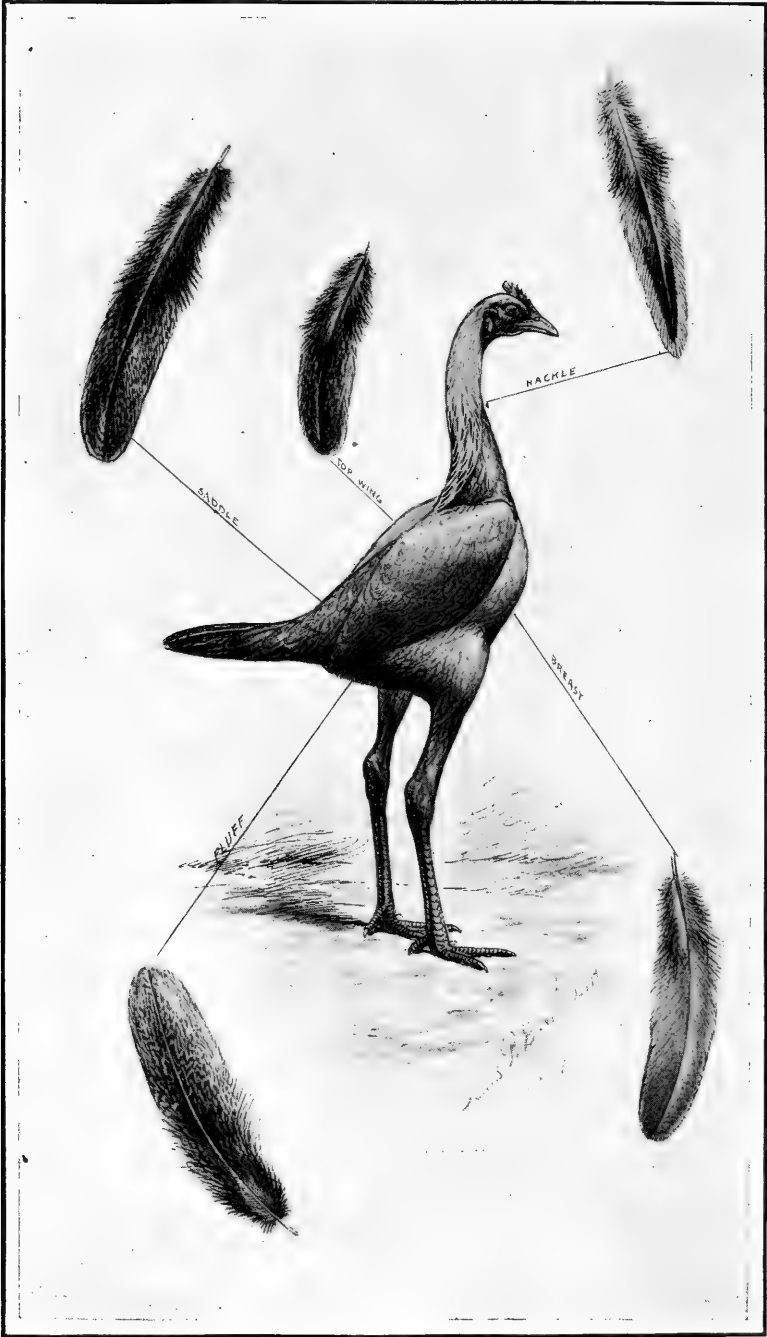
**THE RED PYLE GAME.** The Red Pyle Game has yellow beak, shanks, and feet; eyes, face, wattles, and ear-lobes, red; otherwise their markings are the same as in the Black-red variety, except that the top color is orange or light red; the breast, and body-color, including tail, white. In the female the color of plumage is white, except the breast, which is salmon, and the hackle edged with gold. Some of this variety are seen with willow shanks, but this detracts very much from their appearance, and makes any other shade of beak, shanks, and toes, than yellow most undesirable.

**THE WHITE GAME.** This variety has the same characteristics and general breed formation as the other varieties; beak, shanks, and feet, yellow; face, comb, wattles, ear-lobes, and eyes, red; the entire plumage, white.

**THE BLACK GAME.** These have the same breed characteristics as the other varieties. Beak, shanks, and feet, black; face, comb, wattles, ear-lobes, and eyes, red; the entire plumage, lustrous black throughout.



Pl. LXXIV Black-breasted Red Game Female and Feathers





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**OTHER GAME BREEDS.** The Indian, Sumatra, and Malay Games form a class by themselves. The Indian Game, known as the Cornish Indian Game, and the White Indian Game are so nearly allied with the Malay and the Azeel as to be placed in the kindred class. The Sumatra, the beautiful black Game fowl that may have come from the island whose name they bear, have become more popular within the last few years than ever before. These four varieties might be accredited to the Oriental countries, notwithstanding the fact that the Indian is a made breed, and has been so improved in form and plumage as to bring it forward prominently as an exhibition fowl of great character.

**THE INDIAN GAME.** This breed should undoubtedly be credited to the English fanciers, and, being of such recent origin, there should be something more definitely told of them. They are a heavy-bodied, deep-breasted, highly-valued table fowl, and were evidently originated with this intent in view. They carry a great proportion of breast meat on the carcass. They are more domestic and less pugnacious than are the other kinds of Games, and, if grown together as chicks, may be kept in flocks almost up to maturity without danger of their quarreling to any great extent.

**INDIAN GAME HISTORY.** This bred originated in England, unless we are to admit that they were bred direct from the Azeel, which undoubtedly had something to do in their general make-up. We imagine that there is Old English Game, Malay, and Azeel blood in their veins. This conclusion would be warranted owing to the style of the comb, if for no other reason, and English writers credit their origin to much the same sources. Of late years they have been greatly improved, but while highly favored in some localities, they are not generally bred. They are bred in two varieties, one called the Cornish Indian Game, the other the White Indian.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The characteristics of both varieties of the Indian Game should be the same; the Cornish variety, however, is a much more heavily proportioned fowl than the White. The latter seem to cling more to the Malay type, while the Cornish have been bred to that of the Azeel. This type

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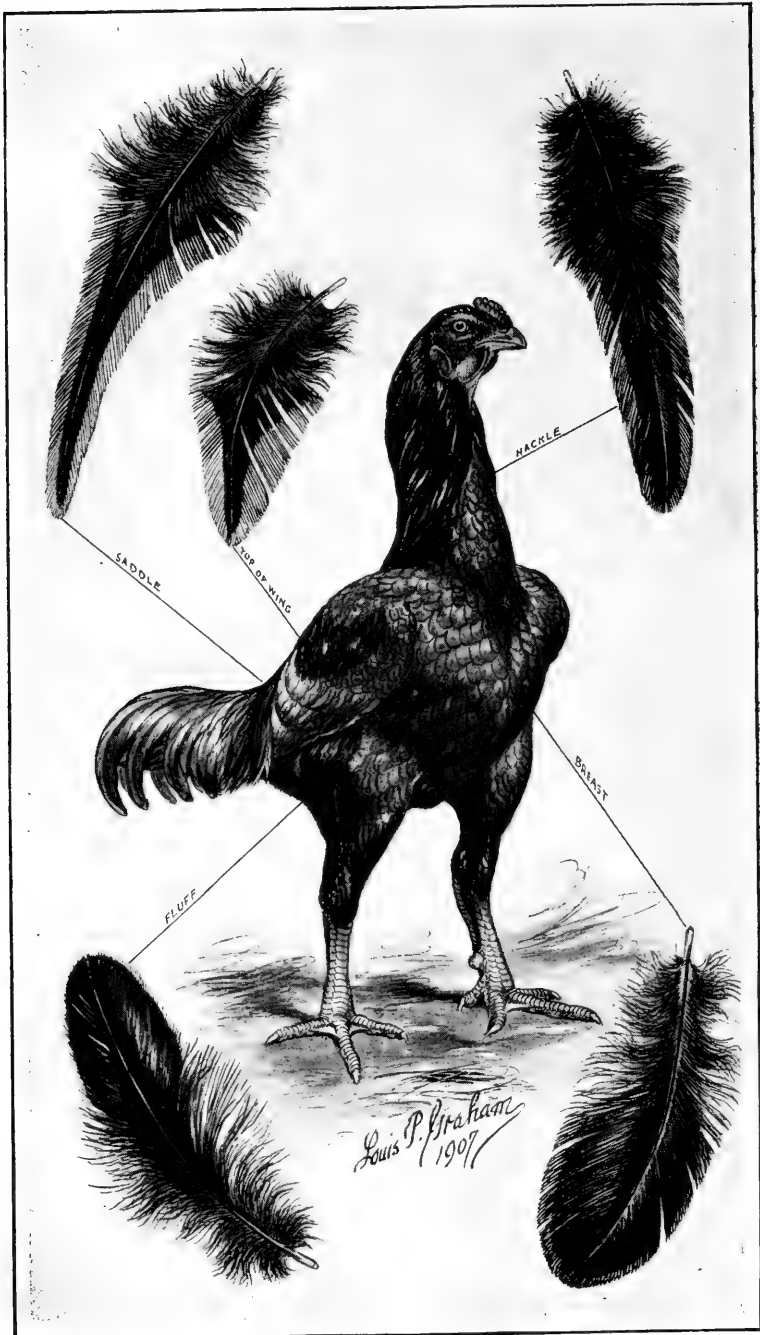
is very heavy in body, short in neck, strong in shank, and built on lines similar to the heavy draft horse, while on the other hand the White variety leans more to the Game type.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Indian Game is broad, deep, full, and round, every portion of the body constructed for the purpose of carrying the largest proportion of meat. This is the valuable make-up of the Indian Game. In color the Cornish, both male and female, have yellow beak and shanks, pearl eyes; bright red face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes; plumage color of the male in hackle, greenish black; back, glossy black; intermingled with dark red; saddle, the same; breast, and body-color, black; the markings of the wings, shaded with dark red; the plumage throughout rich, glossy black; the dark red intermixed with the top color carrying more or less of a reddish-colored shafting. The female is colored something like the Partridge Cochin, except that the body-color is not quite so deep a shade, while the pencilings which usually follow the shape of the feather in double rows, are of a lustrous black; the main tail feathers of both male and female are black; those of the female irregularly marked with bay.

**THE WHITE INDIAN GAME.** In every respect the White Game is similar to the Cornish variety, except as to plumage, which is pure white.

**THE AZEEL.** This is the original Game fowl of India. They are bred in many colors. They are low, and very heavy set, and are more bulky and heavily built than any of the Indian Game varieties. They, as well as the Indian Game variety, have the peculiarity of the pea-comb, similar to the comb of the Brahma. Probably the Azeel is the original pea-combed fowl. The Brahma and the Indian Game may owe this peculiarity of comb either to the Azeel or to the original form to which the Azeel were bred.

**THE BLACK SUMATRAS.** This breed of Games is distinctive. It possesses the pea-comb, the very long, flowing tail, and plumage similar to the Phoenix fowl, or the Japanese Game. Beak is dark in color; the same in shanks. They have the general drooping formation found in the Japanese Game, but the distinctive difference, however, is the pea-comb, so





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well defined in the Sumatra. No fowl has a richer and more brilliant sheen upon its plumage than the Black Sumatra. They are more bulky in body than the exhibition game, but set very low upon their legs, and the tail of the male is apt to drag upon the ground. While their original formation may be likened unto the Pit Game, they do not have the upright, vindictive carriage of that breed. In color of plumage, there is a rich, glossy black, throughout; beak, shanks, and toes, dark olive color; eyes, brown; face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes, red preferred; often they have the purple or gypsy-colored face.

**THE MALAY.** Whether the Malay or the Azeel is the older fowl is a question which has not been fully decided. Writers think there can be but little doubt but that the Azeel can be traced far beyond the Christian era, and the Azeel is credited direct to India. Other writers credit the Malay to the same country, and still others to Southeastern Asia. The distinctive difference between the Malay and the Azeel is that of greater station or length of shank and thigh in the Malay. The Malay has the knob or bunch-comb, while the Azeel has the pea or triple comb. The influence of the comb of the Azeel is a distinctive feature with the Asiatic Brahma. The yellow shank of the early-day Shanghai, together with the length of limb of the Langshan, points somewhat to the Malay. Perhaps if greater thought and closer study were given these two Asiatic originals, there might be found somewhere back in early times, that one or both of these had more or less to do with the construction of the Asiatic family, which were originally brought from China

**MALAY HISTORY.** Information gathered from numerous poultry books and other publications greatly confounds the Malay, the Chittagong, the Cullom fowl of India, and perhaps the Azeel. While the Malay is credited by some to India, and others to Southeastern Asia, early writers may have referred to India as being included with these portions of Asia. Among the earliest writers about the Malay was Mr. Nolan, of Dublin, who obtained his first stock from vessels landing at London. We understand that he traced their home to Malay; others believe their origin to be that of Southern Asia and the

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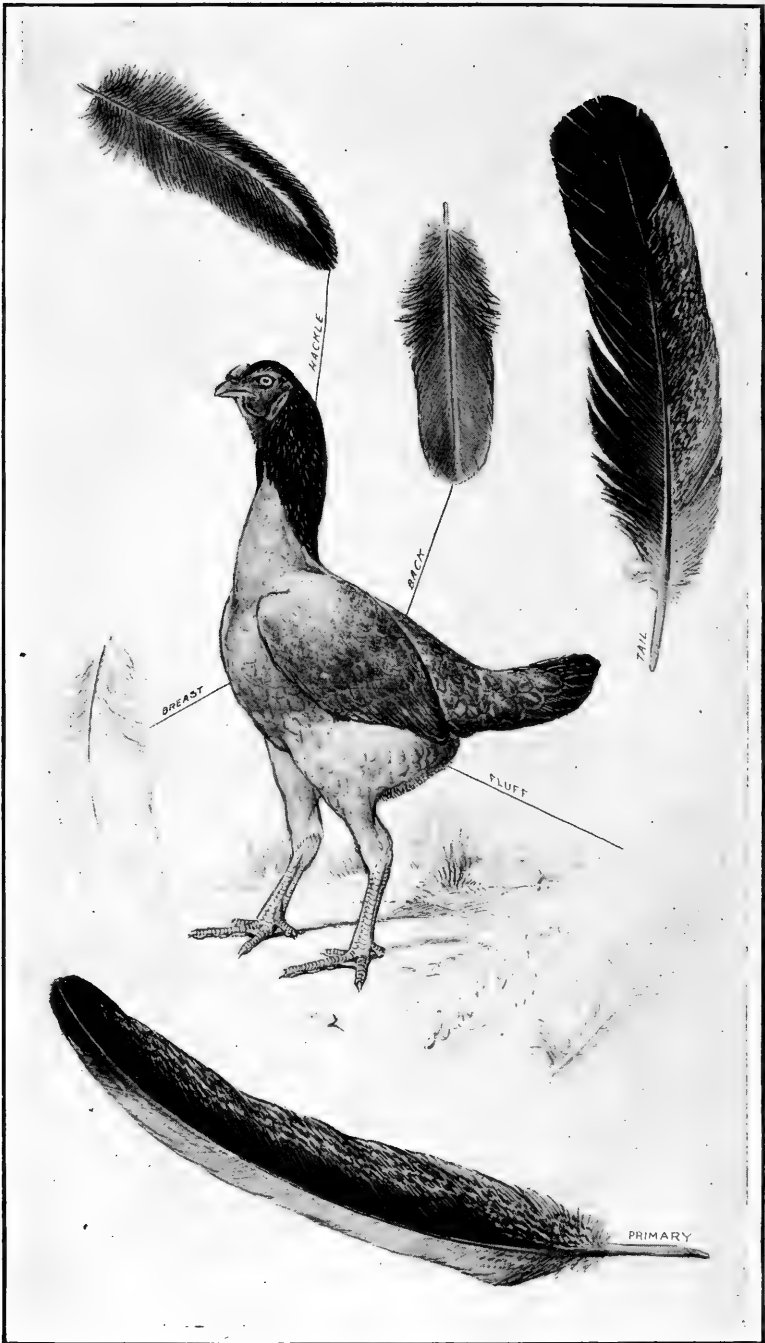
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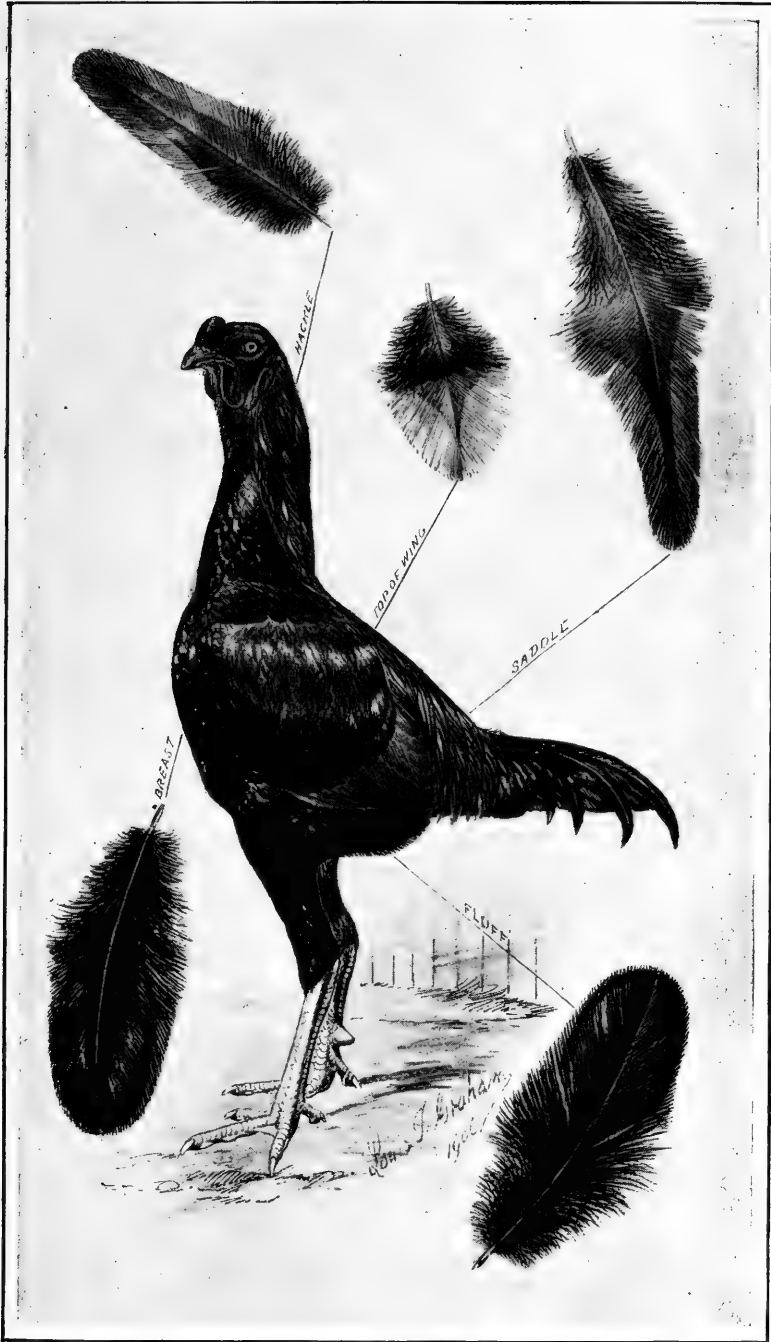
Philippines. Mr. Brown, in his recent work, records facts gathered from many authors, which credit them to Malay, the islands of the Indian Ocean, and the eastern coast of Africa. Undoubtedly these fowls were scattered throughout the world by the sailing vessels of early days. Mr. Brown quotes from the Livestock Journal Almanac, of 1888, the fact that Mr. Montresor says that he believes the Malay is no other than a cross from the Indian Game cock and Chittagong hen. If this be true, it would prove the fact that the Azeel was the first, or the original, and the Malay only a product gained from the cross as above stated. Both the Malay and the Azeel have evidently been used in making the Indian Game, judging from the fact that some of the Indian Games show an inclination to the knob-comb, while others have very distinct pea-combs. The first records of the Malay indicate that they arrived in England about 1830, while other importations that came later, were of a different type, which indicated that they were not true to breed even in their own country.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Malay is a heavy, bulky-shaped fowl, having very long thighs and shanks, and an upright carriage of body. They have a long, bulky formation, are savage in appearance, prominent in skull, strong in neck, back, and thigh. They differ from the Azeel, which is a heavy-bodied, bulky fowl, and low set, on shorter shanks and thighs.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Malay is in line with the Azeel, Indian Game, and Old English Game type of fowl. The head is broad, rather long, with a projection over the eyes, which are very bright and clear. The comb is described as a knob, or strawberry comb, having the appearance of a lump on the forward part of the head that somewhat resembles a strawberry in formation. The wattles are very small, often scarcely discernible; the back, breast, and body, long, broad, and full, and very muscular; tail, of medium length, shaped, and carried somewhat like the tail of a standard Game. Their plumage is not very dense, but rather short, hard, and closely fitted to the body. The female resembles the male, and, in fact, they are quite like the Indian Game in body formation. The Black Red male has plumage much like the Game fowl of the same color; face, comb, wattles, and ear-







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lobes, of a deep red, verging on purple; the back is of a dark red, or maroon color; breast, and body, black; shanks and beak, yellow. The color of the female ranges from a cinnamon brown to a lighter shade of yellow brown. Usually the color is not evenly spread over the body; brown, and at times black, is intermingled in the tail, the wings, and off-colored feathers on the body. In addition to this variety, there are whites, blacks, and a mixed-colored specimen in their original state.

**THE GAME BANTAMS.** There are eight varieties of Game Bantams, which are identical in shape, color, and markings to Standard Games, and perfect dwarfed types of the fowls they imitate. Fifty years ago the type of the Game Bantam resembled more the shape and carriage of a Rose-combed Bantam than the present type, excepting that the males and females were longer and heavier in body, and had more tail plumage. The first mention of these in good quality was in 1852, which record told of a pair of Duckwing Game Bantams of fine character, and also that there were a few Black-breasted Red Game Bantams that were fairly good imitations of the larger fowls. Later, in 1867, considerable improvement was recorded. From this time up to the present, great advancement has been made, until we now have even better quality in the bantams than in the standard size Game.

**GAME BANTAM HISTORY.** To follow the Game Bantam in this country would be to tell the history of the members of the Game and Game Bantam Club, who have worked continually for the improvement and quality of these little beauties. Importations have been made, and the stock thus received has been most successfully handled by a number of the most active breeders, who have continued to exhibit and distribute the stock throughout the country.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The general characteristics of the Game Bantam must equal or excel the varieties of the larger fowls they imitate. It is not unusual to see the type greatly exaggerated into that extreme in station wherein lies the elegance and value of the Game Bantam.

**SHAPE.** The description of shape of these varieties would include the proper carriage, which is upright, and erect, for



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without symmetry and station, they could not be included among specimens of quality. Head, narrow, long, and beautifully curved at the gullet; beak, strong, and of artistic formation; for nothing adds so much to their attractiveness as a thin, well-curved throat, tapering away from the well proportioned neck; neck, long; hackle, short, fitting close to the neck, well separated in front, showing the neck plumage; shoulders, broad, carried well forward. The best shape of body imitates a well-formed egg, the larger end representing the shoulders and tapering away to the tail. The back is short and flat; the tail, angling off with a gentle decline from the end of the back; the tail of both male and female is gathered close together; wings, never extending beyond the root of the tail; thighs set on the body, in a direct line below the neck; thighs and shanks, straight, and long; eyes, prominent; comb and wattles of females, very small; the female naturally carries her tail a little less erect than does the male. The female should have a body formation in every way possible resembling the male.

**COLOR.** The dubbing of the male presents the head, face, and upper part of the throat, a bright red in all varieties, except those birds having the gypsy face; the same might be said of the female. Eyes of the Black Red variety, top color, and general markings of the male, red, shading into an orange, or light red in hackle and saddle; and the greatest stress should be laid on having the color pure and true. Breast and under-body color of the Black Red variety, a clear, clean black; wing-coverts, showing the glossy black bar; tail and thighs, black; sickles and coverts, glossy black; shanks and feet, willow colored. The female of the Black Red variety should have a golden-brown color, penciled or stippled with a lighter shade. The English favor a slightly darker shade than we do in this country. Breast, salmon-colored; this is of more importance in the smooth, even shade of body-color, and the well-defined breast, shading off to a lighter shade between the thighs, than an absolute solid shade. The judges of the present time select a golden-brown shade of body-color, penciled with a little darker shade. Throat of a light salmon color; breast, darker, shading lighter between the thighs; shanks, and feet, willow.

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The Brown Red variety is marked like the Black Red in general coloring, excepting that the top color of the Brown Red is a lemon color or dark straw color. The breast, black; the feathers laced with the same shade of lemon as the top color. The hackle of the female of the Black Red variety is of light golden, striped with black, while that of the Brown Red is lemon, striped with dark. The beak and shanks of the Brown Red, of a darker willow than the Black Red. Eyes, dark brown.

The Birchen Game conforms to the Brown Red in color and markings, both having very dark beaks, purple or gypsy face, and dark-colored eyes, the only difference being that the Brown Red is marked with lemon or straw color, while the Birchen markings are of silvery white.

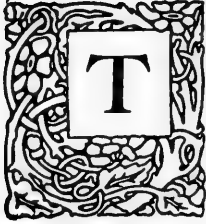
The two varieties of Golden and Silver Duckwings are the same as that description given for the Standard Games. The male of this variety is marked with a darker shade of yellow or orange, while the silver is marked with a silvery white. The females are identical, both being gray in color, stippled with a darker shade, the female of the Golden variety averaging darker in plumage color than the females of the Silver variety.

The Red Pyle Game Bantams imitate the Black Red variety, except that they have yellow beaks and shanks; the black markings are misplaced by the pure white breast and under-markings of the male, and the entire white body of the female, with the hackle edged with orange or golden yellow; the breast, marked with a salmon shade.

The White Game Bantam has yellow beak, red face, comb, wattles, ear-lobes, and eyes; shanks, yellow; plumage, pure white throughout. The Black variety has black beak, shanks, and feet; face, wattles, ear-lobes, and eyes, red; plumage, black throughout, with a yellow luster.

The Malay Game Bantam and the Indian Game Bantam conform in shape, color, and general make-up to the same varieties described for the larger Games. Both of these were originated by the late Mr. W. F. Entwisle, of England, who has done more toward originating and producing new varieties of Bantams than any other man in the world.

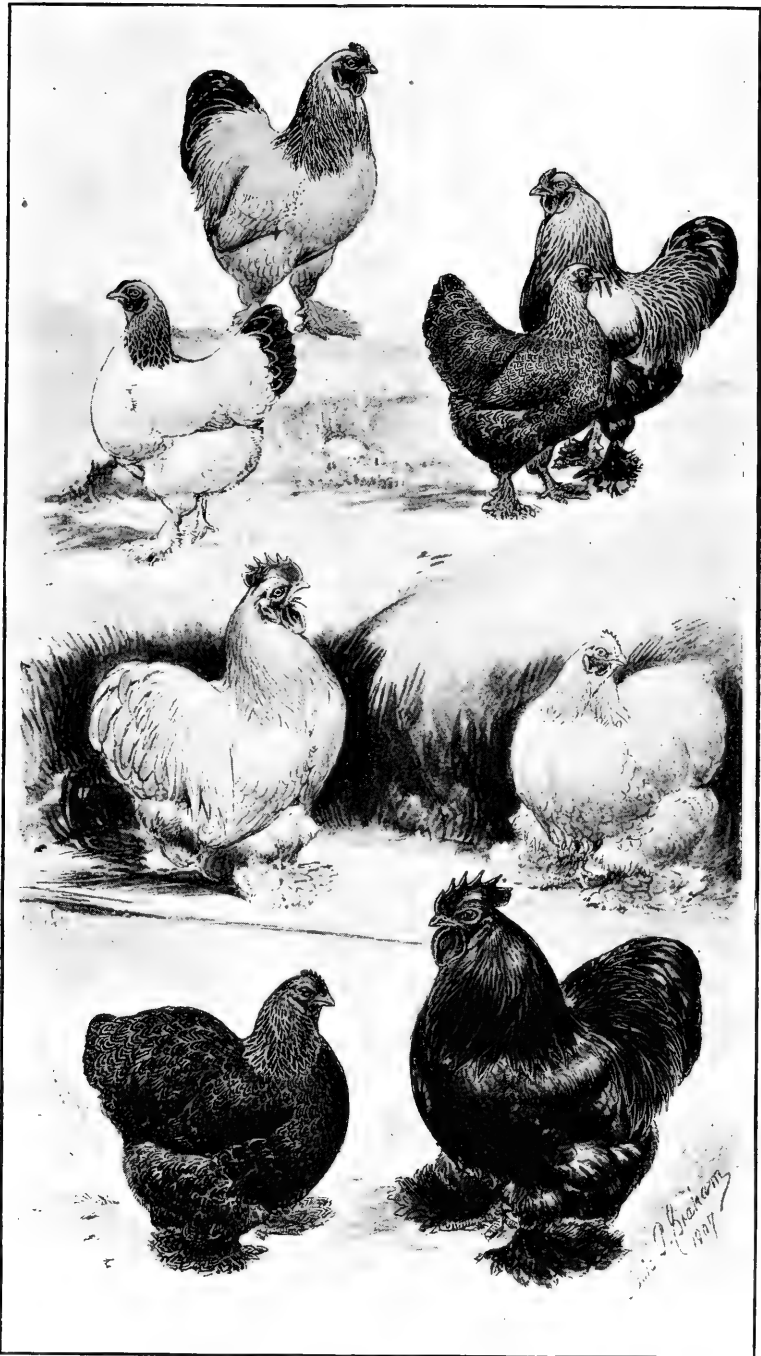
## ORNAMENTAL BANTAMS



**THE ASIATIC BANTAMS.** The classification of Asiatic Bantams includes the Light and Dark Brahmas, Buff, Partridge, Black, White, and Cuckoo Cochin Bantams. They are the miniature in form and the exact counterpart of the larger fowls whose name they bear. They have been dwarfed to Bantam size by much scientific breeding and carefulness, and form one of the most attractive classes of the show-room. The size is controlled through the female, and the smaller the female in any variety, the better and smaller will be the offspring. A gigantic Brahma male mated to a small-sized Brahma Bantam female will produce youngsters, some of which will not exceed two to two and a half pounds in weight; while, on the other hand, a small Light Brahma male mated to a large Brahma female will produce specimens weighing from four to six pounds. The success in the cultivation of Brahma Bantams has come largely through the careful selection of small-sized females.

**BRAHMA BANTAM HISTORY.** The first Brahma Bantams of both varieties were produced in England and they were made from crosses of the Brahma with Japanese and White Cochin Bantams. Very much the same blood was used to produce the English type of Dark Brahma Bantams, as was evidenced by the early importations which were distinctly of the Japanese Bantam type. The males and females of these early importations crossed with under-sized Light Brahmas, produced the best quality of this variety in America.

The best of the Dark Brahma Bantams in this country were produced by Mr. McGrew, who selected two of the best English male Dark Brahmas, and mated them to an under-sized Dark Brahma female, which was presented to him by Mr. Newton Adams, of Ithica, N. Y. Two males, the result of this product, were crossed on females from England. Some chicks hatched in March or April were bred back as pullets to their sire in September. Young chicks from this cross, which were left out of doors during the entire winter with the mother





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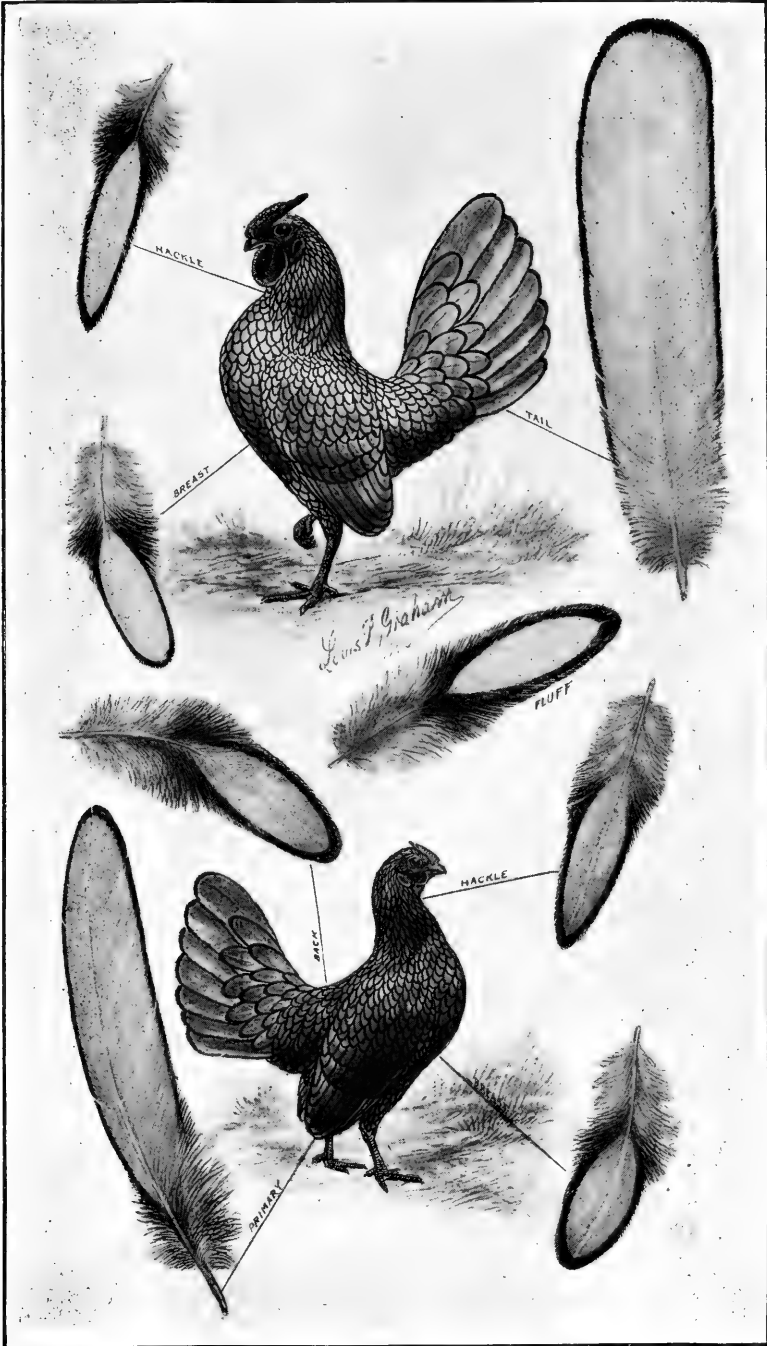
hen, gave the original product from which the greater part of the best Dark Brahma Bantams in this country descend.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** While true Brahma characteristics should be the rule, it is evident that three distinct types of Light Brahma Bantams exist. One leans toward the Japanese type, the other resembles the Cochin, and the third, and proper type, is the result of crossing the best of the other two with American Brahmas. The true American Brahma type should be selected and cultivated to the true Brahma characteristics, and the same conditions to a great extent should exist in the Dark variety. Too much encouragement is given to the Cochin type and to the profuse shank and toe feathering.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Brahma Bantam should have the true Brahma shape and color, as described in the early chapters of this book for Brahmas, and there should be more than passing consideration given to improvement in both shape and color, clean, distinctive striping of neck, black, in wings, and the general shaping up to the true Brahma type. Careful consideration of both shape and color should be given both varieties.

**COCHIN BANTAM HISTORY.** The five varieties of Cochin Bantams came from the original importation of what were known as Pekin Bantams that were brought from Pekin, China, in about 1860. The originals were of a reddish-buff color, and many of them had green shanks; they threw chicks of several colors, and there was a trace of both the Japanese and the Silkie Bantam in their make-up. Five toes were not infrequent in the offspring; more than one of the early-day breeders were known to clip the fifth toe on specimens, and then to cauterize the spot. Finally these imperfections were fairly obliterated, but even to the present day the influence of blue is still prominent in the shanks and toes.

The first true-colored Buff Cochins were shown in Madison Square Garden. They were the result of a double cross made with Buff Cochin Bantams, and with White Cochin Bantams having the creamy tint in their plumage. Three years of breeding and selection gave the perfect even Buff color throughout in both males and females.



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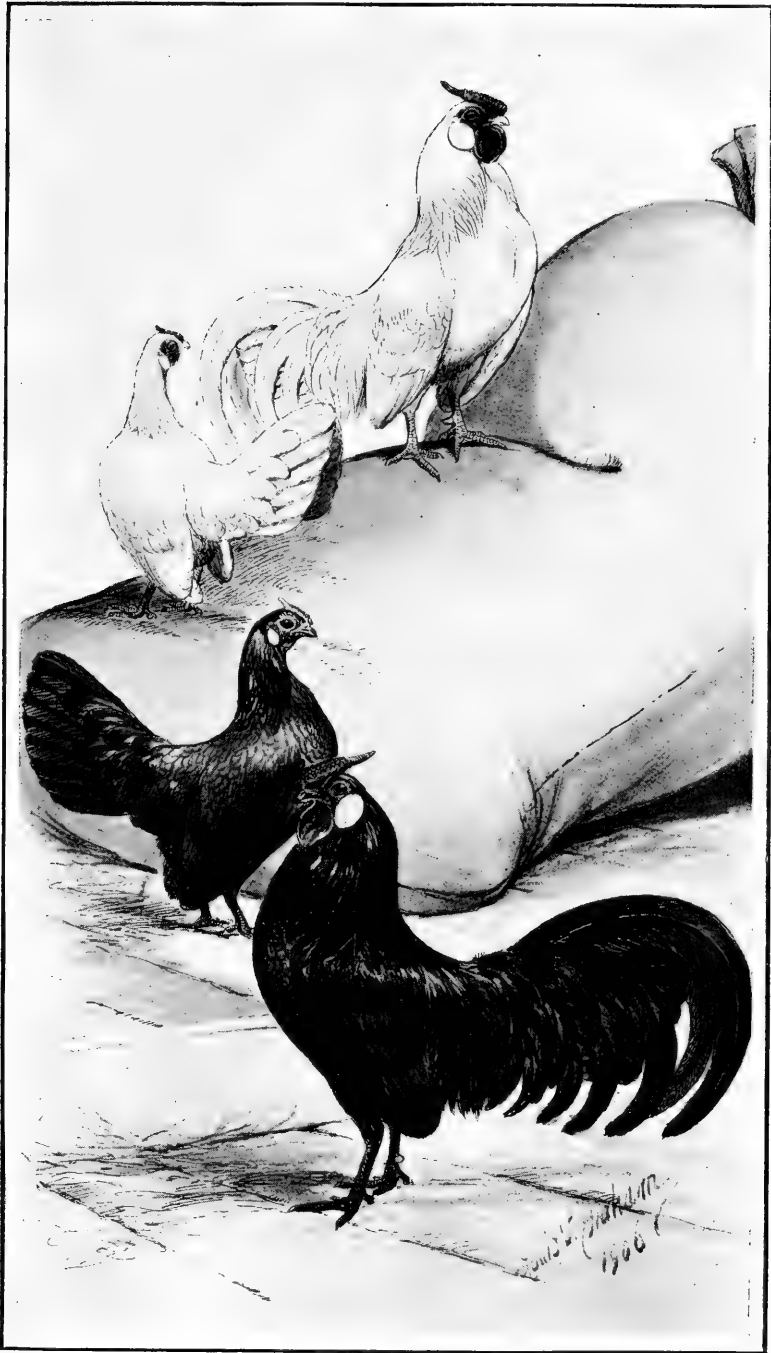
Black Cochin Bantams were one of the original colors imported, and these specimens contained much of the same blood as did the other Cochins and Cochin Bantams brought over from England, but they were never, we imagine, bred true to feather in their own native country. They were selected to conform to an original type of color, cross-bred with other varieties of Cochin Bantams, finally selected and improved in color. For many years white in neck and wings, and red in surface color were prevalent; but all of this has now disappeared, to the benefit of the breed.

The American White Cochin Bantams were originated largely from sports that came from the Buff variety. Importations from the other side mated with these, and White sports from the Black variety produced the early-day Madison Square winners. Since then selection and careful mating has been responsible for the improvement made.

The Partridge variety of Cochin Bantams that has been successful in this country, and from which the best now in England seems to have descended, were originated by Mr. McGrew, who bred them from an original trio imported from Mr. Entwisle. The females of this importation were very good, the male being quite small and inclined to the Game type. The results from these birds the first year were crossed both ways with a small pair of Partridge Cochin fowls, donated by Mr. Mitchell, of Bristol, Conn. The results of these crosses were carefully selected and bred, and gave the original start from which all the best Partridge Cochin Bantams of the present day have descended. The male that won for many years at New York and Boston was a direct descendant from this original cross. Since that time other crosses of the Mitchell stock have been made.

Cuckoo Bantams have been produced all over the world, the result of mating Blacks and Whites together. It is a long and tedious process from which to produce good color, and they have never been popular. We bred them for a number of years, but were never partial to them.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape and color of all Cochin Bantams must conform in every particular to the large Cochin fowls. The shape of a Cochin Bantam should, if possible, excel that of the large Cochin fowls, as without perfect shape a



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Cochin Bantam has but little value. The color of the plumage of the Buff Cochin is a true golden buff throughout. Naturally the White Cochin Bantam is pure white, and the Black Cochin Bantam is of a brilliant black. No foreign color of any kind is permissible in either the White or the Black varieties. Some little black in the main tail feathers, and a little stippling of same in the wing, flights, and secondaries, of the Buff variety is permissible, as is a small amount of white in these same sections, but the white and the black are to be considered an imperfection, and dangerous in the breeding pen.

In Partridge Cochin Bantams, color is essentially a matter of importance, and they should have the same color and marking as given for Partridge Cochin fowls. Great importance is attached to the proper color and marking of the Partridge Cochin Bantam, as specimens having poor color are of scarcely any value.

**BOOTED BANTAM.** These little fellows belong with the feather-shanked varieties. They have been bred in many colors during the past century. The most beautiful and the best known of these are the Black and the White varieties. Booted Bantams are bred of two distinct types; one very short in thigh and shank, and fashioned after the Japanese Bantam type, and the other, larger and more erect, fashioned after the Sultan. All kinds of Booted Bantams have long stiff hock plumage, with considerable shank and toe feathering. Whether White, Black, Cuckoo, or Spangled, they must have the same color of plumage that belongs to the Cochin Bantam of the same variety. They have single combs; the White variety have white shanks, as other than white shanks debar them in competition in the show-room. Some Booted Bantams have been bred with a beard.

**SULTANS.** While Sultans are not Bantams, we describe them here for want of a better classification, with the other feather-shanked fowls. The Sultan has more distinguishing features than any other one breed. They have V-shaped combs, crests, beard, vulture hocks, with feathered shanks and toe feathers, and droop their wings even more than the Booted Bantams. They stand quite erect with their full crest, beard, and peculiar carriage of wing, against the hock, and the toe

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feathering. They are pure white in color; shanks, and toes, of a bluish cast, and are more of a novelty than otherwise.

**SILKIES.** These we classify here for the same reason. The Silkie has been known for many years as the Woolly Hen, the Silkie Fowl, the Silkie Bantam. The influence of their plumage has been noticed in other fowls. Their plumage is more like a woolly cotton than like a feather. Their skin and shanks are of a peculiar bluish purple, and their plumage white. They have a knob or walnut-shaped comb, and are specially used throughout the world for hatching bantams and pheasants, but are not to be considered for this purpose with the Cochin Bantam fowl. They are a novelty, and are kept principally for this reason.

**FRIZZLE BANTAMS.** Of late years a number of Frizzle Bantams have been shown. We saw a number of them in Northern New York during the winter, 1906-7; they were perfect little bantams, with the plumage of the Frizzle fowl. Frizzle fowls are bred to a limited extent. There is no authoritative description for them other than that they carry their plumage curved forward, causing a frizzled appearance. They have single combs, and are bred in white, black, buff, and broken colors.

**SEBRIGHT BANTAM HISTORY.** The Sebright Bantam was originated by an Englishman by the name of Sir John Sebright. The history of these fowls, so far as he is connected with them, is more or less clouded. One who claims to have been connected with the original work of Sir John states that they came into possession of a small bantam possessing some indications of lacing, and that this bird was made use of, as was also the Nankin Bantam. A club was formed in 1820 for their advancement. Then began the radical changes pointing toward a positive shape with color of plumage and legs. Since that time Sebright Bantams have been bred with a purpose in view. The hen tail feathering of the male, the drooping of the wings, the erect carriage, and the short hackle plumage of the male have all been guarded up to the present time. The contention for and against the tail plumage has been threshed over so many times as to have absolutely settled the demand for hen-feather plumage in the males. Sebright Bantams in

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America have been so carefully bred by some of the most expert handlers of bantams that a quality has been produced here that is seldom excelled even by the best specimens on the other side. While it is true that the foundation of improvement in the American Sebright has come from abroad, our fanciers have done as much or more to improve them.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The most prominent breed characteristics of the Sebright are their attractive appearance, erect carriage, beautiful poise of head and tail, and the graceful droop of the wings just below the hock joint. The most attractive specimens have a spread of tail, which adds greatly to their beauty. Whether running at large or cooped for exhibition, these little Bantams always have a proud, important strut, which attracts attention to them.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Sebright Bantam can best be understood from the illustrations which have been made from some of the finest specimens that have been shown for years. The feather illustrations show the latest fashion of markings, also the shape of the feathers. There are two varieties of these, one the Silver, the other the Golden variety. The chief feature is that the surface plumage of the Silver variety has a pure white center in each feather, which is distinctly marked about the edge with a very narrow lacing of black. The white should be clear and true, and the black as brilliant and glossy as possible to have it. In the Golden variety, the centering of the feather is of a golden tinge of yellow, rather more of a reddish yellow than is sought after in the Buff varieties of fowls. The center of the feathers of the Golden variety is of this attractive yellow shade, each feather edged about with black, the narrow lacing being the most admired. The beauty of the Sebright is to have both the white and the yellow as true and bright as it is possible to have it, and the edging of a proper width, so as to embellish, not to mar it, with too much black. Nothing is to be so much despised in the color of the Sebrights as is frosting, or black shadings, mixed in with the white centers of the plumage. Clear, clean centers, edged with black, is the most desirable feature for beauty in the color of the Sebrights.

**ROSE-COMBED BANTAM HISTORY.** Black Bantams have been known from the earliest records, and they have been





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known as Black Africans, Black Bantams, and we can remember when some called them Black Sebrights. No matter where or what the early-day Black Bantams were termed, the Rose-combed Bantam of to-day should be a miniature Hamburg from the tip of the beak to the end of the toes and tail. The most desirable of all Rose-combed Bantams are those that are strictly a miniature of the beautiful Black Hamburgs. Within the last twenty years the Whites were seemingly neglected, but recently they have been so improved as to really bring them alongside of the Blacks in quality. The history of the Rose-combed Bantam really begins, when the improvements began about twenty years ago and continues up to the present time. They should be fully the equal of the Hamburgs in quality.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The peculiarities of the Rose-combed Bantam are the beautiful Hamburg head, carrying the most attractive of any of the rose-combs, and their large-sized, oval-shaped ear-lobes, of pure white. The finish of the head has much to do with the quality of the bantams. Their shape must be truly Hamburg, carrying the long, drooping tail, in both male and female; the wings drooping beneath the abdomen, but always carried above the hock joint, while in Sebrights the wings droop below the hock-joint line.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Rose-combed Bantam is the same as demanded for the Black Hamburg. We say the Black Hamburg, because this is the true English type of Hamburg, and the most stately and the most attractive of all the Hamburg family. The Black Rose-combed Bantam of the best quality is identical with these fowls. The color of the variety is a true, glossy black, throughout, and should be very rich and glossy. The White Rose-combed Bantams have pure white plumage, and white ear-lobes. In Black Rose-combed Bantams the beak and shanks are very dark in color. In the White Rose-combed Bantams beaks, shanks and toes are white.

**JAPANESE BANTAM HISTORY.** Notwithstanding the fact that we have, within a year, had considerable conversation with the representative of the Poultry Department of the Agricultural Department of Japan, we are unable to learn much of the history of the Japanese Bantam, other than to

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state that they have been made from other bantams in Japan, and that all kinds and colors are bred in that country. The gentleman from Japan told us that the main tail feathers of the Bantams in Japan were not carried so erect as is the fashion here, otherwise our Japanese Bantams are the same as they have in Japan. These Bantams have been scattered all over the world, and are bred in considerable numbers, more in this country, England, and Canada than anywhere else. What might be called true-colored Japanese Bantams are the pure White, pure Blacks, and the Black-tailed Whites. They have, however, been cross-mated and promiscuously bred until there have been produced side varieties of many kinds and colors.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The true characteristic of the Japanese Bantam is their miniature build, something like that of a boat, with the tails carried high, something like a sail, and as they move along they have the appearance of a boat gliding over the water, so smooth is their movement, which is different from that of almost any other fowl. They have very large tails, short legs, erect carriage of head and tail, resulting in striking peculiarities in their general make-up.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of a Japanese Bantam could scarcely be described in words. The illustrations far exceed any description that might be written. In color the Black-tailed White variety has yellow beak, red face, comb, wattles, and ear-lobes; beak, shanks, and toes, yellow; all the plumage white, except the black markings of wing and tail. The edging of white, about the tail plumage, when nicely laid on, is most attractive. The Blacks are pure black in color, while the Whites are pure white. The beak and shanks of the White variety are yellow, as are those in the Black, excepting that they are often shaded with dark, and some of them have shanks quite near to slate color. The other varieties have about the same marking, one of the most prominent, resembling the Silver Duckwing coloring, and the other, a little darker in shade, might be compared to the Golden Duckwing colors. Yellow-spangled, and mixed-colored varieties, have also been bred.

**POLISH BANTAM HISTORY.** Polish Bantams have been bred for many years. Mr. Zimmer, the bantam fancier of

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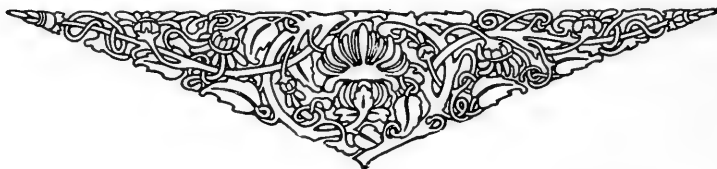
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New York State, has done more, perhaps, for the real improvement of Polish Bantams than any other fancier in the world. He had the first White Polish Bantams with true Polish characteristics. From other parts of the world occasionally came other Polish specimens of several varieties, and at one time there were a few White-crested Blacks, but these came more as a surprise than an established fact.

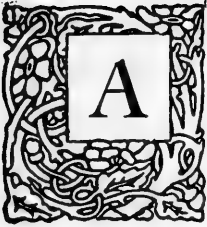
**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Polish Bantam of whatever variety must be a miniature of the Polish fowls in every feature, and the color throughout must be in exact imitation of the larger fowl.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Shape for bantams must be true to Polish type; color must conform in every respect to the variety they imitate, and must be quite as perfect as to the color and marking as is demanded for the larger Polish fowl.

**OTHER BREEDS AND VARIETIES.** Among Games and Game Bantams there are often seen the Wheaten hens, Azeel, Game Bantams, Old-English Game Bantams, and occasionally Pit Game Bantams, and many Pit Game fowls. Among the ornamental kinds we have mentioned the Frizzles, and kindred to these may be mentioned the Burmese Bantams, the Rumpless, Nankin, and the Scotch Gray Bantams. There have been produced a few Langshan Bantams of quality, and there are now in sight some very creditable specimens of what might be called Barred Plymouth Rock Bantams, Wyandotte Bantams, and others of the American breeds



## TURKEYS



AMERICA is the natural home of the turkey. Wild Turkeys are divided into three distinct families: First, the Wild Turkey of North America; second, the Southern, or Mexican Turkey, and third, a wild fowl found in Honduras and Central America, known as the Ocellated Turkey. The coloring of the latter is most beautiful, but they have never been domesticated as far as is known. The Southern or Mexican variety has light or whitish markings of plumage, much like the Narragansett variety. The Wild Turkey of North America, the original ancestor of the American Bronze Turkey is the most sturdy and valued for domestic purposes.

**TURKEY HISTORY.** In very early days the English and French carried home specimens of the Wild Turkey, and the greater portion of these, we imagine, were from the southern portion of America, perhaps those of the Mexican variety. These were bred in other countries, and later specimens of the North American variety, the Wild Turkey, from which were created the Bronze descendants, were carried back to England. It has been stated by some breeders that the Wild North American Turkey mingled with the common domestic varieties in North America, thus creating the Bronze. As the domestic specimens kept must have come from England, it goes to show that the Wild Turkeys of America were domesticated in England long before they were bred for domestic purposes in this country.

**BRONZE TURKEY HISTORY.** As mentioned above, the Bronze variety originated by crossing the Wild Turkeys of North America with the domestic turkeys in the barnyards. This cross produced what is considered the best variety of domestic turkeys that the world has ever known. The Bronze Turkey is known the world over. These were so well appreciated that the entire world, where turkeys were bred, scarcely considered any other variety of turkeys for many years. Carelessness in

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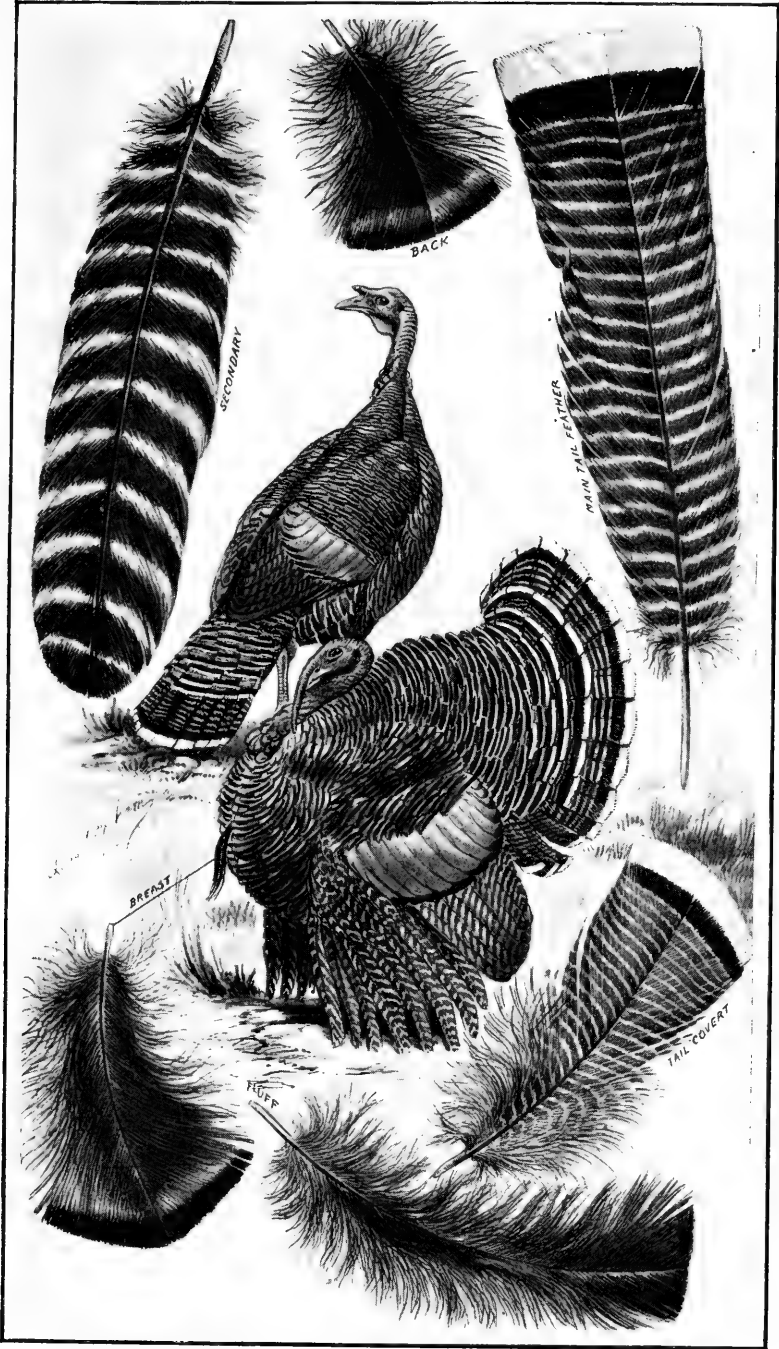
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breeding them permitted inbreeding to such an extent as to destroy the sturdiness of the variety, weakening the flocks with the most destructive ailment that has ever visited domestic animals of any kind. This disease is commonly known as blackhead, a liver trouble caused by close inbreeding, and can only be cured by renewing the strength and vigor of the flock through the introduction of fresh, new blood to build up the depleted constitution. This and other ailments did much injury to the Bronze variety for some years, but since these conditions have become thoroughly understood and improved, the Bronze Turkey has become better and better each year, and they are undoubtedly the most liked and generally bred of all varieties of turkeys.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The Bronze variety is the largest of all turkeys, averaging in weight from twelve to forty pounds. The lighter weights will be found in the younger, undeveloped specimens, while the heavier weights are a feature of the old gobblers. The chief characteristics of the Bronze Turkey are found in the length, breadth, depth, and plumpness of body. The breasts are round and full, and so well developed as to carry a large per cent. of most desirable white meat. These are the distinctive features of all varieties of turkeys, and they are so much alike that one description will refer to all. The body of the turkey should be remarkably large and of good length, with thighs that are long and closely placed; the shanks, well developed, showing strength sufficient to support very heavy bodies. The hens are usually about two-thirds the size of the males of the same age, and having originated from the same stock, the size and development depend largely upon the care and attention given to their breeding.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of all turkeys is clearly shown in our illustrations. The color of the Bronze Turkey is of a black foundation color, finished with bronze, and a brilliant lacing of a greenish sheen. This intermixture of brilliancy is beautifully offset in the Bronze variety, with an edge of white at the end of almost every feather in the plumage. The eyes are dark in color; head of the male, very red, which changes somewhat at the different stages of its existence; beak,



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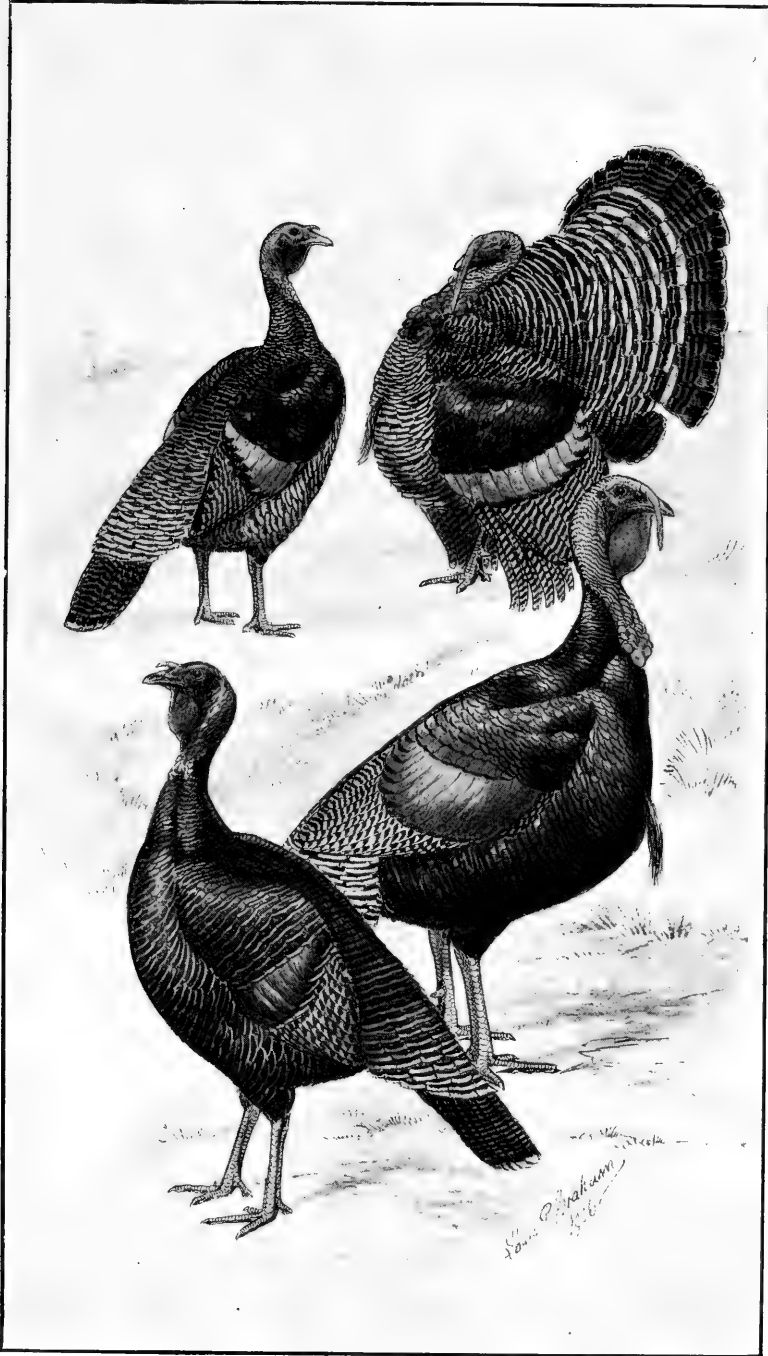
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horn color; shanks, dark; as they grow older they become shaded with a pinkish cast. The plumage of the female is quite like that of the male, with perhaps more white on back plumage. Others sections, same as the male. The chief beauty of the Bronze Turkey is the finish of plumage that is so well illuminated with a coppery bronze and glistening black.

**NARRAGANSETT TURKEY HISTORY.** The history of the Narragansett variety is about the same as that of all turkeys. It is thought that perhaps the influence of the southern variety of Wild Turkeys made the plumage that gives this variety of turkeys its name. They were at one time largely bred in parts of New England, and have recently come into more general use. They should be generally bred, and are one of the most valuable varieties. They are rather more domestic than the Bronze, quick growing, and are ready for the market early in the season.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Their general characteristics and shape are similar to the Bronze. The color of the plumage of the male Narragansett differs from the Bronze, in the fact that each feather ends with a broader band of grayish white, the body-color being black, bronzed over with a luster, not so pronounced as in the Bronze variety, but the mixture of the black, the bronze, and grayish white, produces a rich, beautiful combination of colors. Each feather ends with black, which forms a combination of black, with the gray edged with black, and a rich sheen. The shanks and toes of the Narragansett variety are of a lighter shade than the Bronze, and the female is quite like the male.

**BLACK TURKEYS.** The Black variety might be termed the original turkey of America, and was undoubtedly known in England as the Black Norfolk Turkey. They were of a black plumage, and were used originally for the cross that produced the Bronze. They were successful at first, but through carelessness of inbreeding, they became very small and unpopular. A cross with the Bronze variety increased their size, improved their plumage, and brought them back to their original position as the best light-weight turkeys on the market. They have an even covering of lustrous black feathers throughout the en-





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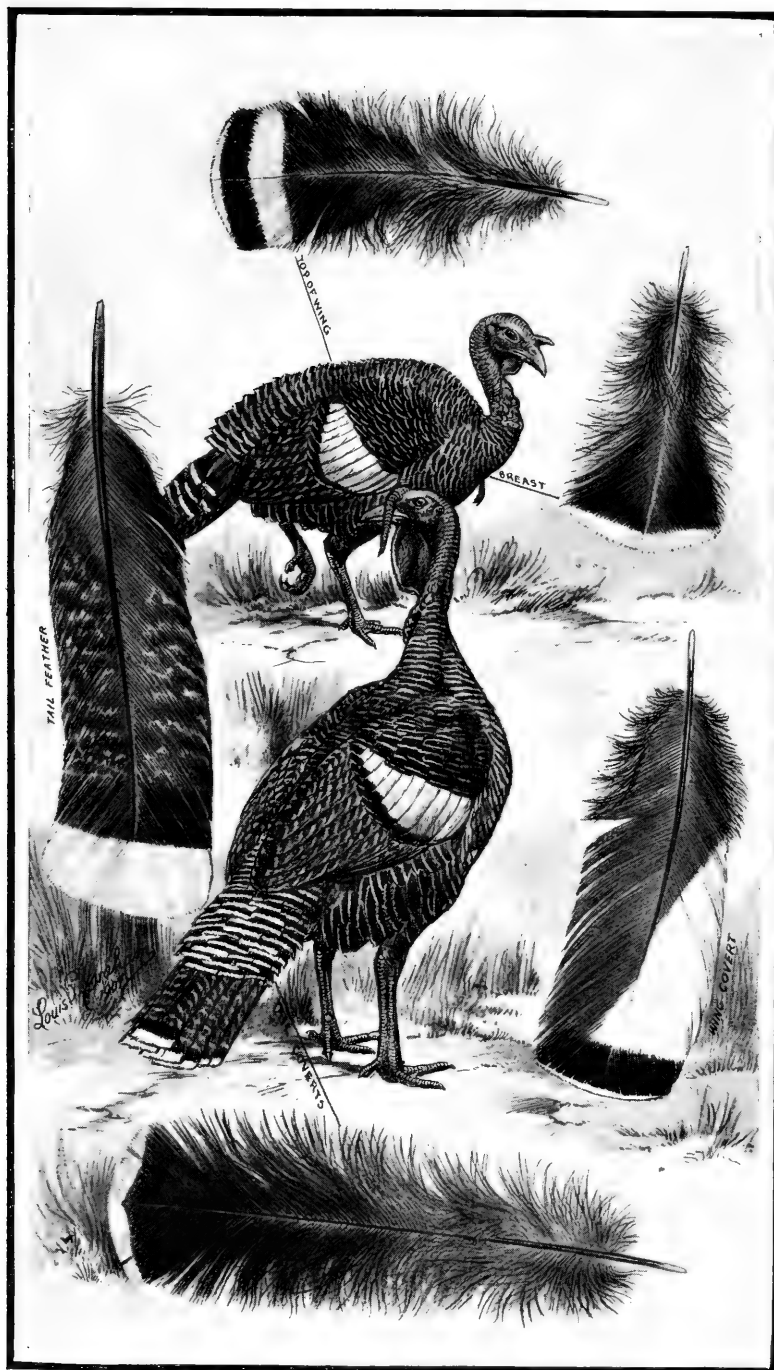
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tire plumage; shanks, and beak, quite dark. In size they range from ten to thirty pounds. The color of their skin is more of a yellowish tinge than that of the other varieties, and they are one of the most valuable breeds for market purposes.

**WHITE HOLLAND TURKEYS.** These White Turkeys are called the White Holland in this country, but were originally called the Australian Whites. They undoubtedly originated as sports from some of the other turkeys. Their size and vigor have been greatly improved the last ten years by breeding from white sports from the Bronze variety. For some little time the evidence of this cross was plainly apparent in the shanks, but of recent years, the result of careful mating has given us a variety of White Turkeys that equal in size the Narragansett variety, with beautiful pink-colored beak and shanks, and pure white plumage. Naturally they are the most domestic and easiest to care for, and are less inclined to roam about than are some of the other varieties.

**SLATE TURKEYS.** This variety of turkeys came as the result of crossing the White and Black varieties. These have a bluish, slate-colored plumage, occasionally dashed with black spots. The color of the beak and shanks is of the same shade of blue as the plumage. These are not generally kept, and like other blue fowls they are considered more for the fancy than for a market fowl.

**BUFF TURKEYS.** For many years there has been bred in this country a variety of turkeys known as the Buff variety. Their real color is of a reddish buff or chestnut. Another variety, known as the Bourbon Reds, differs from these somewhat by having a deeper shade of color and less white in plumage than is usually found with the Buffs. The Buff variety has white in wings and tail. The Buff variety and the Bourbon Reds are valuable market varieties, and the intermingling of the two has produced some strong, vigorous market specimens. Some claim that the Bourbon Reds were originally a variety indigent to the mountains of Kentucky, but this has never been thoroughly authenticated. From appearance one would be led to declare the Bourbon Reds were the result of crossing the Bronze with the Buff variety. A distinguishing feature between the two is in their size; the Bourbon



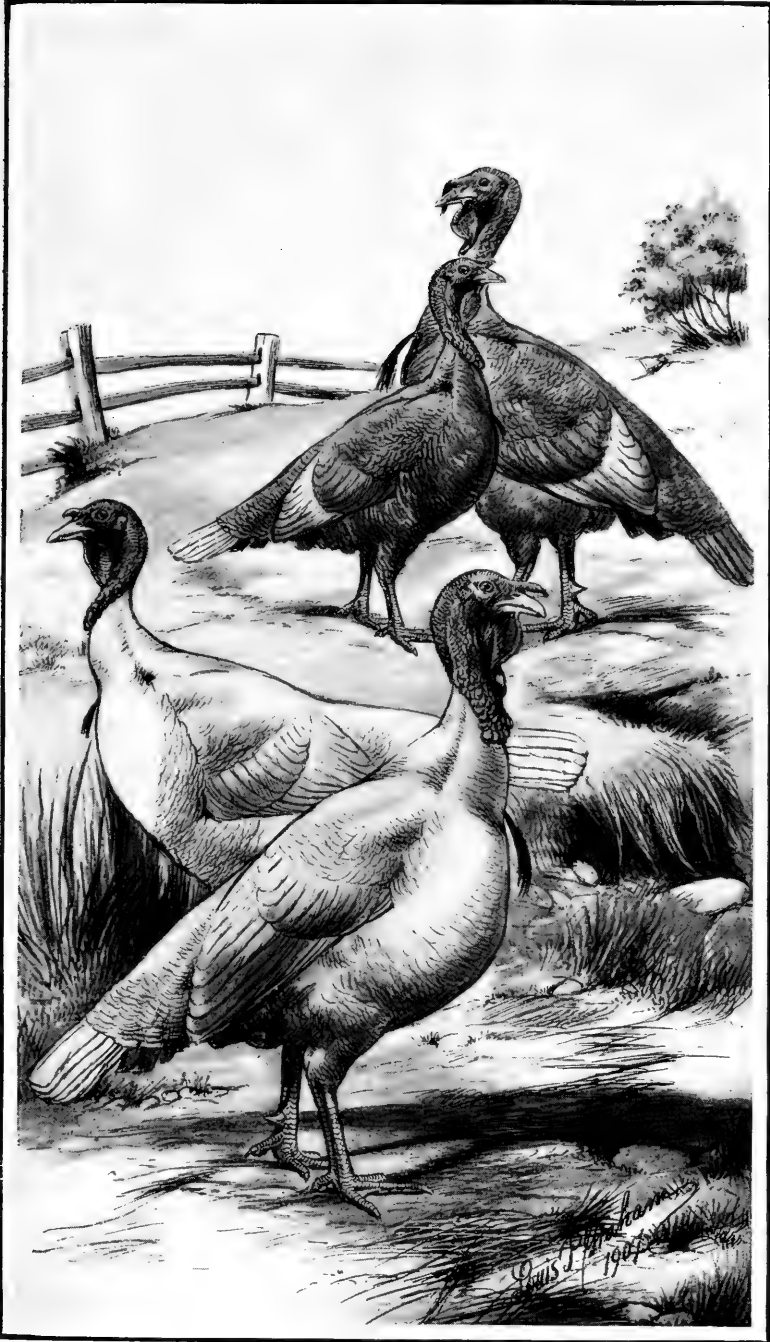
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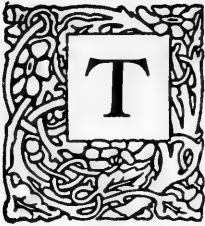
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Reds being much larger than the Buff Turkey, which averages from nine to twenty-five pounds, while some of the Bourbon Reds are almost equal to the Bronze variety in size and weight. The color of the Buffs is that of a pure buff, the wings being shaded with a lighter color; beak and shanks, a bluish-white tinge. The Bourbon Reds are of a deep chestnut color of plumage, edged with black, with tracings of bronze black throughout.





## THE GUINEA FOWL

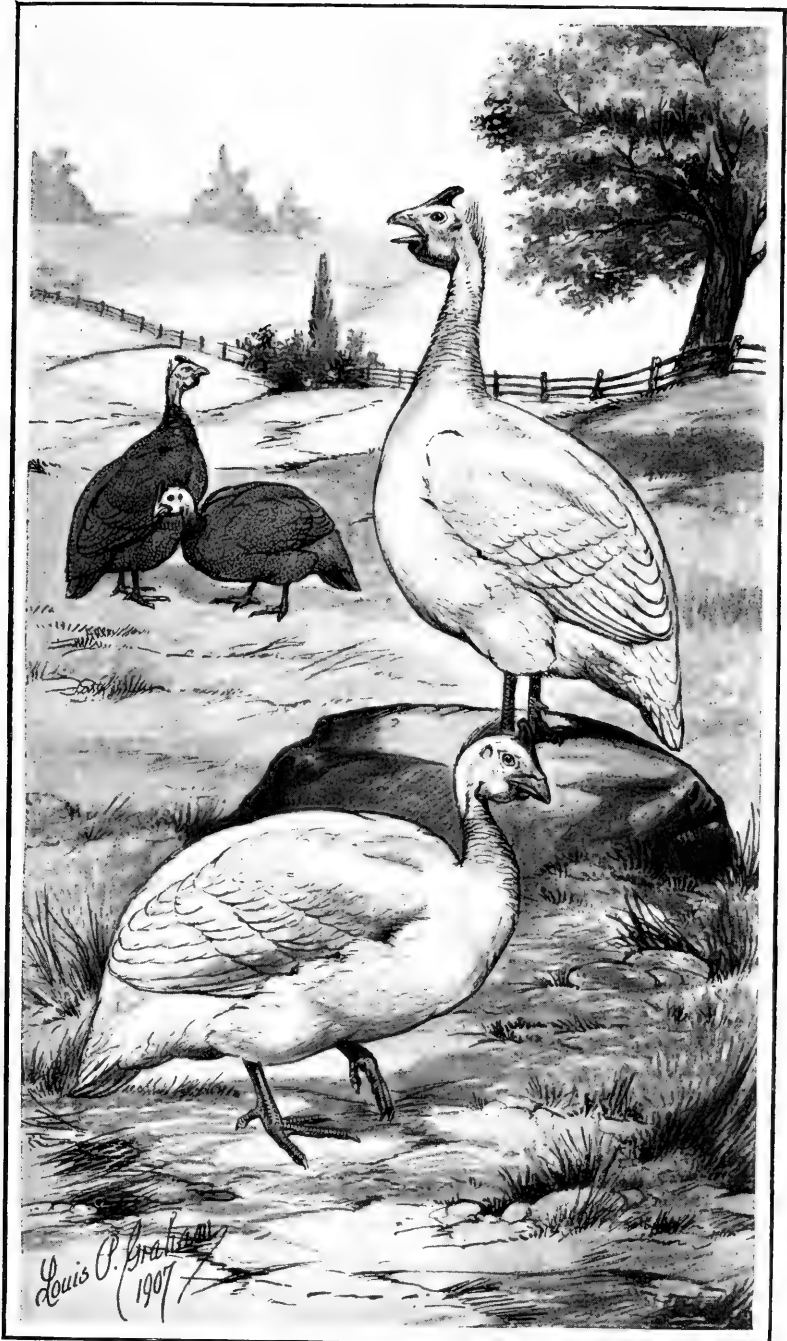


THE Pearl and the White Guineas belong to the "helmeted" branch of the poultry family. They were originally found in the western portion of Africa, and unquestionably, the original of these is the Pearl Guinea. These have thrown the white variety, we imagine, as sports, and the many subvarieties are the result of the intermingling of the pearl and white varieties.

**GUINEA FOWL HISTORY.** So little is known of the early history of the Guinea fowl, either in its original home or with us, as to restrict us to the plain statement that they were brought into the civilized countries more by accident than otherwise, having been picked up for provisioning ships, and carried, we presume, by the early-day trading vessels, into this and other countries. They have never received, so far as we know, sufficient recognition to have a definite standard prepared for them. The original of all, undoubtedly, is the pearl variety, which is classed as the common Guinea fowl of Africa. The other more beautiful and less common kinds, among them the Vulturine Guinea fowl, have never been kept outside of parks or estates, where they are used merely for ornamental purposes.

**CHARACTERISTICS.** The breed characteristics of the Guinea fowl are so pronounced as to cast their influence not only throughout their own line of breeding, but where they have crossed with other kinds of fowl their breed characteristics show plainly on every descendant.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** Shape is peculiar to the breed, and is best described through our illustration. The Pearl Guinea is quite uniform in color and marking. The entire head and portion of the neck are bare of feathers, with a helmet-formed comb, color of all these being red. The plumage is of a dark purplish-gray shade, each feather being marked with a round, white spot, which resembles a pearl. From this marking they



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derive their name. The white variety should be pure white throughout the entire plumage, with the same color of head and neck as the other variety. The only difference between the male and the female is that the male is slightly larger than the female, comb and wattles more pronounced, and the voice of the male is more masculine. When the male plays to his mate, he walks, or rather trips, about on tiptoe, as if highly delighted with their associations.



## DUCKS



AMERICA, next to China, is perhaps the greatest duck-producing country in the world. In China, millions of ducks are hatched in the public hatcheries, and grown along the streams in flocks, and herded by men in boats, in somewhat the same manner as cattle are herded on the ranches in this country. There are a number of farms in this country which hatch and market from twenty to fifty thousand ducks a single season. The ducks used for this purpose in both countries are the Pekins, known in some localities as Imperial Pekin Ducks. Besides these, there are large numbers of farm-grown ducks of all varieties, which are the result of cross breeding. The cultivation of ducks for market has tripled in the last twenty years. The perfected varieties of ducks are the Aylesbury, Rouen, Pekin, Cayuga, Call, East India, Indian Runner, Blue Swedish, Muscovy, and the Crested varieties.

**DUCK HISTORY.** Perhaps all varieties excepting the Muscovy have descended from the wild duck generally known as the Mallard. This duck seems to have been distributed throughout the northern section of the entire world. Ducks in America have been brought to their high standard through care, selection, and careful breeding. The original white duck of the world seems to have been the Aylesbury, which is one of the most practical and elegant exhibition ducks that has ever been grown.

**AYLESBURY HISTORY.** This is distinctively an English-bred duck, notwithstanding its French origin, and has the distinctive feature of a pale, flesh-colored beak, and very light yellow shanks, with a pure white plumage. The cross between the Pekin and the Aylesbury partially obliterated the original qualities of the latter, and of late this variety has been largely kept for exhibition and the production of winter roasting ducks at country places.

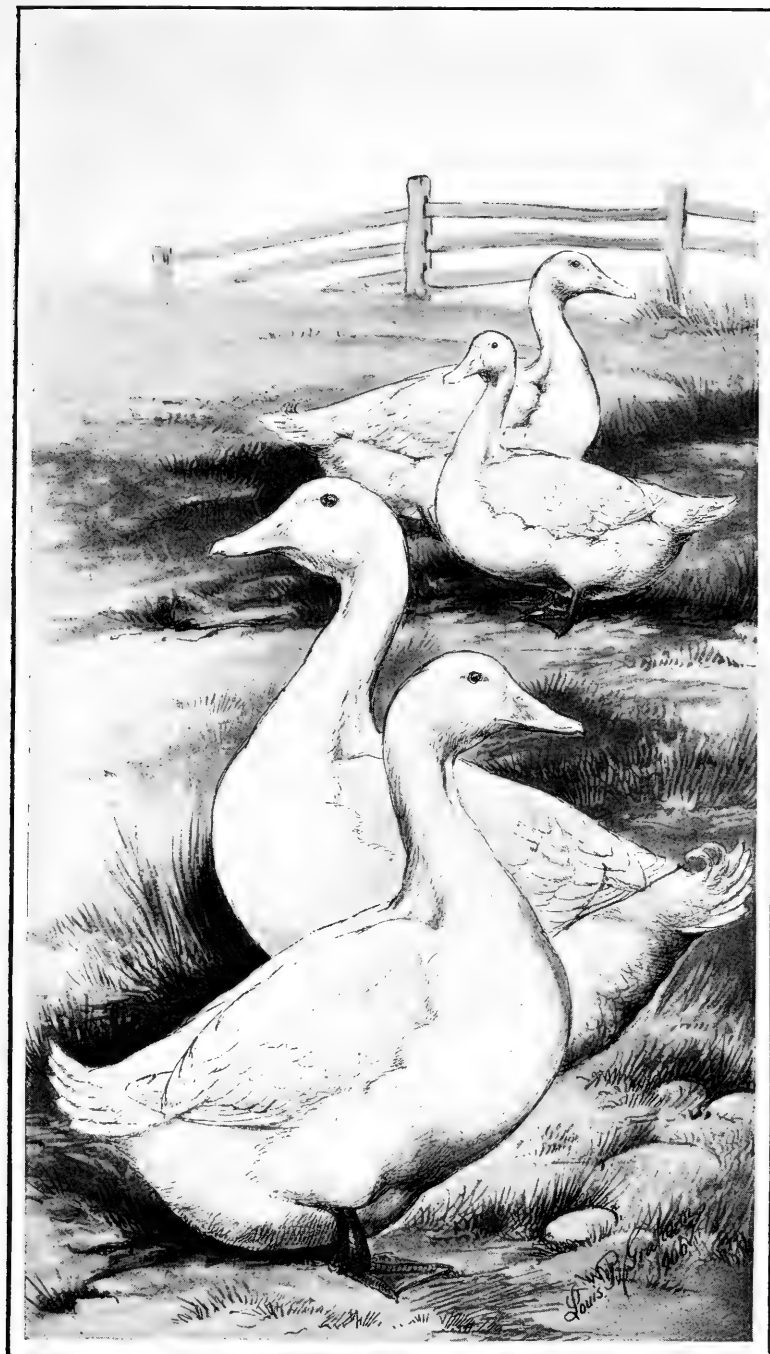


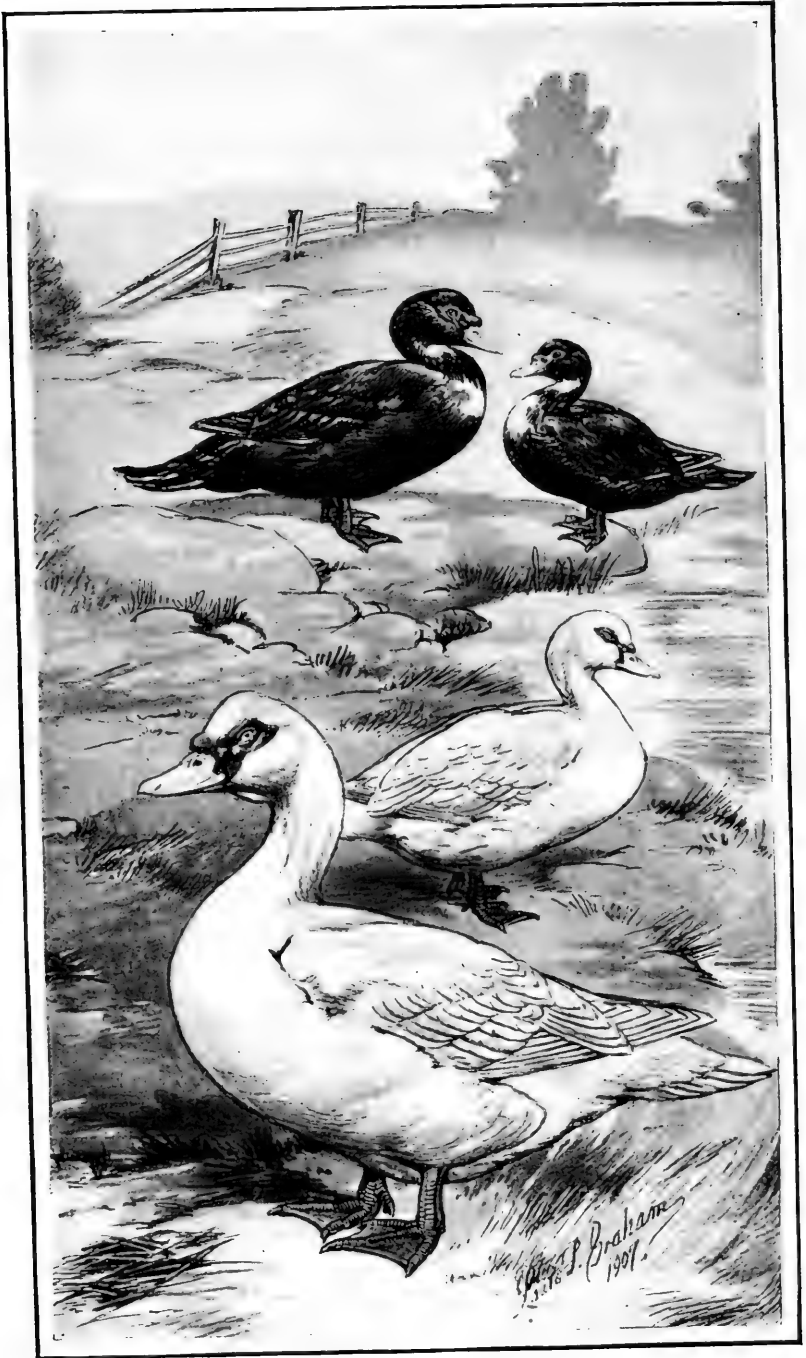
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Aylesbury is shown in our illustrations; the color of plumage, pure white; beak, and shanks, almost white; eyes, a darkish shade. The beauty of the Aylesbury Duck is to have the plumage as white as snow, and beak very light, with a pinkish cast.

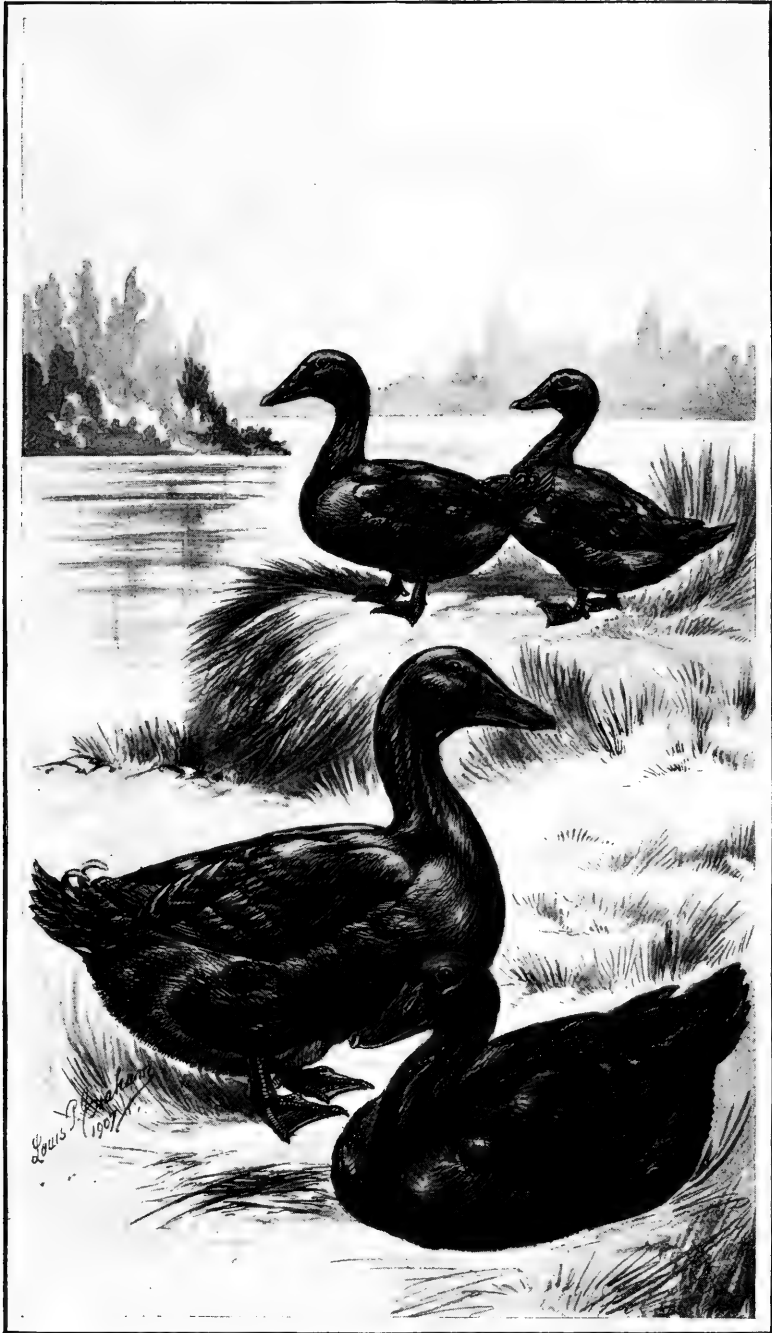
**ROUEN HISTORY.** English writers say that there are but three distinct varieties when exhibition qualities are considered—the Aylesbury, Rouen, and the East India. The latter, they claim, have been almost entirely displaced by the Black Cayuga Duck of America. The Rouen variety originated in France, as did the Aylesbury, but are considered distinctly English, owing to the careful breeding bestowed upon them by English fanciers. Rouen Ducks have not been largely bred in this country, but of recent years a few fanciers have been paying especial attention to them. They are unquestionably the best from which to produce roasting ducks for winter. The fact that so little attention has been paid to their egg-producing qualities has counted against them from the practical standpoint. They are a large, thrifty, quick-growing duck, that are worthy of having more attention paid to them.

**COLOR.** The color of the plumage of the Rouen Duck is almost identical with the Wild Mallard, but with the addition of the beautiful markings on the feathers of the female. This marking or penciling follows the shape of the feathers like the Partridge Cochin. The shade of the plumage is not unlike that of the lighter shade in the Partridge Cochin. The color of plumage in the drake is very rich and attractive, the breast being a deep brown color, shaded with claret; under-part of the body, a grayish shade, a gray-brown mixed with green, and shaded with claret; head and neck, green; the color of the neck, divided from the body-color with a white ring. The plumage of the female is a light brown, penciled with a greenish black. The colors of the Wild Mallard are distinctly strong in this variety.

**PEKIN HISTORY.** The Pekin Duck originated in the far East, but they are distinctly American. They were produced from the eastern originals and shaped into the Pekin form of the present day. The carriage of tail, and the width between







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the legs, with the rich orange color of bill, and shanks, are attractive features of the Pekin Duck. They are of quick growth, strong and vigorous, and are considered the best of all varieties for broiler ducks.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Pekin Duck is rather upright, with the tail turned up; the rear portion of the body flat; the back straight; breast, very straight and full, set very close to the ground; and rather slow of motion in getting about. In size, very large; color of beak, shanks, and feet, yellow; plumage, white throughout. There is a tendency to a creamy shade in their plumage which is not desirable.

**CAYUGA HISTORY.** The Cayuga is a black variety accredited to the lake of the same name in Northern New York. Statements are made that this variety was found wild in that locality. They have been more or less bred throughout the world, and have largely displaced the East India, another black variety which preceded them.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Cayuga Duck is quite like the Mallard Duck. Color of plumage, pure black throughout; shanks, toes, and bill, black; eyes, very dark; at times the wing feathers of the female are of a brownish cast. It is not unusual to have the shanks and toes shaded with a lighter color.

**EAST INDIA DUCK HISTORY.** The East India Duck differs from the Cayuga in carriage of body, and has more of a wild or game appearance, but the shape otherwise is quite alike. The East India is accredited to India as its original home. Those who are most directly interested in this variety contend very vigorously for their separate type, while those less interested in them fail to grasp the distinction between them. So few of these black varieties are kept that they should be classed with the special varieties, rather than with the general-purpose ducks.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape is more like the Wild Duck than the domestic varieties. Color of beak, dark, or greenish yellow; that of the female is darker than the bill of the male; eyes, dark; shanks, and toes, dark; plumage, a rich, glossy black.

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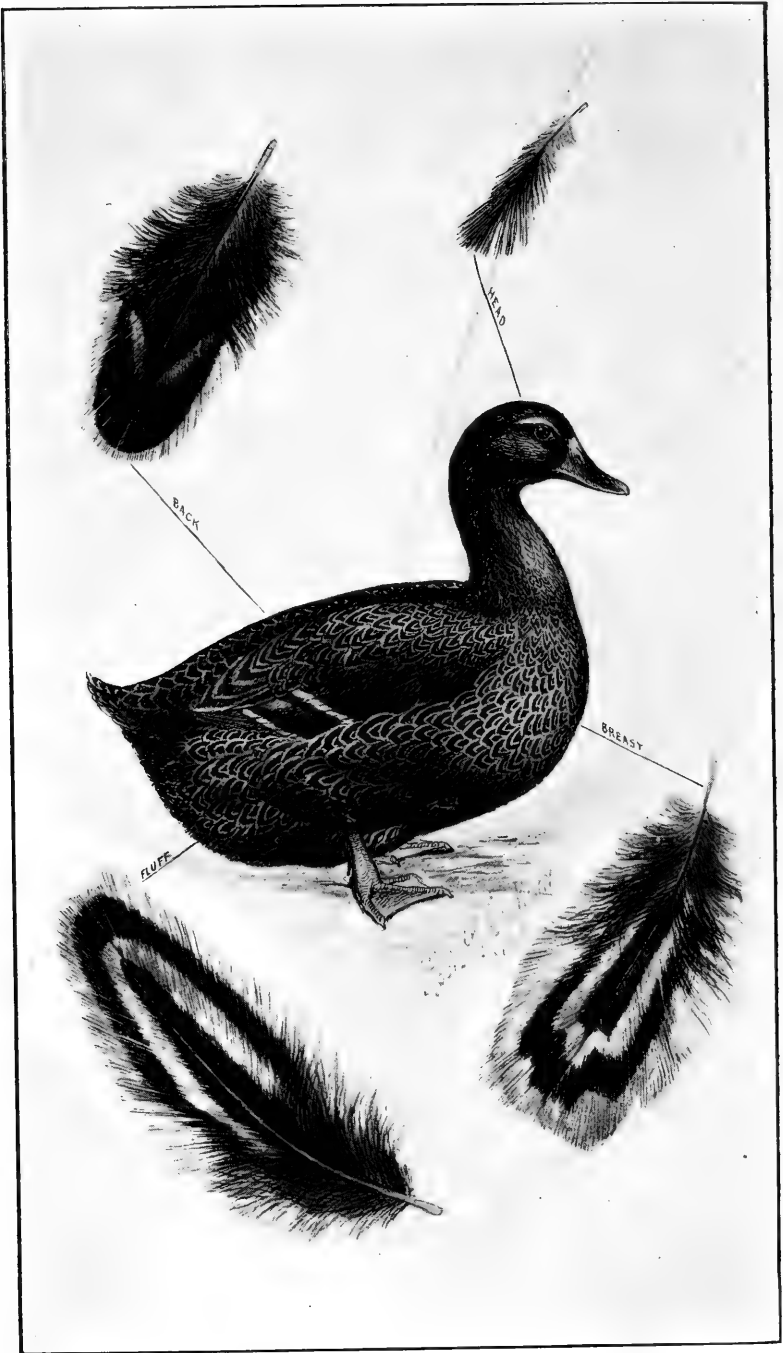
**CALL DUCKS.** The two varieties of Call Ducks are the bantams of the Rouen and White varieties. The Gray Call Duck is the miniature of the Rouen or Wild Mallard, while the White Call is the same of the white varieties. A distinctive peculiarity of the Call Duck is the little squeak in their voice, which is more like a whistle than a quack.

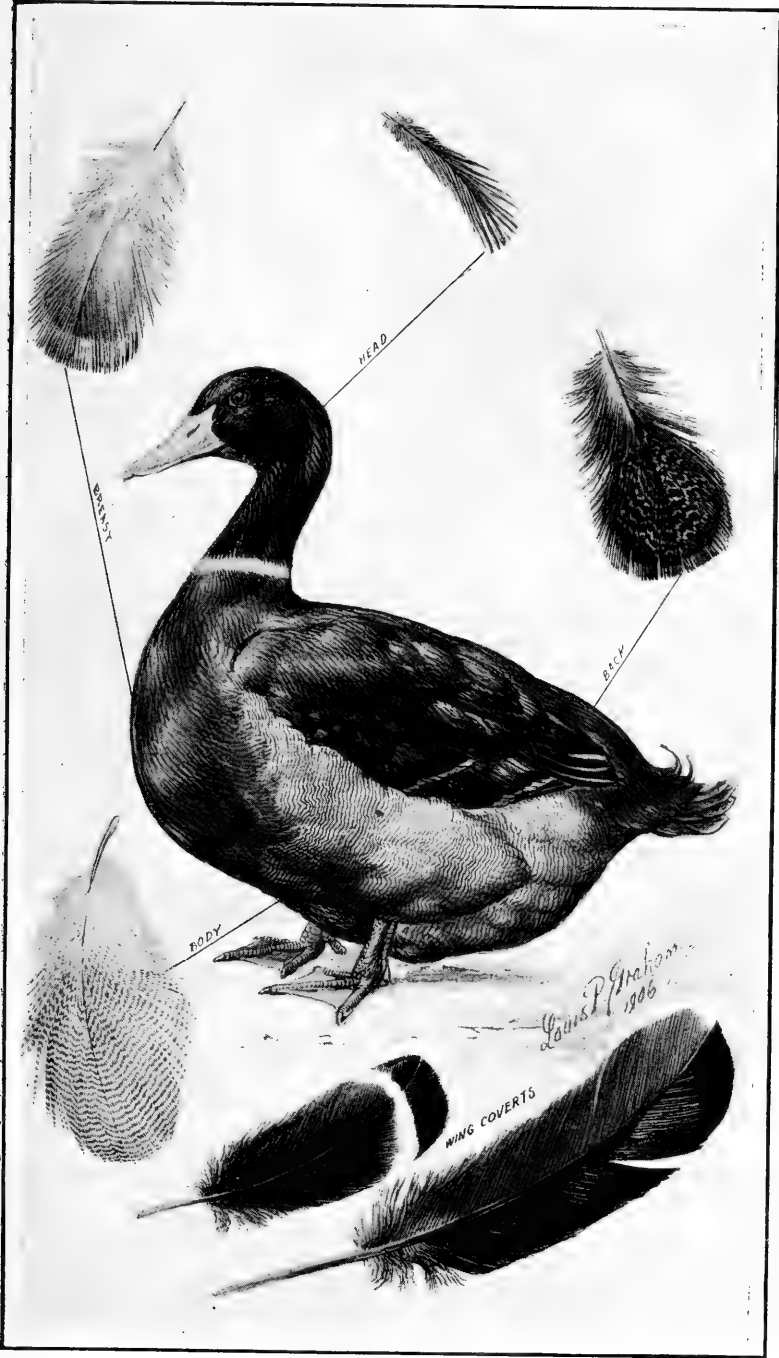
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Call Ducks are shaped like the Wild Mallard, but they are quite small in size. The Gray Call is an exact imitation of the Wild Mallard in color and marking: the White Call is like the Pekin, having the yellowish shank and beak.

**BLUE SWEDISH HISTORY.** Blue Ducks have been known to history for many years, largely considered as a sport produced by chance cross of the White and Black varieties. They are of a bluish color, much like the plumage of the Andalusian fowl, but are marked with white on breast. At times they have considerable white on the back, under the folds of the wings, toward the tail, and the under portion of the body. They are not largely bred, but have value as exhibition and market ducks.

**CRESTED WHITE.** This variety of ducks has pure white plumage, with round balls of soft feathers growing on the head, but otherwise they are like other white ducks. Bills and shanks, orange in color; eyes, of a bluish shade; plumage, pure white. The specimen gains in value as the larger, more oval, and straighter the crest is placed on the head.

**INDIAN RUNNER.** The origin of this variety of ducks can not be authentically established. Some claim that they were first bred from a fawn-colored duck that originally came from India, while others claim they were produced from crosses of other varieties. Just what their original foundation was, we can not positively assert, but it is admitted that they have been crossed with Rouens to improve their size. This cross has done a great injury to the color of plumage, especially of the females, which are marked with indistinct penciling in the plumage. Wherever this is found, it should be considered a mark of impurity. The true Indian Runner color is always a mark of quality that should be sought after. These birds are of a small size and are credited as being the most







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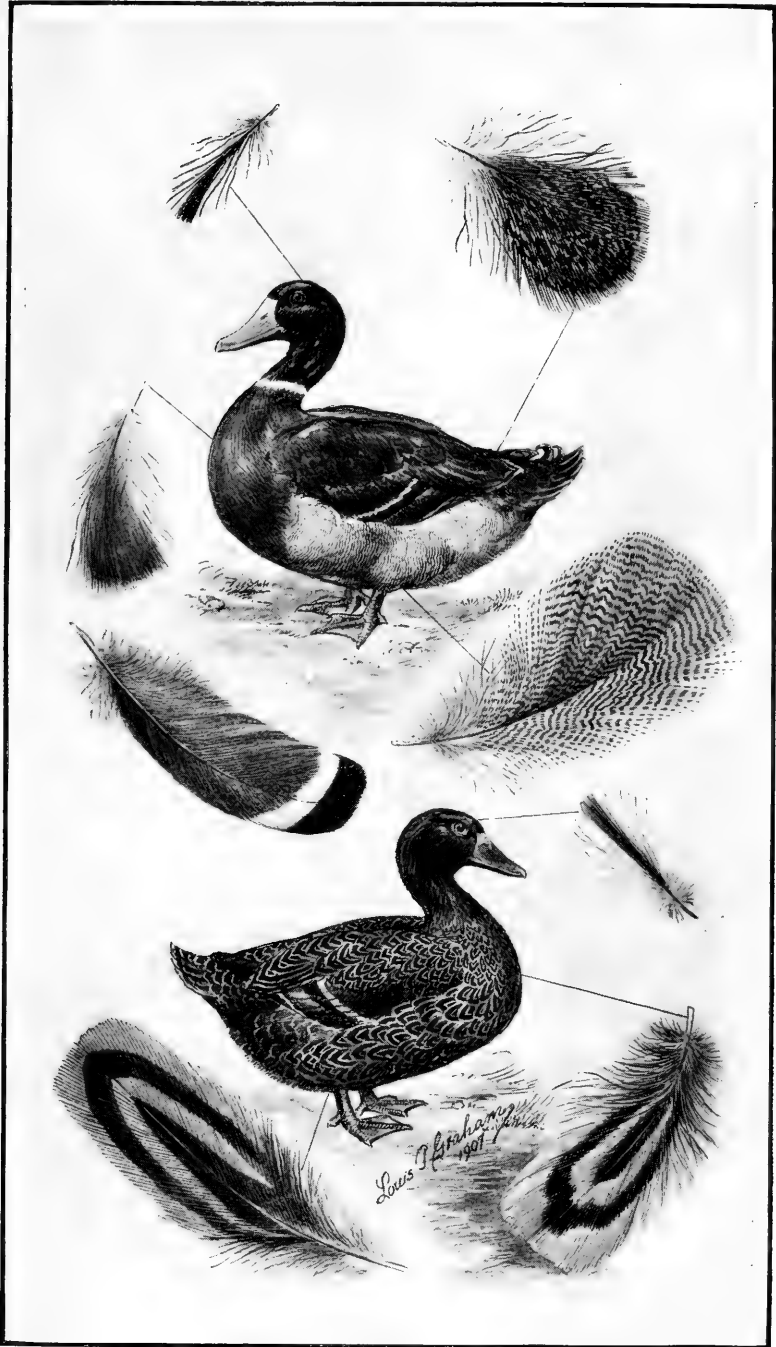
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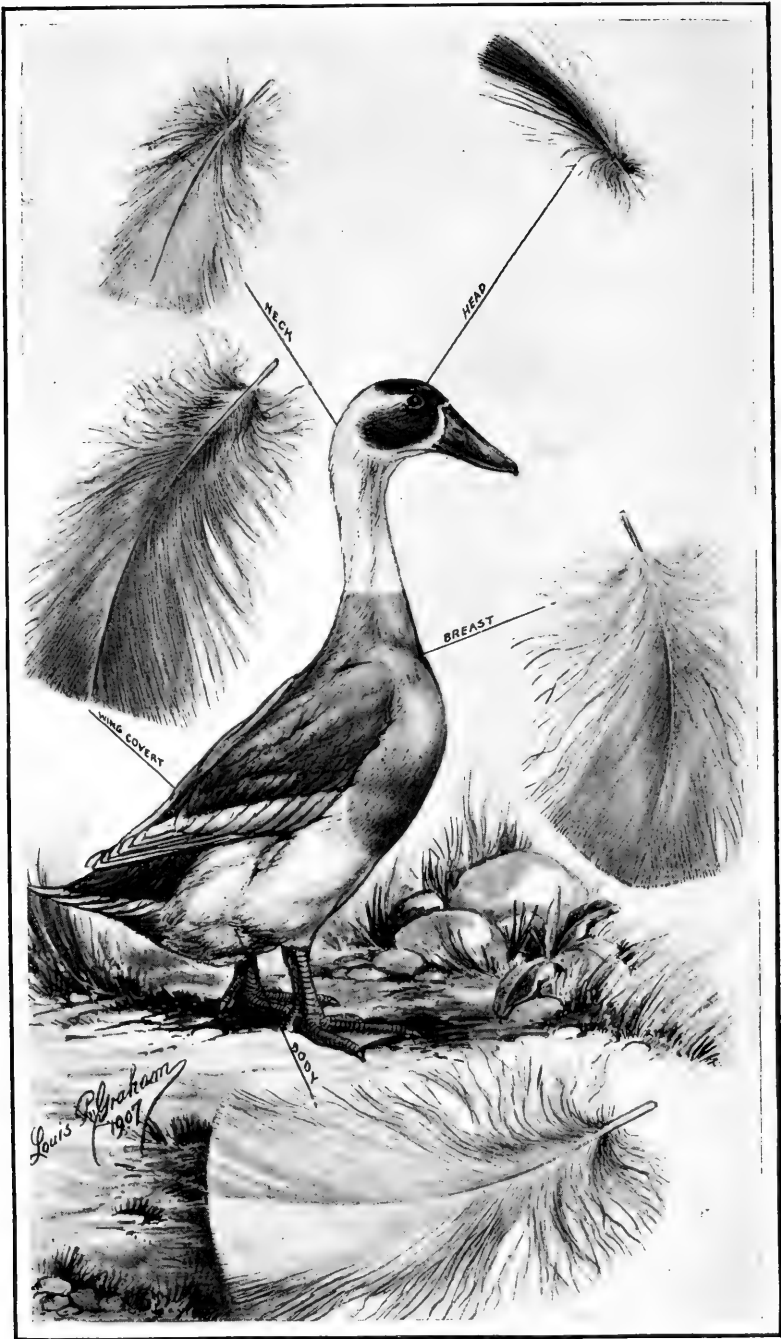
prolific egg producers of the duck families. They dress at about four pounds for roasting in the winter, are good rangers, and are highly valued for exhibition and farm-grown poultry.

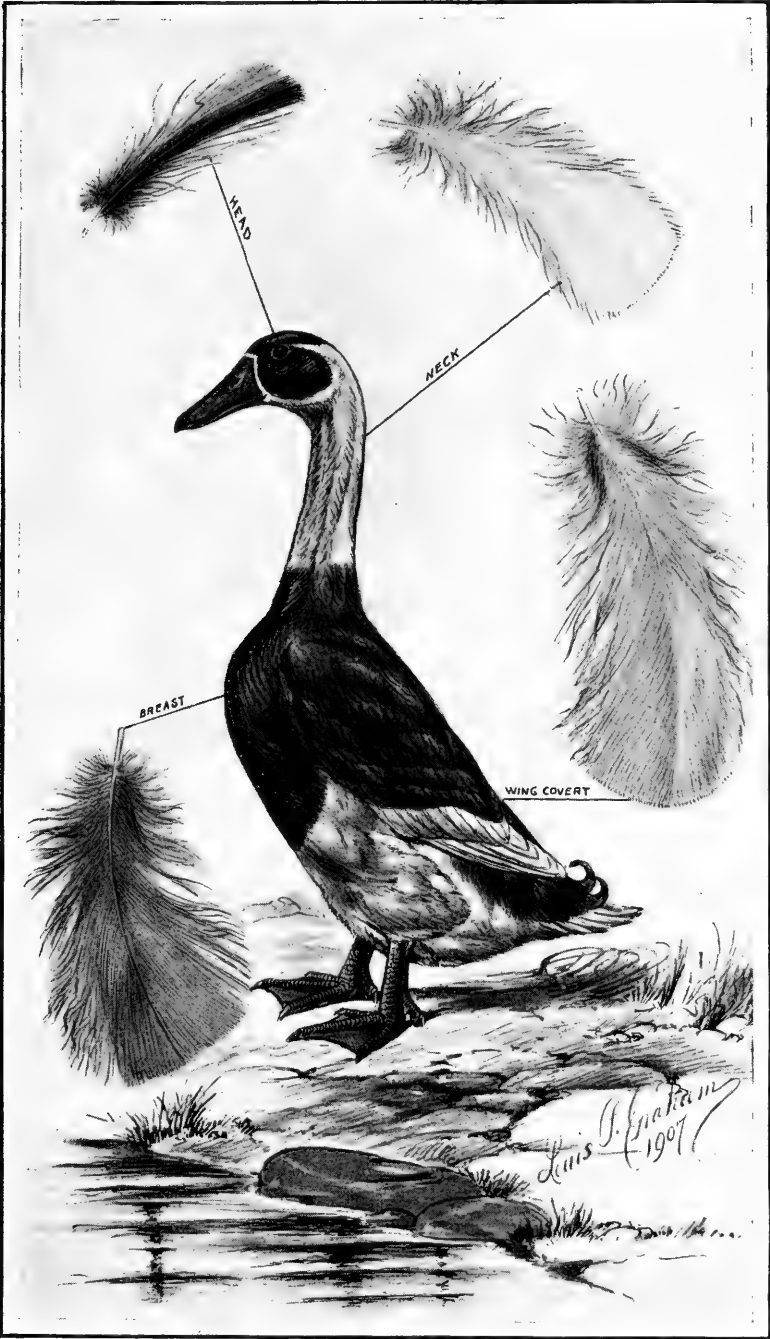
**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the Indian Runner duck is of a peculiar and a very erect carriage, almost upright, with long, extended necks and bills, unusually large for the size of the duck. The peculiarities of marking are the white stripe around the bill in front of the eyes, a hood and the side markings of the head and face, and the heart-shaped color of the fawn feathers of the back. The neck, below the throat, white; breast, and body-plumage half-way back, fawn; some breeders say fawn and white, for colors, others, gray and white. The most admired color is the fawn and white; the fawn color should be carried half-way back of the breast, and straight across; balance of under-body color, white; wing-flights, when folded, white; back, down to the end of the tail, beneath the wings, fawn colored; bill, yellowish, or greenish-yellow color; when yellow it should be spotted with a greenish shade; eyes, dark, shanks, and toes, yellow.

**MUSCOVY HISTORY.** This variety is credited as being of Peruvian origin. In early days they were known as the Musk Duck, and they are a distinctive breed to themselves, not being a kindred to the other varieties of ducks. As a wild duck they were very pugnacious, and are said to have built their nests in the trees. Even at the present time it is not unusual to see them alight in their flight on trees and outbuildings. The head of the male is very large and covered with caruncles, something like the rough surface of the turkey gobbler. The female has the same red color of head and face, somewhat smoother than the male. The drakes are wickedly disposed, quite willing to attack young children who attempt to bother them, and will not turn away from a grown person when defending the female and her young. While it is claimed that young produced from them crossed with other varieties will breed, there has never been any authentic proof of them so doing. It is the accepted opinion that they will cross-breed, but not reproduce with other varieties.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape of the body of the Muscovy Duck is very much like the body formation of the Wild,







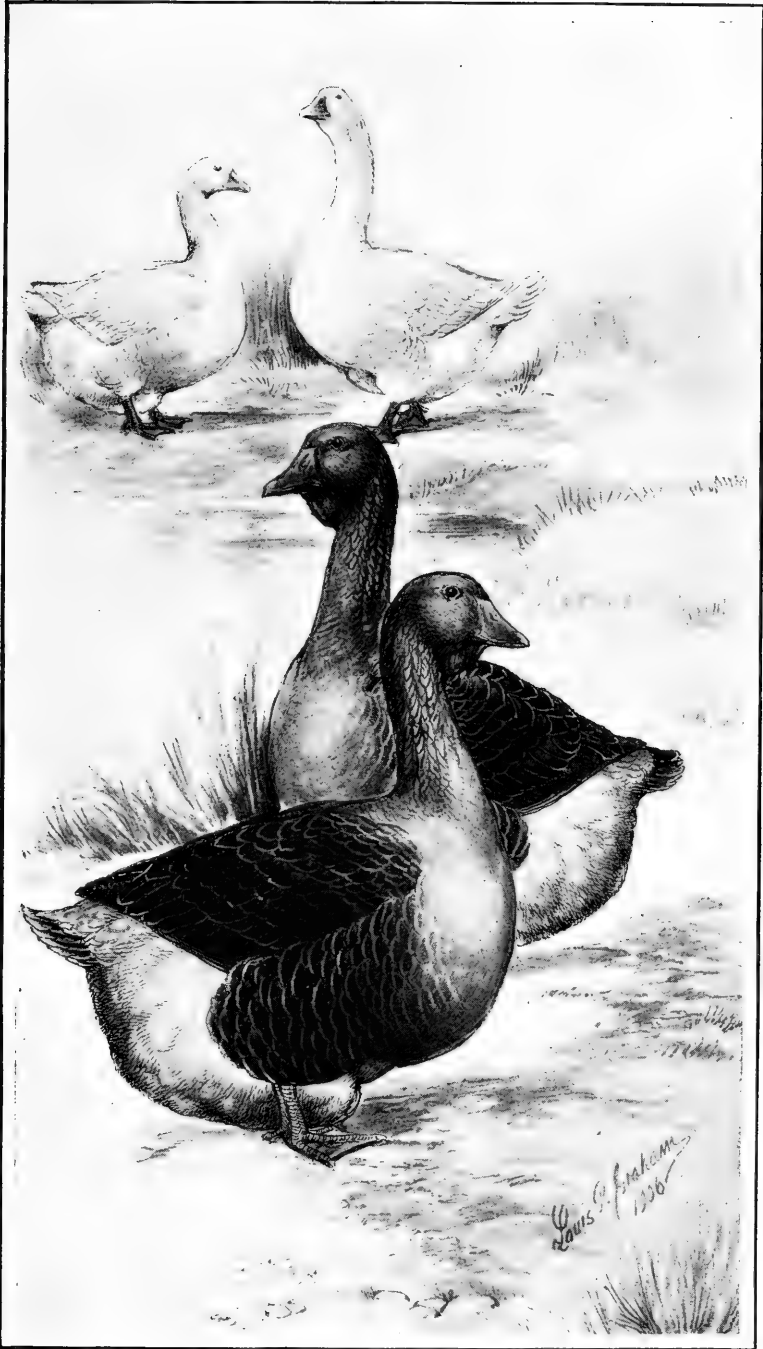
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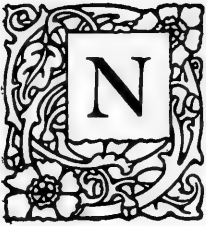
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or Canadian goose. They are very long and oval in body, the male having the appearance of being almost double the size of the female. While this is not true, in fact, their general appearance leads one to this belief. The color of plumage of the colored variety is broken, black and white, with a predominance of black throughout the plumage. Bill, usually of a pinkish shade, grading to a darker hue; the black plumage, richly embellished with a greenish sheen. The white in plumage is pure and clean. In the white variety the plumage throughout is pure white; eyes, light in color; bill, shanks, and toes, an attractive flesh color, shading into yellow. The eyes of the colored variety are considerably darker than in the white variety.





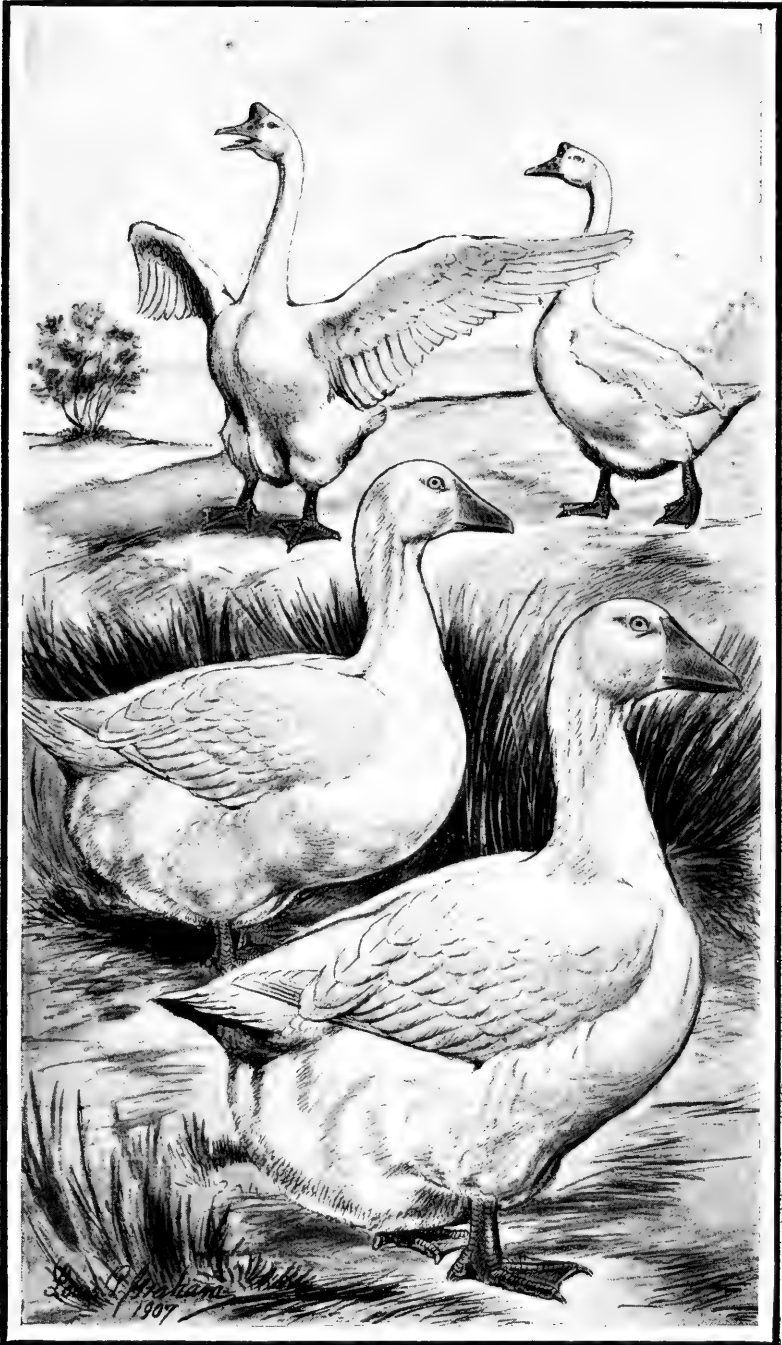
## GEESE



ONE of the geese originated in this country, but all of the better kinds have been brought here and bred considerably. The most popular ones for breeding are the Toulouse, Embden, Chinese, African, and Wild, or Canada Goose. Within the last ten years more geese have been fattened and fed for market than were grown in the fifty years previous. Geese are brought from as far north as Nova Scotia into New Jersey and New England to be fattened for market, and in many localities of the country their breeding has become quite a feature of poultry growing.

**TOULOUSE HISTORY.** Undoubtedly the Toulouse originated in France, perhaps in the locality near the city for which it is named; they were carried from there to England, and bred to form and feather. The flocks of this country have been principally bred from those that came from England. More than passing attention has been given to their careful breeding for form and feather in this country. In England the winning specimens in the show-room usually have reached an age past usefulness, time having given them extremely prominent dewlaps, and almost deformed them through the bagging down of the abdomen. With us too much of this is considered a deformity. For many years the size of the specimens shown in our show-rooms did not equal the proper demand, but of late years, the quality of the Toulouse has been fully the equal of any produced in the world. History suggests that this variety has come from the old-time Gray-lag goose, which is undoubtedly true, and some go further by claiming that all geese came from this same original source.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The omission of characteristics in geese is pardonable from the fact that there are scarcely any breed characteristics; the several varieties are so much alike in type that we are compelled to refer to the illustrations as the best description of type and character. The Toulouse variety is generally described as the Gray Goose. The color of plum-





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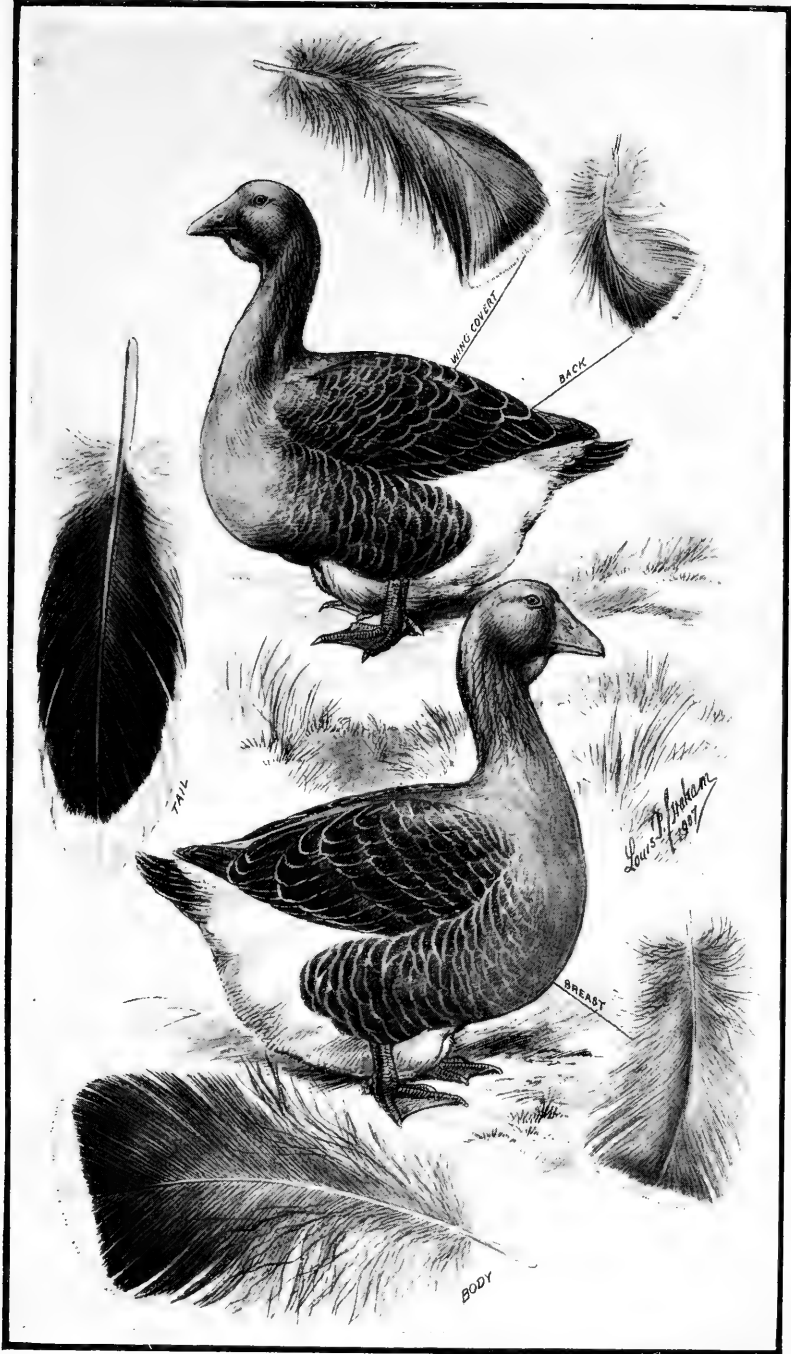
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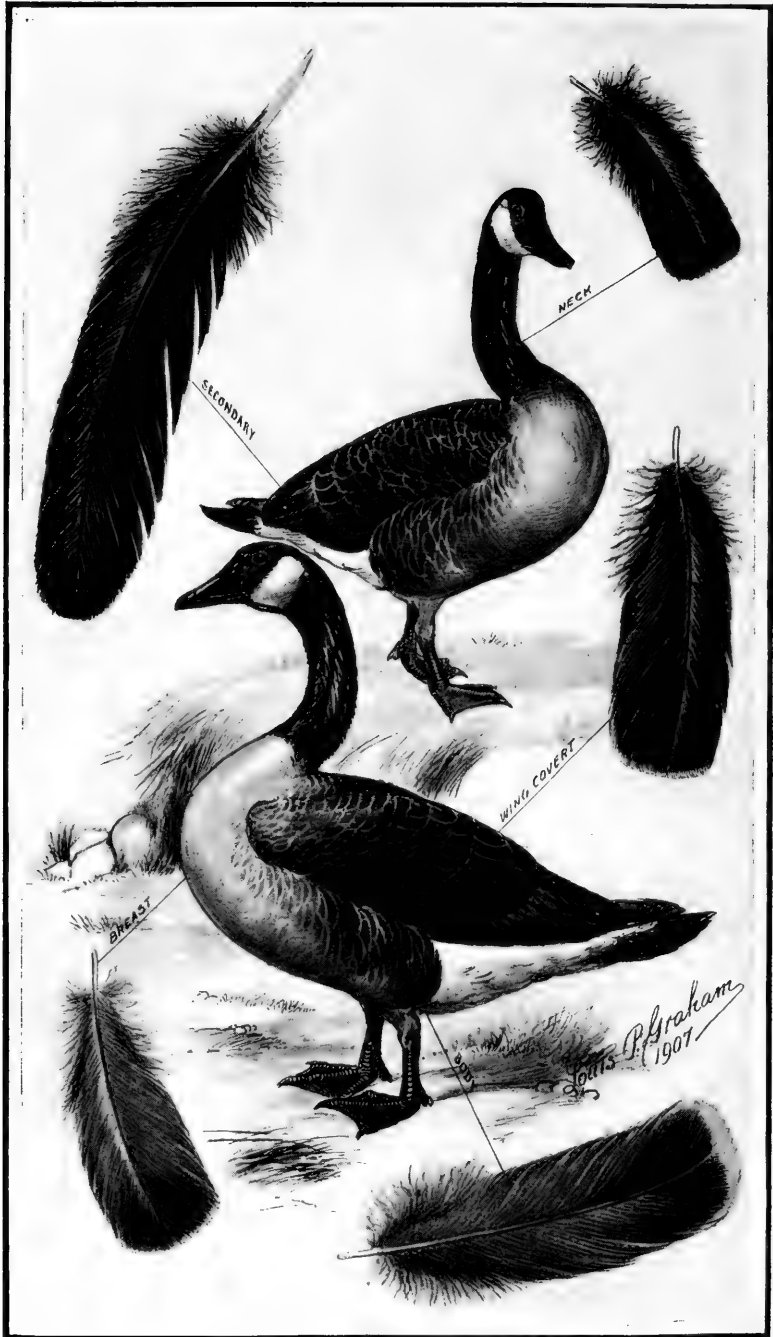
age of body is gray, shading darker in the neck, but grades away lighter from the shoulders to the extreme end of the abdomen. Legs, bill, shanks, and toes, of an orange color; eyes, dark; under-body color, at times, rather light.

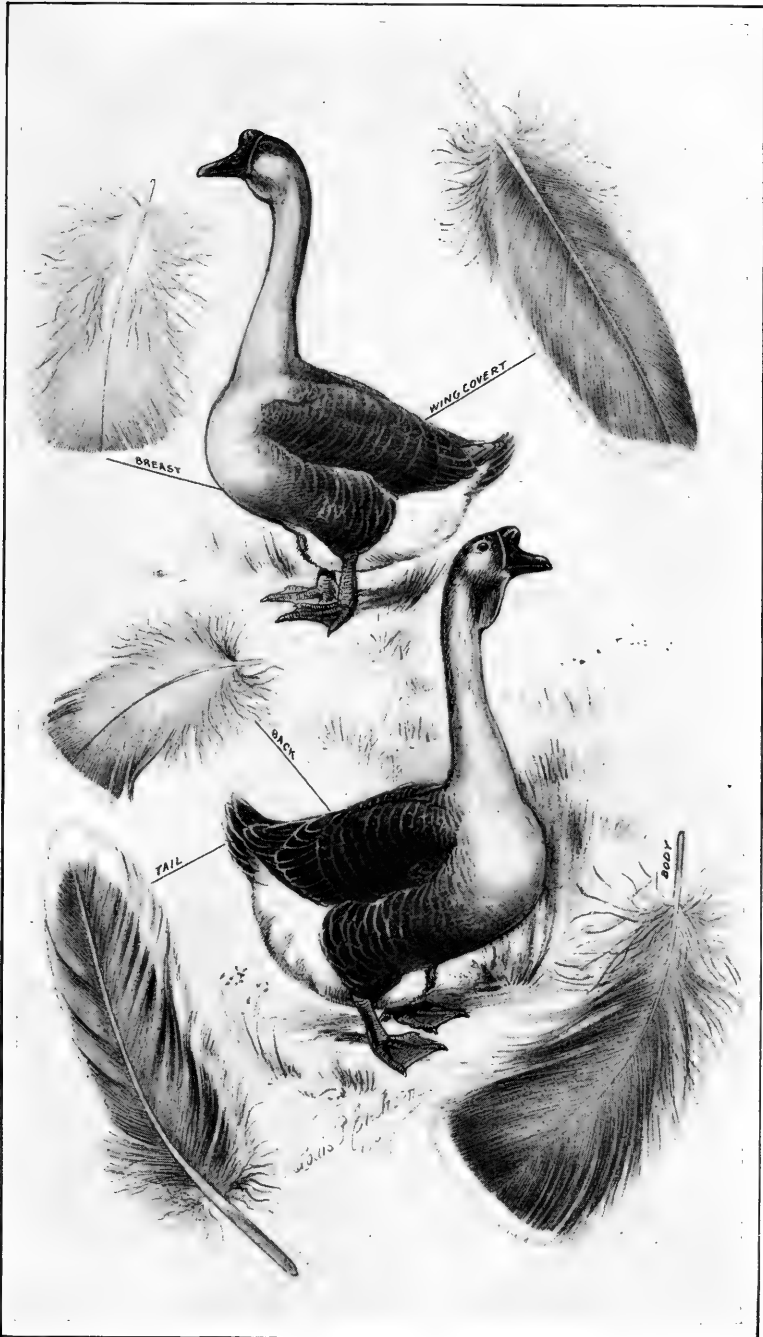
**EMBDEN HISTORY.** A legend tells us that a White Swan was lost from its flock, weary of wing, settled down in a pond of Gray Geese, paired with them and produced the White variety of Embdens. Germany was the original home of the White Goose, but the improvement and high quality of the Embden undoubtedly belongs to the English. The history of poultry does not go back far enough to record the beginning of the Embden variety. They were brought many years ago into this country, where in the last twenty years they have greatly improved according to the American fancy.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The Embden Goose might best be described as having a canoe formation, the nether portion being shaped like the bottom of a canoe; the back is rather straight, but the carriage is less upright than in the Toulouse. The Embden should not have the dewlap; any hanging down of the abdomen is considered a deformity. Color of plumage throughout is pure white; bill, and shanks, orange; eyes, of a bluish cast.

**AFRICAN GEESE.** The English class the Chinese and African as being nearly of the same variety. The African Goose is of a larger size, and has a body more than double the size of the average Chinese. One distinctive feature between the African and Chinese is that the African is short and heavy in neck, short bill, heavy in head, and carries considerable dewlap, while the Chinese have long, slim necks, small head, and no dewlap. The Chinese with us is the bantam goose, while the African is large in size and highly considered as the best to use for crossing with other varieties, preferably with the Canadian Goose. This cross produces what is known as the Mongrel Goose, which is considered best of all for market purposes in the New England states. The African and the Brown Chinese Geese are much the same in color. The African Goose is of a grayish shade of color, striped with darker shading. The bill and knob are black; shanks and toes dark orange. The







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neck, which is dark gray in color, has a darker stripe running down the center of the back of the neck.

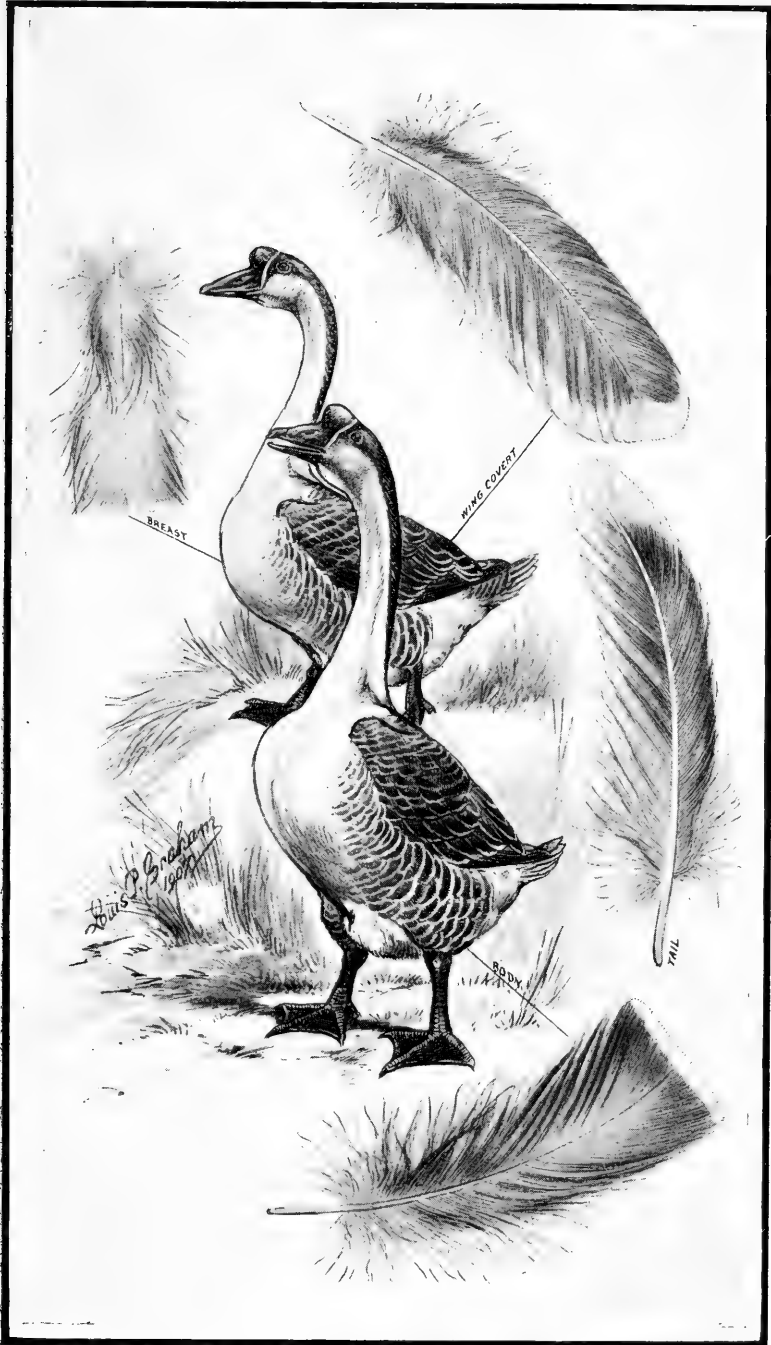
**CHINESE GEESE.** There are two varieties of these, the Brown and the pure White. As stated above, these are the bantam geese, which should be bred small in size, and not be encouraged in overweight. The peculiarities of these geese are the long, slim neck, the close, compact body, well-placed legs, and their active motion.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** The shape is similar to that of the African variety; color, grayish brown, in the Brown variety; pure white in the White variety; shanks, and toes, of a dusky orange, in the dark variety, bright orange, in the White variety; the bill of the White variety is orange, while that of the Brown variety is dark; eyes of the Brown variety are dark, and in the White they are of a bluish cast.

**WILD GOOSE.** This variety is the link between the duck and the goose, and their peculiarity lies in the fact that when cross-bred with other domestic geese, they produce a Mongrel that will not reproduce. They have been fairly well domesticated, but when so kept their wings must be pinioned. They are bred considerably in New England, where they are largely used for cross-mating with the African or others for producing the Mongrel Geese.

**SHAPE AND COLOR.** In shape and color they differ from other geese. They are more like the island varieties of American swans in form, and their shape and color is best represented in the illustration. The general body-color is dark gray, shaded with black. The white crescent about the throat, the white breast, and rear part of the abdomen are their striking characteristic plumage markings. Bill, shanks, and toes, black; eyes, very dark. These geese breed very true to plumage.

**EGYPTIAN GOOSE.** The Egyptian Goose is a variety but little seen, as they are usually kept for their beauty of plumage about country places and in parks. They are not prolific breeders; in domestication rather quarrelsome and ugly in disposition with other kinds. Their beautiful rich plumage colors are very attractive. Their bill is of a purplish red; eyes, orange color; shanks, and toes, reddish yellow; body colors, gray, chestnut, and black; under parts of body, yellow or buff, marked with dark pencilings.



## DESCRIPTIVE TERMS

- BARS OR BARRING.** Alternating stripes across a feather, as in Plate XI.
- BEAK.** The horny portion composed of upper and lower mandible, forming the mouth.
- BEAN.** Small oval tip at the point of the upper mandible of a duck.
- BEARD.** Feathers about the throat of a fowl. See Plate CXI.
- BILL.** The mouth of water-fowl.
- BRASSINESS.** The yellow shading on the surface of white plumage.
- BREED.** The family name, like Wyandotte or Cochin.
- BROOD.** The family of chickens under one hen or brooder.
- BROODY.** The desire to set and incubate.
- CAPE.** The feathers beneath the hackle between the shoulders shaped like a cape.
- CARRIAGE.** The position or attitude peculiar to the style of a breed.
- CARUNCLES.** The protuberances on the head and neck of turkeys and Muscovy Ducks.
- CHICK.** The young of chickens under six weeks of age.
- CHICKEN.** The common name applied to the domestic fowls of the gallinaceous division, and made use of to distinguish them from other fowls.
- COCK.** A male fowl in its second year or older.
- COCKEREL.** A male fowl under one year.
- COMB.** The protuberance that grows upon the top of a fowl's head.
- COVERTS.** See illustration, Plate CIV, for tail and primary coverts.
- CREST.** A crown of feathers on the head, commonly termed a top-knot.
- CUSHION.** The mass of feathers on a fowl's back about the tail, strikingly developed in Cochins.
- DEAF-EARS.** Improperly applied to ear-lobes.

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**DEWLAP.** A skin formation beneath the throat of fowls usually developed by age.

**DRAKE.** Male duck.

**DUCK.** Female of the duck family.

**EARLOBES.** The folds of skin hanging below the ears.

**FACE.** Flesh around the eyes usually bare.

**FIFTH TOE.** The additional toe, as shown in Plate CIV.

**FLIGHTS.** The primary feathers of the wing.

**FLUFF.** Downy feathers about the thighs and abdomen, also the downy part of feathers.

**FROSTING.** Supplementary lacing or bad colored edging, as in Plate CXIV, Fig. 3.

**GILLS.** Name improperly applied to the wattles.

**HACKLE.** Narrow feathers on the neck, also saddle of the male bird.

**HOCK.** The joint between the thighs and the shanks, where the vulture hock feathering grows.

**KEEL.** The vertical part of the breast-bone, also applied to the loose flesh and skin that hangs beneath the breast of water-fowls.

**KNOCK-KNEED.** The hock joints growing close together instead of well apart.

**LACED, LACING.** A stripe or edging around a feather, as in Sebrights and Wyandottes.

**LEAF-COMB.** The original comb of the Houdan, shown in Plate CXI.

**LEG.** In a live fowl the shank; when dressed for table, the joint above the shank; often made use of to describe both thigh and shank.

**LEG FEATHERS.** Feathers growing from the shank, as in Brahmas or Cochins.

**LOPPED COMB.** An imperfection plainly shown in Plates CIX and CXII.

**MEALY.** Imperfect surface coloring in the web of the feather, as in buff frosted with white. See Plate CXIV, Fig. 4.

**MOSSY.** Confused or indistinct in marking. Plate CXIV, Fig. 2.

**MOTTLED.** Marked with spots.

**MUFFS.** The growth of feathers on either side of the face below the eyes. See Plate CIV.



# The Perfected Poultry of America

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- PEA-COMB.** A triple comb resembling three small combs in one, as in the Brahma, Azeel, and Indian Game.
- PENCILING.** Line markings or stripes that follow the shape of the feathers, as in the Dark Brahma. Straight lines, as in Hamburgs, are termed penciling.
- POULT.** A young turkey.
- PRIMARIES.** The flight feathers of the wing.
- PULLET.** A female fowl under one year.
- ROSE COMB.** A broad, compactly-built comb, the top of which is nearly level and covered with small points, the heel of which ends in a round, tapering point, as in Hamburgs, Rose-combed Bantams, and others.
- SADDLE.** The long plumage of the back just in front of the tail, portion of which is called saddle hackle.
- SECONDARIES.** The quill feathers of the wing above the primaries, which are visible when the wing is folded.
- SELF-COLOR.** A uniform tint throughout the entire plumage.
- SERRATION.** One of the points of a serrated comb.
- SHAFT.** The quill of a feather.
- SHAFTING.** The quill showing either lighter or darker than the web of the feather.
- SHANK.** The portion of the leg below the hock joint.
- SICKLES.** The top curved feathers of the tail of a male. Properly applied to the two uppermost sickles, which are called main sickles, the other lesser sickles. See Plate CIV.
- SIDE SPRIG.** An unnatural growth on the side of a comb. See Plate CXII.
- SINGLE COMB.** An upright, evenly-formed, nicely serrated comb, as shown in Plates CV and CVII.
- SLIPPED WING.** Unfolded feathers of the wing, as shown in Plate CLX.
- SPANGLING.** Markings as in the Spangled Hamburg, shown in Plate LXVI.
- SPLASHED.** An irregular disposition of color.
- SPUR.** The sharp growth on the side of the shank. Plate CIV.
- SQUIRREL TAIL.** A tail carried forward toward the neck. Plate CXIII.
- STATION.** The type or pose of the Game fowl.
- STIPPLE.** The small, dotted markings, as in the plumage of a Brown Leghorn female.

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**STRAIN.** An established family bred in line from the original ancestors.

**STRAWBERRY COMB.** An unevenly formed knob as in the Malay or Silkie fowl.

**SURFACE-COLOR.** The color seen in the web of the feather.

**SYMMETRY.** The perfect assembling of all sections of a fowl.

**TAIL-COVERTS.** The soft feathers curved about root of tail.

**TAIL FEATHERS.** The straight, stiff feathers of the main tail.

**THIGHS.** The joint above the shanks.

**THUMB-MARK.** An irregular cavity in the side of the comb.  
Plate CXII.

**TOE FEATHERING.** Growth of feathers on the toes.

**TRIO.** A male and two females.

**TWISTED COMB.** One of irregular shape. See Plates CIX and CXII.

**TYPE.** The proper breed formation.

**UNDER-COLOR.** The color of the fluffy portion of the feather beneath the web.

**VARIETY.** Term used in separating into classes by color, as Buff Leghorns, Partridge Wyandottes. This enables the division of breeds into families.

**VULTURE-HOCK.** Stiff, projecting quill feathers at the hock joint. Plate CIV.

**V-SHAPED COMB.** A two-pronged comb, as seen in the La Fleche, properly termed antler comb. Plate CXI.

**WATTLES.** The pendent growth at each side of the base of the beak, most prominent in males.

**WEB.** The web of the feather is the flat or closed plume portion; the web of the foot, the skin between the toes; of the wing, the triangular skin at the section of the joints.

**WING-BAR.** A line of color across the middle of the wing.

**WING-BAY.** The triangular part of the folded wing between the wing-bar and the points.

**WING-BOW.** The shoulder part of the wing.

**WING-BUTTS.** The corner or ends of the wing. The upper ends are more properly called the shoulder-butts.

**WING-POINTS.** The end of the flights.

**WING-COVERTS.** Feathers covering the roots of the secondary quills.

**WRY TAIL.** A tail turned to either side. Plate CXIII.

## THE FERTILITY OF EGGS

Eggs may be considered fertile that are laid the tenth day after the pairing of the birds, and fertility ceases at the expiration of twelve days after removal of the males. There is no danger of contamination in chicken hens after they have been separated from the males for two weeks. This is the same with ducks and geese. With turkeys a single mating of the turkey hen with the tom will fertilize the entire clutch. This makes it quite important that all undesirable toms should be removed from the turkey hens as early as the first of January.

## MARKET POULTRY

Fowls might be grouped as follows: Meat-producing fowls: Asiatics—The Brahmas, Cochins, and Langshans.

General-purpose fowls: American, English, and French varieties.

Egg-producing fowls: Mediterranean—Leghorns, Minorcas, Andalusians, and Anconas.

Ornamental varieties: Games, Bantams, Polish, Hamburgs, and other varieties that are not bred in sufficient quantities to be classed with the more useful breeds.

The following is a list of fowls kept for egg production, which are divided into two classes, one producers of brown-shelled eggs, the other the white-shelled, although some of these are exceptions.

FOWLS THAT LAY BROWN-SHELLED  
EGGS

Brahmas .....	two varieties
Cochins .....	four varieties
Langshans .....	two varieties
Plymouth Rocks.....	three varieties
Wyandottes .....	eight varieties
Javas .....	two varieties
Dominiques .....	one variety
Dorkings .....	four varieties
Faverolles .....	all varieties
Indian Games.....	two varieties
Malays .....	all varieties
Rhode Island Reds.....	all varieties
Orpingtons .....	all varieties

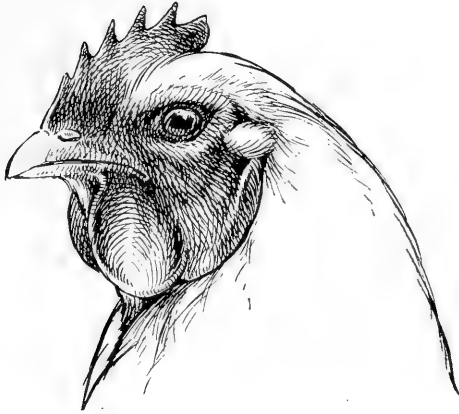
FOWLS THAT LAY WHITE-SHELLED  
EGGS

Leghorns .....	seven varieties
Aneonas .....	one variety
Minorcas .....	four varieties
Andalusians .....	one variety
Spanish .....	one variety
Polish .....	eight varieties
Hamburgs .....	six varieties
Red Caps.....	one variety
Houdans .....	one variety
Crevecoeurs .....	one variety
La Flèche .....	one variety
Games .....	eight varieties
Sumatras .....	one variety
Silkies .....	one variety
Sultans .....	one variety



TERMS APPLIED TO SECTIONS

- |                      |                             |                                      |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Comb              | 13. Hock                    | 25. Lesser sickles                   |
| 2. Beak              | 14. Leg or shank feathering | 26. Main sickles                     |
| 3. Wattles           | 15. Outer toe feathering    | 27. Main tail                        |
| 4. Face              | 16. Shank                   | 28. Shoulder                         |
| 5. Ear-lobe          | 17. Spur                    | 29. Wing-bar                         |
| 6. Muff              | 18. Fifth toe               | 30. Secondaries forming the wing-bay |
| 7. Whiskers or beard | 19. Fourth toe              | 31. Primary coverts                  |
| 8. Crest             | 20. Middle toe              | 32. Flights or primaries             |
| 9. Hackle            | 21. Third toe               | 33. Abdomen                          |
| 10. Breast           | 22. Back                    |                                      |
| 11. Keel             | 23. Saddle                  |                                      |
| 12. Thigh            | 24. Coverts                 |                                      |



Proper type of head and single-combed formation. Plymouth Rock female.



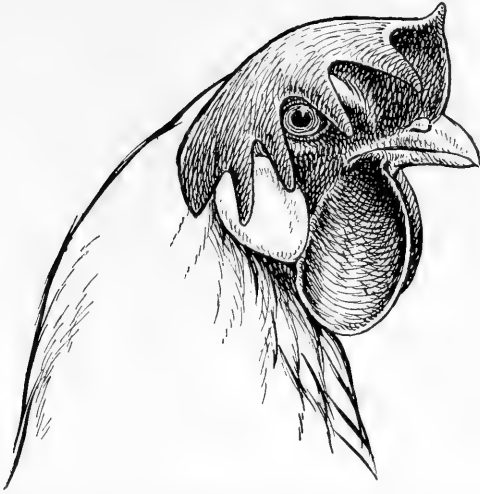
Proper type of head and single-combed formation. Plymouth Rock male.



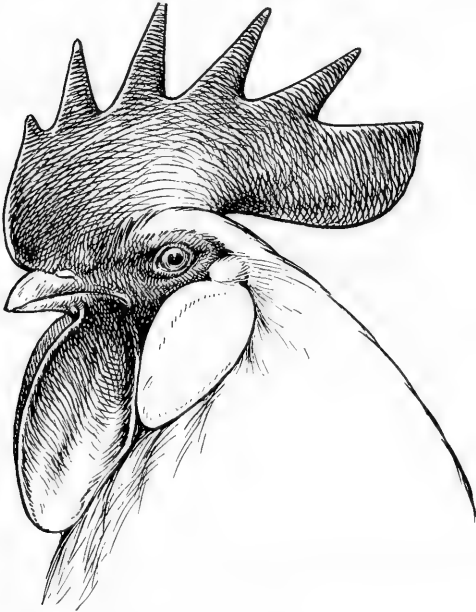
Proper type of head and rose-combed formation. Wyandotte female.



Proper type of head and rose-combed formation. Wyandotte male.

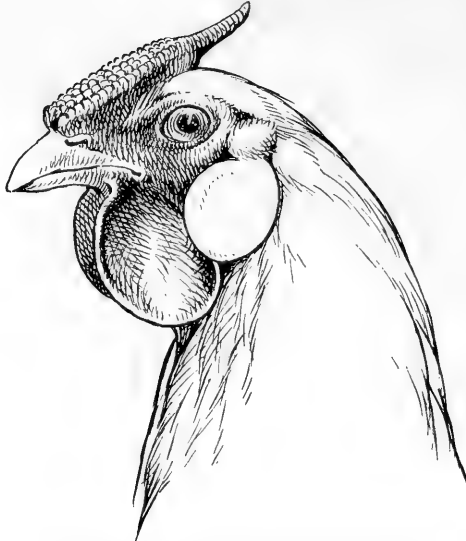


Proper type of head and single-combed formation. Leghorn female.

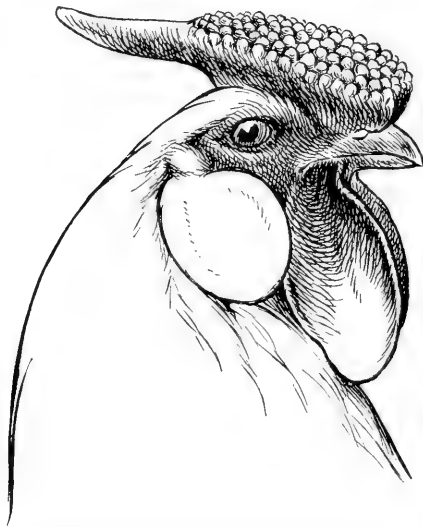


Proper type of head and single-combed formation. Leghorn male.

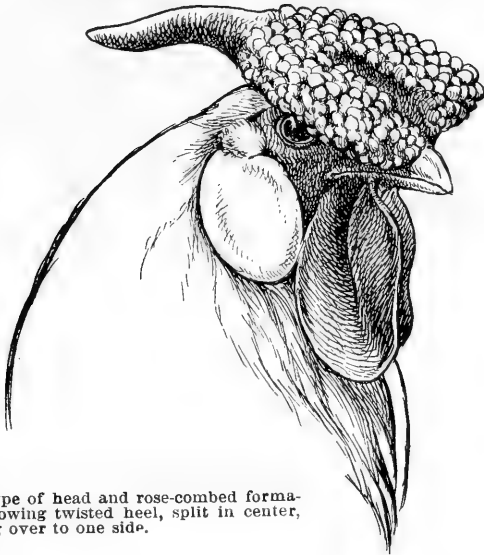




Proper type of head and rose-combed formation. Leghorn female; also found in Hamburgs and Rose-combed Bantams.



Proper type of head and rose-combed formation. Leghorn male; also found in Hamburgs and Rose-combed Bantams.



Improper type of head and rose-combed formation, showing twisted heel, split in center, hanging over to one side.



Improper wing formation, showing slipped flights.



Proper type of the triple or pea-comb. Found in the Brahma, Indian and Azeel Games.



Proper type of the walnut or knob-comb. Found in the Malay and Silkie.



Proper type of antler or V comb. La Fleche male, also found in Crevecoeurs, American Houdans, and Polish.



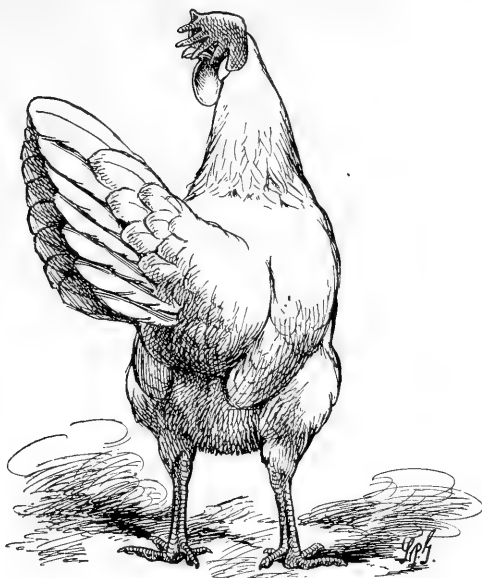
Proper type of head and leaf-combed formation with crest and beard. Houdan male.



Twisted single comb. Mediterranean type.



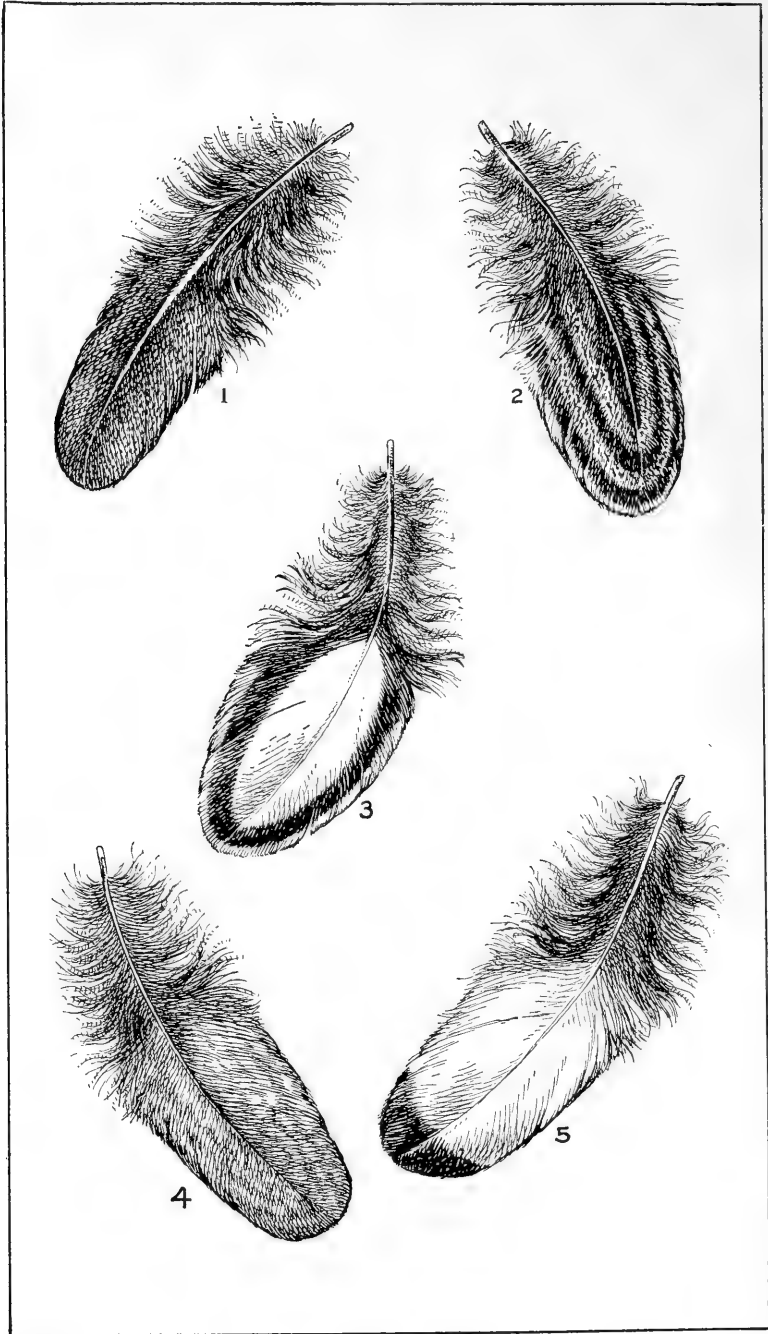
Lopped single comb, showing thumb-mark, side sprig, wrinkled ear-lobes, and wattles.



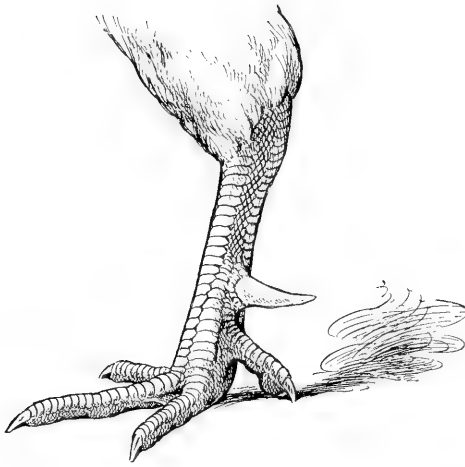
Wry-tail Formation.



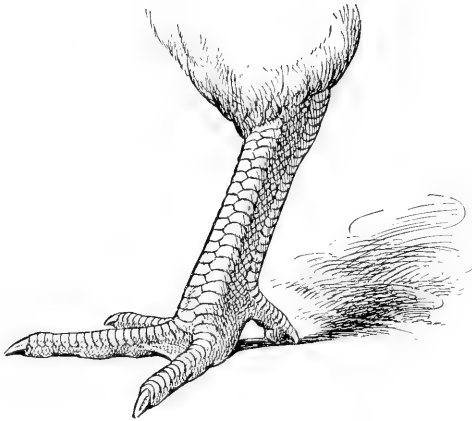
Squirrel-tail Formation.



1. Shafted. 2. Mossed. 3. Frosted. 4. Mealy. 5. Bad spangling, showing crescent in place of spangle marking.



Proper type shank and toes. Leghorn varieties.

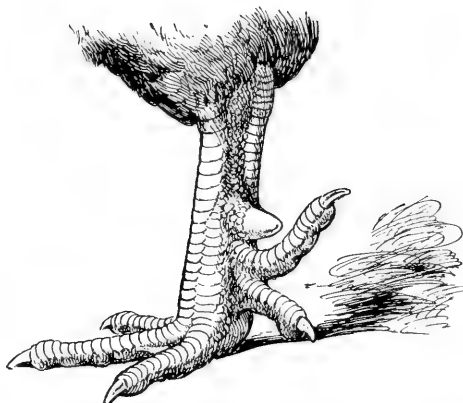


Proper type shank and toes. American varieties.





Mottled shank and toes. Found in Anconas, Houdans, and Mottled Javas.



Shank and five-toed foot. Found in Houdans, Dorkings, and Silkies.



Proper Asiatic type. Cochin shank and toe feathering.



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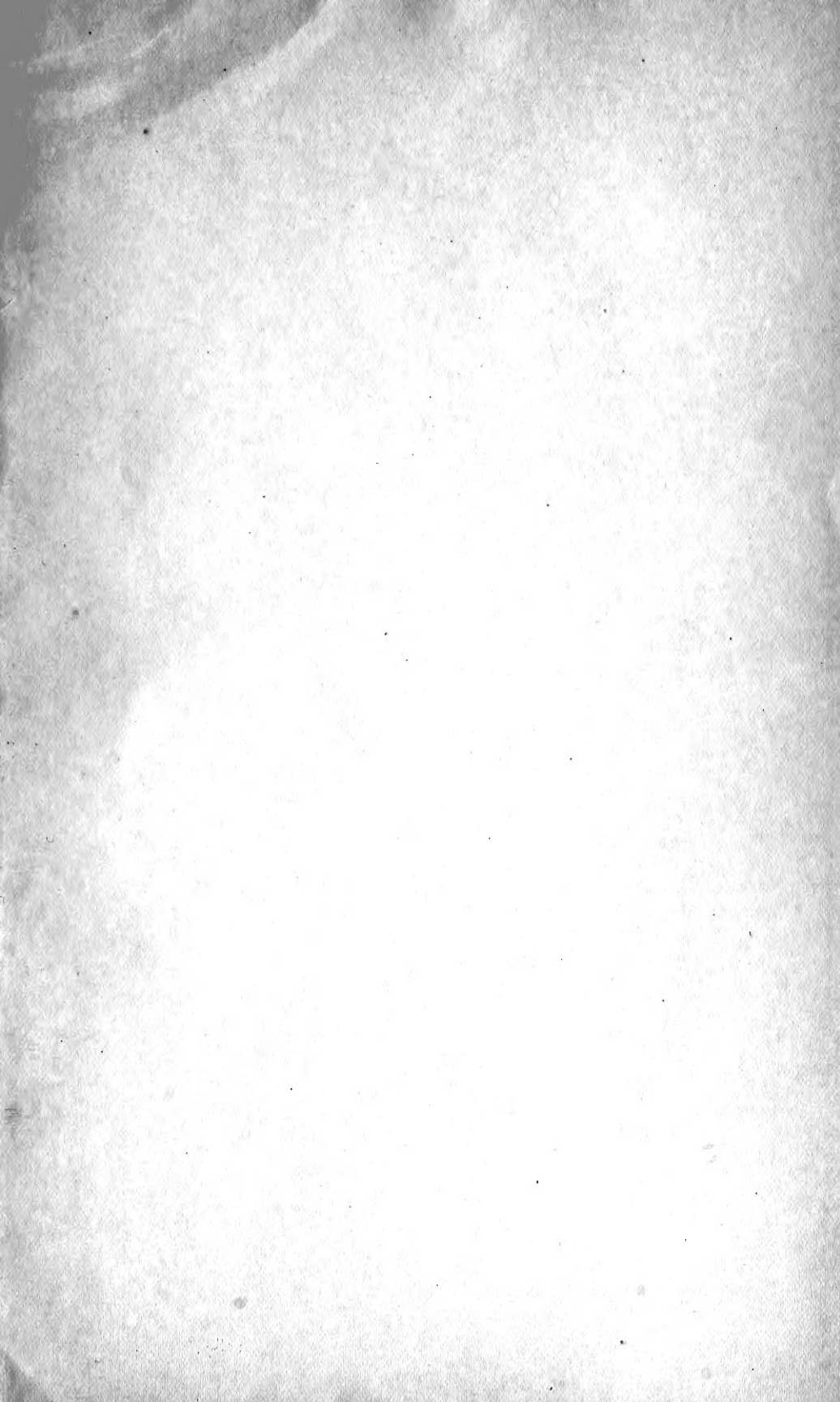


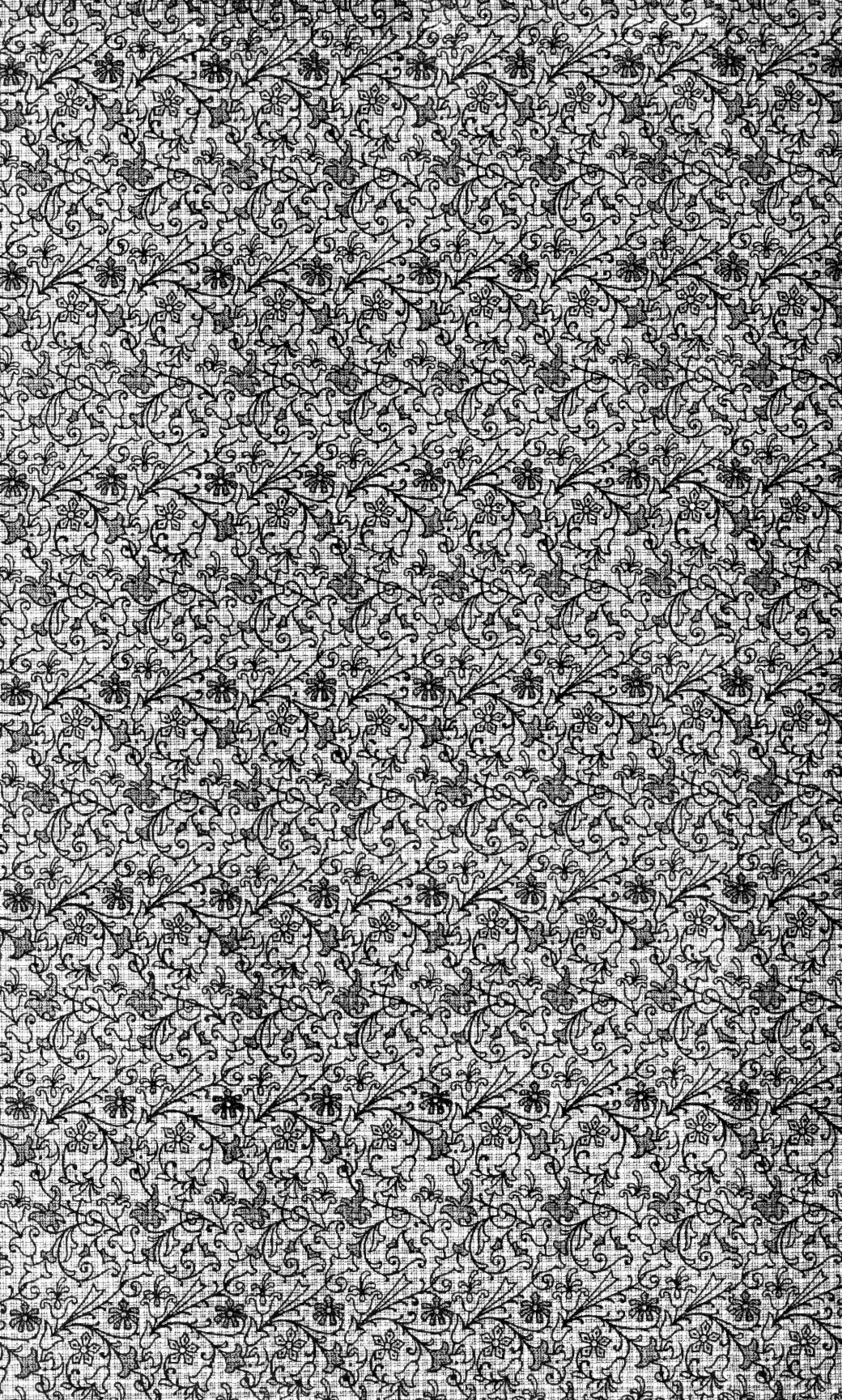


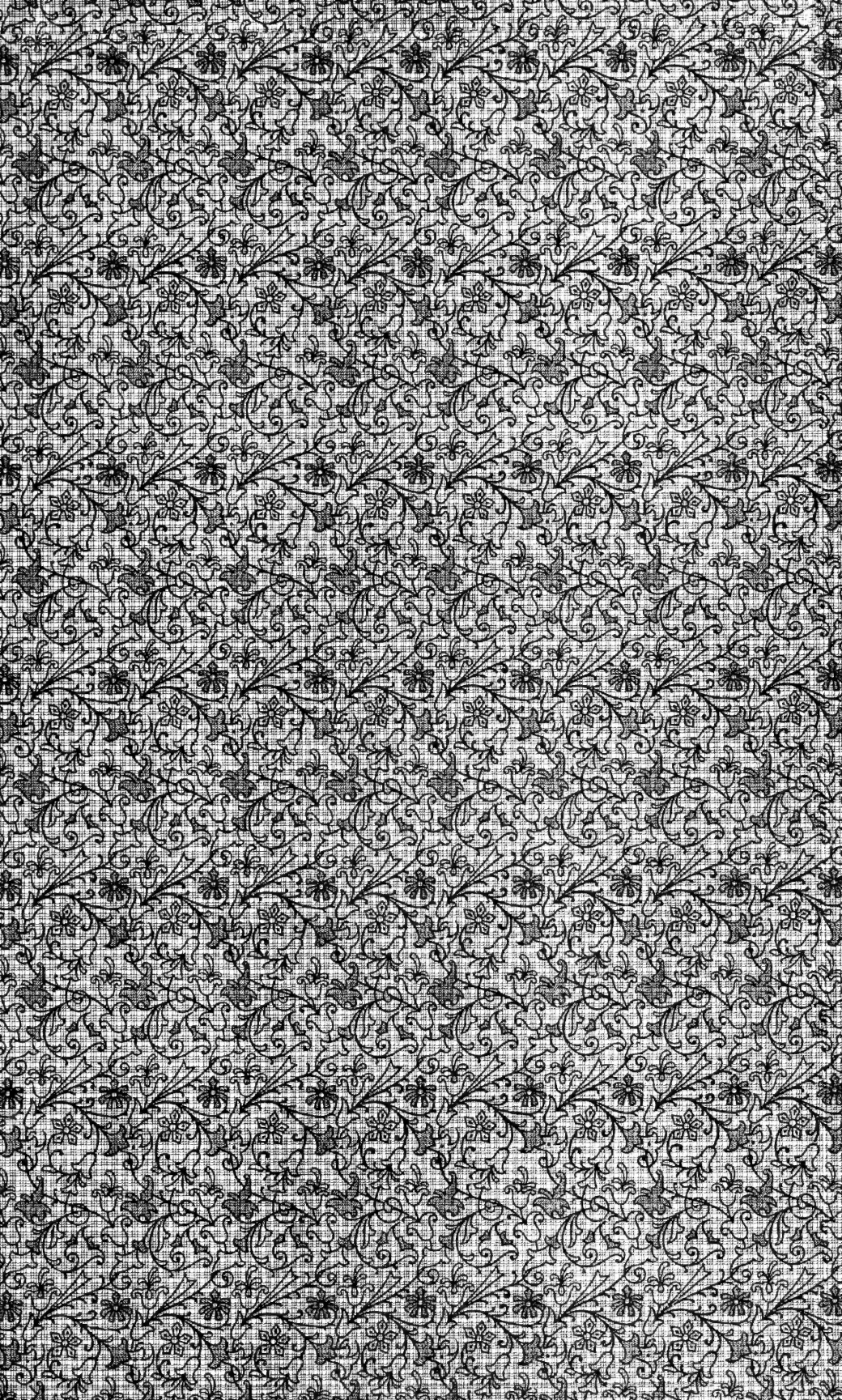














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