

**THE BRAHMA
FOWL: A
MONOGRAPH**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649027163

The Brahma Fowl: A Monograph by Lewis Wright

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

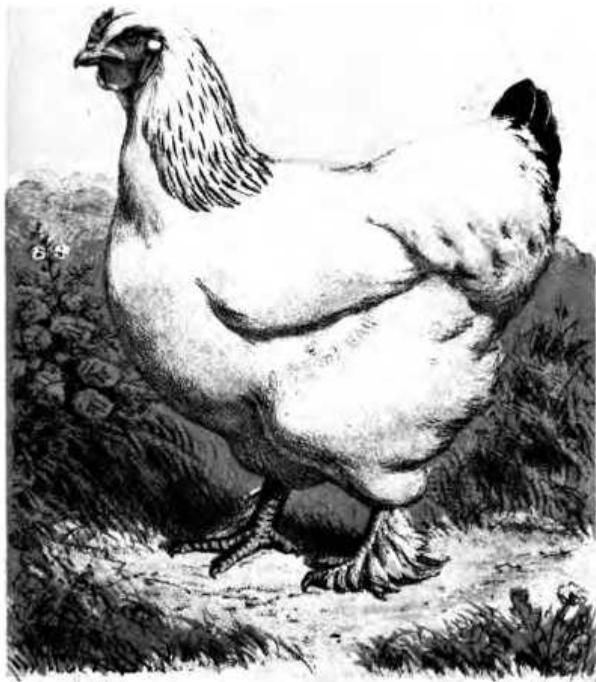
Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

LEWIS WRIGHT

**THE BRAHMA
FOWL: A
MONOGRAPH**

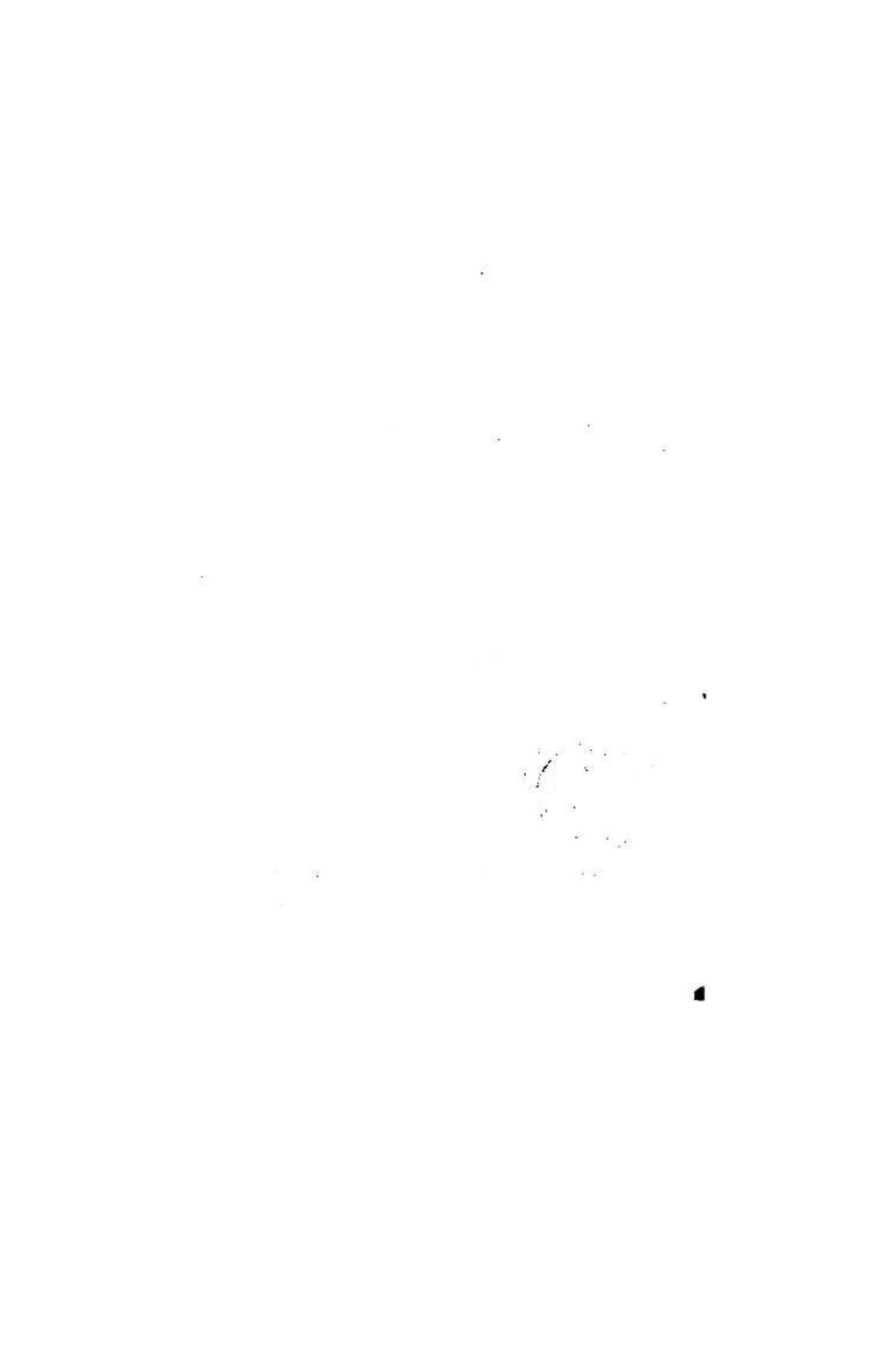


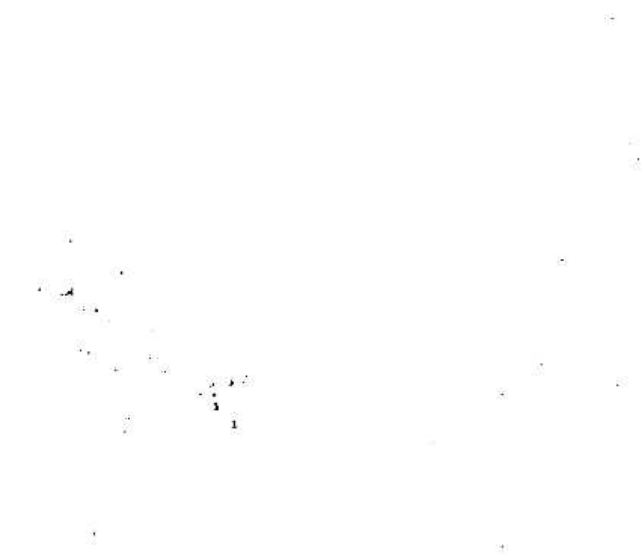
Drawn by E.C. Larnes.

J. Luvers, Litho. Bristol.

LIGHT BRAHMA HEN,

BRED & EXHIBITED BY MR F. CROOK.





THE
BRAHMA FOWL:
A MONOGRAPH.

BY
LEWIS WRIGHT,
AUTHOR OF "THE PRACTICAL POULTRY-KEEPER."



LONDON:
CASSELL, PETTER, AND GALPIN, LUDGATE HILL;
AND
"JOURNAL OF HORTICULTURE AND COTTAGE GARDENER"
OFFICE, 171, FLEET STREET.

1870.

189. f. 36.

PREFACE.

THIS little work, whatever its merits or defects, was not written from a poultry-fancier's mere unconsidered enthusiasm for his favorite fowl. After much study of many breeds, and considerable experience in many ways, we had come to the conclusion that the Brahma—though not perfect, or even suitable for every purpose—is upon the whole best adapted to the English climate, and occupies a position among poultry similar to that of the Shorthorn among other races of cattle. It will thrive and pay where no other can be kept in health ; and as a purveyor—not of the *very* choicest—but of choice, honest, solid food, it is what Miss Watts has said, “about the best fowl we have ever had.”

We have however found that the breed has been often misunderstood, both as to its qualities and management, so that even its merits have been converted into defects. We have found also, that no fowl is more difficult to breed to an exhibition standard ; and we still have dozens of complaints from purchasers who have procured the very best birds quite

regardless of expense, and have only succeeded in breeding "trash," for want of knowledge how to mate them. And these two branches of the subject are intimately connected. We have long been fully persuaded that the knowledge, enthusiasm, and patient perseverance of the *fancier* are highly necessary to improve and maintain any breed in perfection for even the utilitarian. This fact is often forgotten, and the statement of it may be met with ridicule now. But we do assert that even the poultry-fancy may be carried on in the reverent spirit of earnest *work*, and that we know some who are really seeking in this way, not alone to amuse their leisure, but in the fear of God to benefit the community of which they form a part.

And therefore we have thought it worth while to give time, and thought, and labor, even to a book about "nothing but Brahmas." We hope to help the mere fancier. But we hope also, indirectly to increase the resources of the farmer: we hope to add to the luxuries of the breakfast-table: we hope—far, far more—to cheapen, if it may be, wholesome food, for some striving middle-class families.

Whether any personal apology be needful for attempting such a task, we do not know. Cut off hitherto by the disadvantages of a very small town yard from most of the honors of exhibition, we can only say that we have studied the fowl

quietly and lovingly at very close quarters, often stroking down a favorite pullet as we would a cat. We have found there was much to learn about them—much character in them. By degrees our opinion has come to be valued and sought: we have had opportunities of study and comparison in many other yards: and many a cup has been ascribed—in terms much beyond our real desert—to the slight services we have been enabled at different times to render. The personal solicitations of friends thus acquired, are partly answerable for the publication of this book.

We have, however, to acknowledge assistance from many, especially those whose names appear in different places; and to Mr. Teebay in particular our obligations are much greater than can be here expressed. Much of our own earliest and soundest knowledge of the fowl has been derived from him; and he has taken an interest in this attempt at an exposition of his old and favorite breed, which could have been less expected of a fancier than of a personal friend. This might indeed be said of almost all, and has cheered us on in an undertaking, which has greatly exceeded in extent either our intentions or expectations when we began.

Some one once wrote a good essay "Concerning things which cannot go on," including his own composition amongst the number; and so, very possibly, our readers may think