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The Variation of Animals and Plants Under Domestication, Vol. I

By Charles Darwin

RareBooksClub. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 184 pages. Dimensions: 9.6in. x 7.4in. x 0.6in. Excerpt: . . . the eggs of each can almost always be recognised. The eggs of differently sized breeds naturally differ much in size; but, apparently, not always in strict relation to the size of the hen: thus the Malay is a larger bird than the Spanish, but generally she produces not such large eggs; white Bantams are said to lay smaller eggs than other Bantams; 396 white Cochins, on the other hand, as I hear from Mr. Tegetmeier, certainly lay larger eggs than buff Cochins. The eggs, however, of the different breeds vary considerably in character; for instance, Mr. Ballance states³⁹⁷ that his Malay pullets of last year laid eggs equal in size to those of any duck, and other Malay hens, two or three years old, laid eggs very little larger than a good-sized Bantams egg. Some were as white as a Spanish hens egg, and others varied from a light cream-colour to a deep rich buff, or even to a brown. The shape also varies, the two ends being much more equally rounded in Cochins than in Games or Polish. Spanish fowls lay smoother eggs...



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