

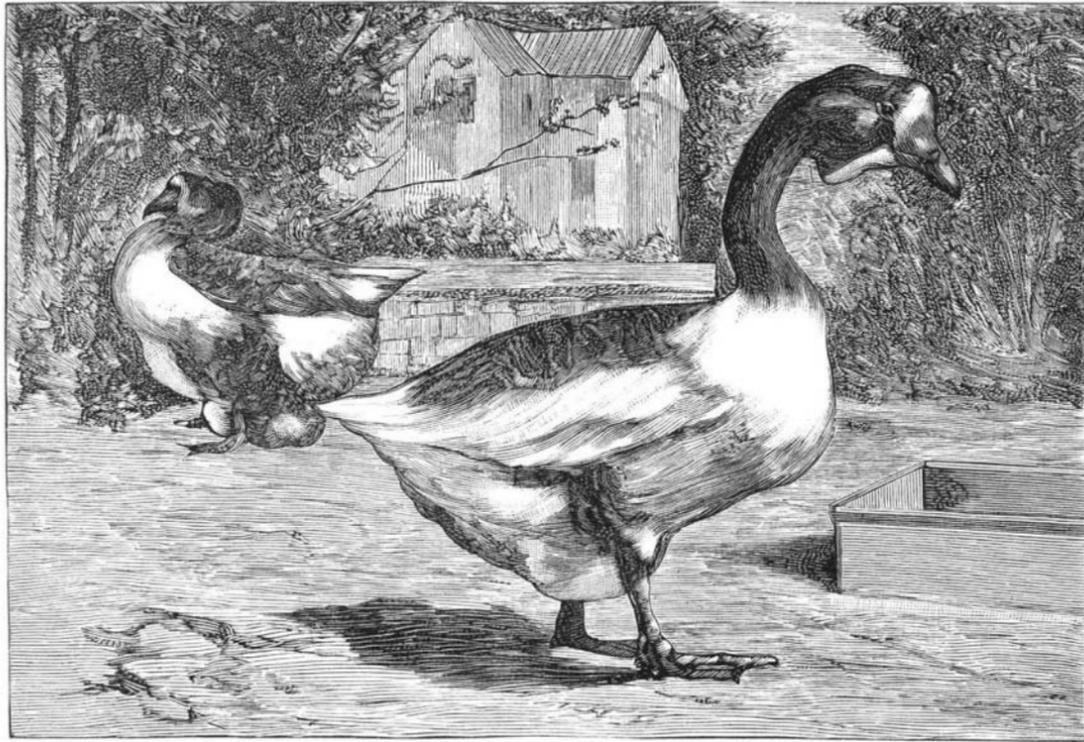
MADAGASCAR GEESE.

At the beginning of the present year, Mr. E. Lemoine, of Crosne, one of our most distinguished breeders, received a pair of geese from Madagascar, the first of the species that have been introduced into France. These birds figured with distinction at the last general agricultural exhibition at Paris, and are now getting along thrivingly in the beautiful park of their owner.

According to data gathered by Mr. Lemoine, these fowl are called "royal geese" in Madagascar. They are quite rare at Tananarive, where they are considered as fancy birds. They are worth no less than \$12 per pair. The ones under consideration are seventeen months old. They were given by the instructor-general of the Malgash troops to a Mr. Gregory, who brought them to France. They started from Tananarive on the 15th of August, 1886, and were carried on a man's back to Tamatave (a journey of seven days), and remained there three months exposed to a torrid heat. On the 20th of November they were shipped on the steamer Erymanthe, which carried them to Reunion, where they were transferred to the Sydney. Here they suffered to such a degree from the narrowness of their cage that, on crossing the equator, Mr. Gregory thought he would be obliged to throw them overboard. From Port Said to Marseilles a violent tempest made its effects felt, while at the same time it became intensely cold. The geese were landed at Marseilles on the 17th of December. From what precedes, we may conclude that these birds have a very vigorous constitution, and that they are extremely hardy. Since they have been in Mr. Lemoine's possession it has been found that they will tolerate various sorts of grain—wheat, oats, buckwheat, corn, etc. It remains to learn the result of egg laying, as regards quantity and fecundation. The plumage of

these birds is gray above and white and gray on the rest of the body. Their feet are very strong, and their body is somewhat squat. The shape of the bill has a great analogy with that of the Guinea goose.

The male weighs twenty-two pounds and the female nineteen. At the same age, the Toulouse male goose



MADAGASCAR GEESE.

weighs, on an average, seventeen pounds and the female about the same. The female has laid eight eggs, one of which was broken by her. One of these weighed nine ounces and the six others eight ounces on an average. These eggs, unfortunately, proved infertile. Two of them were submitted to an incubation of thirty-two days, and the five others remained under a turkey hen for forty days. Does the infertility depend upon a change of climate, or upon the age of the birds? This is what the future is to teach us. Mr. Lemoine is in hopes of obtaining a brood next year. A crossing of these colossal birds with our common geese would improve the latter considerably.—*La Nature.*

than is exhibited in the tomb of Mr. Jay Gould, in Woodlawn Cemetery, near this city. It is copied after the famous *Maison Carré*, at Nimes, France, built some two thousand years ago, and which is the best preserved and most beautiful specimen of Grecian architecture in existence.

Our artist, in the selection of the view he has chosen for showing the structure to good advantage, has exhibited good taste, but a wood engraving, even though as artistic as this is, fails to picture the full beauty of this handsome marble structure, with its graceful Ionic columns, reared upon a grass-covered knoll, where it commands a striking view of the surrounding country.

State Regulation of Commerce.

The Supreme Court of Vermont lately held unconstitutional a statute requiring a license of a person peddling tea, the growth of a foreign country. (*State vs. Pratt.*) The court cited with approval the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Welton vs. Missouri*, in which the latter court held that where the business or occupation for which a license is required consists in the sale of goods, the license tax is upon the goods themselves, and held unconstitutional a statute of Missouri requiring a license of peddlers selling goods not the growth, product, or manufacture of that State. The Vermont court said: The same rule, obviously, must apply to a statute which permits the free sale of goods of Vermont growth, but taxes the sale of those grown in foreign countries, inasmuch as the clause giving to Congress the power to regulate commerce specified interstate and foreign commerce in the same section.

JAY GOULD'S TOMB.

Probably no cemetery in this country can boast of a more classical specimen of mortuary architecture



JAY GOULD'S TOMB IN WOODLAWN.