

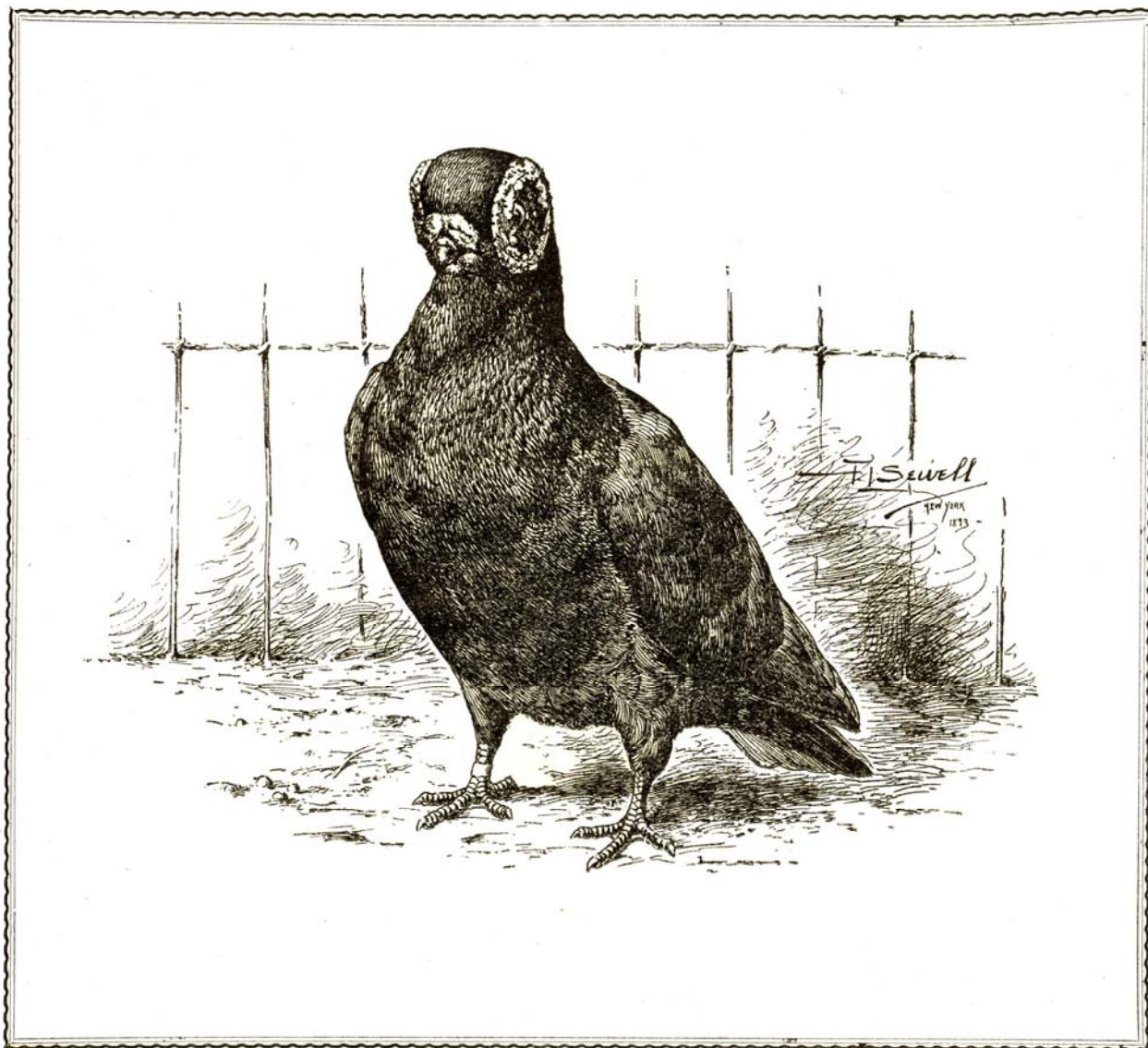


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VOL. VII.

BALTIMORE, MD., FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1893.

NO. 13.

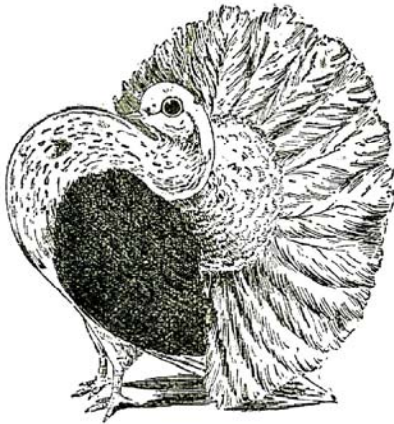


Red Barb Cock.

OWNED BY W. W. WHITE, BALTIMORE, MD.

WINNER OF FIRST AT NEW YORK, 1893

Mountainside Lofts.



.
HAVEMEYER BROS.,

Proprietors,

MAHWAY, ~ ~ ~ ~ N. J.

—BREEDERS AND IMPORTERS OF—

Fantails} In all Colors and Kinds.

White, Blue, Silver, Black, Red, Yellow, Silkies, Saddles in all colors, colored with White Tails and White with Colored Tails. Having mated up what we require for breeding purposes, we have a number of all varieties for disposal. Cash must accompany order, and value guaranteed for money received. For further particulars, address JOHN GLASGOW, Manager.

WINNERS—1892-3.

1892.—Jacobins, Owls, Turbits, Reading; Jacobins and Owls, Philadelphia; Turbits and Owls, Louisville; Carriers and Owls, New York.

1893.—Short-faced Tamblers, Barbs, Muff Tumblers Magpies, Dragons, Owls, Turbits, Philadelphia; Turbits and Tumblers, New York.

FOUST'S CANKER CURE.

—
The Standard Remedy.

—
Get it at Once.

—
Fifty Cents—Free by Mail.

TUMBLERS, ETC.

Most of the fanciers have met their requirements for the season, and to such as have bought of me I return my thanks. We are now importing a stud of muffed Tumblers for a member of the club, and the next consignment, due in early June, will consist of an extraordinary lot, nearly 50 pairs, all muffed, with muffs from 2 to 4 inches, and consisting of red, yellow, black and white selfs and black and red mottles. These are grand birds, and I have made an exceptionally good bargain with one of the most prominent fanciers of Birmingham, and propose to give my customers the benefit of it. They will be sold at from \$7.50 to \$10 per pair. Write at once and find out all about them. You will want some. We now have a nice stock of beautiful white booted Tumblers. If you have not seen them you can have no idea of their great beauty—spotless white, not a foul feather in them, clear pearl eyes and clear beaks. The price for the summer is now further reduced—from \$5, \$7.50, \$10

per pair. All according to length of foot feathering. Also a fine pair of yellow splashed Inside Tumblers. They cannot raise off the floor without tumbling—price \$5 for the pair, as pretty a pair as ever lived. Short-faced Tumblers of the renowned Gaddess strain—at Philadelphia showed almond cock, yellow hen, both 1st in good competition. All these birds will win in the keenest competition. Price, almond cock, prize-winner, \$8; almond cocks, never shown, as good as the winner, \$6; kite cock \$4; yellow cocks \$6; red Bald \$3; white splashed yellow \$2; almond hens \$6; yellow hen, winner, \$8; kite hens \$4; black hens \$2. Take advantage of these prices and let me send you a pair. The price can never be equalled for the quality. It frequently happens that Mr. Stanfield sends me over some birds in excess of what I can sell, and now, to make them go more quickly, I shall make the following offer: There are 30 pairs of black Magpies—their blood is equal to any in the Kingdom, and these will breed you birds that will win anywhere—only the one color, black—and they cost me to import just \$5.79 a pair. Now to reduce stock somewhat I will sell a few pairs at the cost price—so remember you can get a grand pair of black Magpies for exactly just what they cost me—\$5.79 a pair. I advise you not to miss this chance. Then, again, Mr. Stanfield sometimes sends me some varieties that have not been introduced long enough to be popular—for instance, short-faced Show Antwerps. Those that have never seen them can have any idea of their great beauty. Any one who admires a Carrier or a Barb will like them—massive in size, grand round head, extra stout in beak. They cost me \$8.68 a pair to import—are worth \$25 at any time—but to popularize them will sell a few pair at \$8.68, the actual cost. Then we have some nice Barbs, grand 1892 rung, champion bred—dun hen at the last Philadelphia Show first in the young class. You cannot buy as good as these anywhere for less than \$20 each, but will sell single birds at \$6.75 each, or \$13.50 a pair. I am compelled to sacrifice these at cost prices, as there don't appear to be many fanciers who breed this grand bird. At this price it is almost like giving them to you. In fact, will cut my prices on all my birds for the next three months. Will sell a nice pair of Pigmy Pouters for \$7.50, blue and blue and silver. English Owls, blue and silver, Stanfield's Champion Cup Strain—none other kept—\$8 per pair; old show birds at \$15 per pair. A splendid pair of blue African Owls at \$7.50. An extra white cock, a gem, will win anywhere. \$12.50, a bargain for some one, as he is worth at least \$25. My imported Jacobins show wonderful hood properties. You can get a Jack good most anyway except hood. These will work up that desirable quality for you. Will sell single birds cock or hen, at \$8 each, red cocks, red and black hens only. Our most prominent fanciers have bought individual birds of this strain, and some have three and four pairs. Mr. Stanfield bought out one of the leading studs of Dragons in England—reds and yellows only. The party was going abroad and Mr. Stanfield secured the lot—he said there were none better than these—you ought to see them. Such yellow and red, for

depth of color, I have never seen—stout beak, wedge-shaped head. Showed two hens at Philadelphia—one hen showed in cock class—and took 2d—other hen, in her own class, 1st. There are several odd hens to dispose of, also, one black hen with a phenomenal good head, prices \$10 each—their average value in England is \$5 each. A nice pair of white Dragons at \$8 the pair. There are a small stud of Pouters on the way over, mostly birds that have won prizes this last winter, red, black and blue pied. Should be pleased to correspond with any one who wants something extra fine at a very moderate price—are to arrive about middle of June. Have a few pairs of very good Pouters on hand, blue-pied \$6 to \$8 per pair, red imported cock \$5, white imported cock \$6—worth more than double. Turbits we have a large lot breeding, but all are for sale—the 1st prize blue cock at Philadelphia was sold for \$50. Have 6 or 7 blue Turbits brothers to the above winner and all mated with nice hens, and will be sold cheap—they are right on top and will win in the best of company. Write me if you want show birds in black, blue, red, yellow, dun, etc. Good stock birds at \$10 per pair. Have some 1892-fung red and yellow cocks, extra head and show points—this year will be right in it and fit for the highest show—prices very reasonable considering quality. In addition to winners at Reading, Louisville, Philadelphia and New York, I have also sold birds that have won 1st at some of our best shows, such as Louisville, etc., all for sale, so write me at once. Black mottled Trumpeter hens at \$3.50 each, grand birds in rose and foot-feathering. Now I have made the above prices low to encourage trade during the dull summer months, and you will find any of them a bargain you cannot duplicate elsewhere for two or three times the money.

GEORGE FOUST,
Rhinebeck, - New York.

H. Tiemann & Co.

572½ GAY STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

IMPORTERS, BREEDERS AND DEALERS IN

All Kinds of Fancy



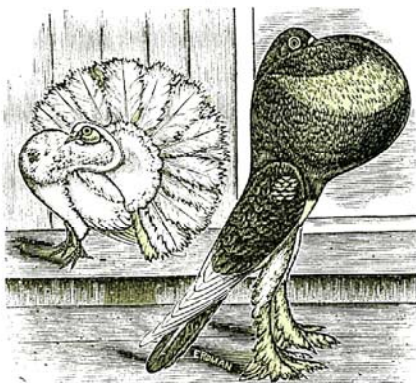
PIGEONS, POULTRY, PET STOCK, BIRDS, ETC.

WINNERS OF THE LATE CHARLESTON, S. C., SHOW FOR SALE:

Black Carrier, cock, winner of 1st, \$10.00; dun Carriers, cock and hen, winners of 1st, \$15.00 per pair; yellow Pouter hen and red cock, (mate not shown) winner of 1st, \$15.00 per pair; sandy cock, winner of 1st, yellow hen, mated to sandy cock, \$10.00 per pair; pair of blue Swallows, winners, of 2d, \$5.00; pair of Archangels, winners of 2d, \$5.00; pair of black Nuns, winners of 1st, \$8.00; pair of black Magpies, winners of 1st, \$6.00. Also the baldhead Tumblers and Priests at \$10.00 per pair.

The above birds are first-class, and the best stock that can be had. Also a grand lot of wing Turbits which we recently purchased from Mr. E. H. Sanford, some of them will be sold at \$3.00 per pair. Also Jacobins, Pouters, Archangels, Tumblers, Barbs, Trumpeters, Owls, Highflyers and Homers; all must be sold. Write for prices.

ANDREW MUEHLIG,
ANN ARBOR, - MICH.



On 11 ea tries in Red, White and Blue

POUTERS:-

at the Nashville (Tenn.) Show, 1892, my birds were awarded the following: 1, 3, 4, Blue Cocks; 1, 3, Red Cocks; 1, White Cocks; 1, 4, Blue Hens; 1, 2, Red Hens; 1, 2, White Hens, and special for best pair Pouters in the show. On ten entries in red, white and blue Pouters at New York Show, March, 1893, 1st and 2d blue cocks, 1st red cocks, 2d white cocks, 1st blue hens, 1st and 2d white hens, 1st red hens.

Special for best Pouter in the Show.
" " collection "
" " red Pouter "
" " blue Pouter "
" " white Pouter "

Closing out my Booted and Crested White Fans—Only 2 Pair left—Good Birds

Breeder and Importer of FANCY PIGEONS.

Just arrived a large importation of many varieties of Pigeons.

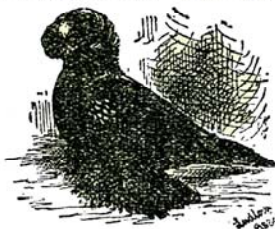
Send for Catalogue and prices.

H. W. VAHLE,

319 MARKET ST. AND 46 N. 9TH ST.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

F. A. ROMMEL,
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—BREEDER OF—

RUSSIAN

(OR BOKHARA)

Trumpeters.

A. B. HOSKINS,

GLEN RIDDLE,

DELAWARE CO., - - - PENNA



RECORD FOR 1893.

At Philadelphia's great Show my

JACOBINS

won nine first premiums out of twelve given, and at New York, where were exhibited the finest collection of pigeons ever seen in this country, 8 firsts out of ten given. Birds for sale in all colors. Prices reasonable, considering quality and satisfaction guaranteed.

EDWARD PHILA.
FINEST QUALITY.

THE FANCIER.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY.

JOHN D. ABEL & CO.,

+Publishers+

12 N. HOLLIDAY STREET,

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (in advance):

\$2.00 Per Annum. \$1.00 for Six Months.

Foreign Subscriptions, 10s.

The above rate includes payment of postage by us. Subscriptions can commence at any time during the year.

Always write your name, postoffice address, county and state plainly.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES:

Ten cents per line for first insertion.
Eight cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

	13 times.	26 times.	52 times.
1 inch.....	\$ 8 00	\$14 00	\$20 00
2 inches.....	14 00	25 00	36 00
3 inches.....	20 00	36 00	50 00
1 column.....	25 00	45 00	62 00
1 column.....	45 00	60 00	100 00

Twelve lines nonpareil (this size) type make one inch.

Transient advertising payable in advance. Yearly advertisements payable quarterly in advance. Advertisements contracted for a year at yearly rates, if withdrawn before the expiration of the year, must be paid for at regularly advertised rates.

Advertisements, with remittance for same, should reach us not later than the first mail of Wednesday preceding the day of publication, in order to insure proper classification and display.

Address all letters, and make checks, drafts and postoffice orders payable to

JOHN D. ABEL & CO., Baltimore, Md.

THE FANCIER will be supplied by newsdealers throughout the United States and Canada.

The trade supplied by the Baltimore News Co.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1893.

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Muehlig, John Glasgow.

SHOWS.

PIGEONS.—First grand exclusively pigeon show of the American Pigeon Club, to be held at Baltimore, Md., November 30th to December 5th, 1893, inclusive.

EDITORIALS.

OUR ILLUSTRATION.—We present to our readers this week the red Barb cock first at New York this year, and which is the pride of its owner, the well-known Baltimore Barb fancier, Mr. W. W. White. This was the first time he was exhibited. He is the father of the yellow cock that won first prize and special at New York in 1890 for the best Barb bred in 1889. This yellow cock has the honor of being the first pigeon sent from the United States to a show in England. At the Crystal Palace, in November, 1890, in a class for blacks bred in 1889, he received "highly commended," this class numbering fourteen. He is the father of the black cock that won first prize and special at Cincinnati, O., in 1891, for the best Barb bred in 1890. He is the father of the red hen that won first prize and special at Louisville, Ky., in 1892, for the best Barb bred in 1891. He is the grandfather of the black cock that won first prize at New York, in 1893, for the best Barb bred in 1892, the father being the Cincinnati winner of 1891, now the property of Dr. Rittenhouse, of Reading, Pa. The progeny of this old red cock have never been beaten in the show pen.

A. P. C. SPECIALS.—We want to particularly call the attention of all the members of specialty clubs throughout the country to the novel and original inducements offered by the American Pigeon Club to these clubs to meet with them at their first show, to be held in Baltimore November 30 to December 5, inclusive. These

clubs are of recent formation and are progressive bodies, and, true to its principles, the A. P. C. is going to encourage them by presenting an easy way for them to make a nice snug sum of money. No specialty club can afford to stay away or refuse to meet at this show, for, by meeting with it, they place just so many cash dollars into the coffers of their treasury. Every member of a specialty club should at once appoint himself a committee of one to get his club to meet in Baltimore, at the first show of the American Pigeon Club. New specialty clubs should be formed by fanciers whose varieties have no club as yet and avail themselves of the opportunity to win a prize, as the A. P. C.'s inducement applies to all organized specialty clubs, regardless of the numbers in membership. The clubs could offer the amount they would win among their own members on the per cent. basis, and give a first prize of, say, fifty per cent. for the largest exhibit by a member of the club, thirty per cent. for the best bird shown by a member of the club, and so on, or in any other way that the club might think best. This is only one way that the club's members would be benefited, and the interest and enthusiasm, it is safe to say, will be doubly increased for each variety, no matter what plan is adopted. A good idea, too, would be for the members, if they choose, to divide the amount equally among their members who exhibited, thus making their entry fee cost only fifty cents per bird (the entry fee will be \$1.00). With liberal classification, good prizes, first-class judges and such an incentive to clubs to meet with the American Pigeon Club, we cannot see how the specialty clubs can afford to miss it.

And still one more. Now it is the glad tidings that we are to have an Archangel Club if the breeders of this beautiful variety will only pull together. So far the two most prominent fanciers of this country have signified their willingness to join such a club, and both are willing to subscribe towards a cup on Archangels. There are, at least, a dozen breeders of this variety in the country, and, if all join, we are confident that many new recruits would be added to the fanciers and breeders of the Archangel.

"Chats about Pigeon Fanciers" is the title of a new volume of pigeon literature emanating from the pen of H. Kendrick, Jr., and published by the Fanciers' Gazette, London, England. As the title suggests, it is more of a biographical review of fanciers and their pets than of the different varieties of pigeons and their various wants, although the author gives a chapter on shows and showing at the beginning of the work and winds up with a capital article on pigeon keeping, stocking, feeding and general management, and the Working Homer. The biographical reviews are very pleasing and chatty and afford the fanciers of the old as well as of this country to become better acquainted with the most prominent lights in the pigeon fancy of England. The cuts are excellent. The price of this interesting little volume is one shilling, and can be had of the publishers, 54 57 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, Eng.

In answer to "A Member of the A. C. A.," we would state that all we know about the letter in last issue of THE FANCIER, from the president of the A. C. A., is that we received a letter with

the communication published, from which we quote the following: "As I have sent the same to the other pigeon papers of this country, I send it to you and would thank you to publish it in your next issue." Acting upon this, we gave the matter publicity, but were surprised not to find it in any of the other papers, all of which go to press a day later than THE FANCIER.

A writer in Feathered World says: "I am a constant subscriber to the Feathered World, and along with many of my friends appreciate its varied bill of fare very much, but never more so than in the recent numbers which contained illustrations from your Baltimore contemporary of our 'kith and kin' beyond the sea, of Mr. Gilbert's Fantail Princess. These are pictures of real birds and a pleasure to look upon, far before the dummy article which seems drawn up from a set-up in some village museum, well enough, no doubt, for breeders of a certain type to model from in accordance with mechanical rules, but generally destitute of easy grace and true beauty. Many of your readers would be glad of more pictures and fewer shop models."

A. C. A. MEETING.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

The last issue of THE FANCIER at hand and it is a dandy. Among the interesting news of the pigeon world, I notice that the president of the A. C. A. states that this association will hold its show in Baltimore, but failed to find a similar notice in the other papers. By what authority does the president assert that the association will hold its meeting in Baltimore? I have always been under the impression that the executive committee was the body to say where the association should meet. When did the executive committee meet, and where? If such was held, why was it not published, as is required, by the chairman of the executive committee?

A MEMBER OF THE A. C. A.

AMERICAN PIGEON CLUB'S

OFFERS TO SPECIALTY CLUBS.

Recognizing the importance of the attendance of specialty clubs and their exhibit at and with the national shows, the A. P. C. offers to each specialty club which meets with them at their initial exhibition at Baltimore, November 30, to December 5.

For 25 entries by club members, \$10.

" 50	"	"	"	"	25.
" 75	"	"	"	"	35.
" 100	"	"	"	"	50.
" 125	"	"	"	"	60.
" 150	"	"	"	"	75.
" 175	"	"	"	"	85.
" 200	"	"	"	"	100.
" 225	"	"	"	"	110.
" 250	"	"	"	"	125.
" 275	"	"	"	"	135.
" 300	"	"	"	"	150.

Money to be paid over to Secretary of each club at close of the exhibition, when other premiums are paid. To be eligible for competition, specialty clubs must officially notify the American Pigeon Club of their intention to meet with it not later than August 1st.

JOHN H. KUHN, Presd't.

A. P. C. CLASSIFICATION.

CLASSES FOR THE GREAT SHOW TO BE HELD AT BALTIMORE.

POUTERS.—Black or blue cock, red or yellow cock, any other color cock; hens, do.

CARRIERS.—Black or dun cock, blue or white cock, red or yellow cock; hens, do. Young class, black, dun or white cock, red, yellow or blue cock; hens, do.

BARBS.—Black or dun cock, red or yellow cock; hens, do.; white cock or hen. Young class, any color cock or hen.

S. F. TUMBLERS.—Almond or kite cock, agate or wholefeather cock. mottle, splash or rosewing cock; hens, do. Young class, best cock or hen bred '93.

S. F. BALD OR BEARD TUMBLERS.—Black or red cock, any other color cock; hens, do.

FANTAILS.—English—White smoothhead plainleg cock; hens, do. Scotch—White smoothhead plainleg cock; hen, do. English or Scotch—White crested smoothleg cock, hen do; white, booted, crested or plainhead cock; hen, do. Colored—Black or blue plainleg smoothhead cock, red or yellow plainleg smoothhead cock, hens do.; black or blue crested plainleg cock, red or yellow crested plainleg cock, hens do.; black or blue booted, smoothhead or crested cock, red or yellow booted, smoothhead or crested cock, hens do. Saddlebacks—Any standard color cock, any standard color hen. White Fans, colored tails—Any standard color cock, any standard color hen. Young Bird Classes—White English cock or hen plainhead cleanleg, white Scotch cock or hen plainhead cleanleg, any other variety cock or hen English or Scotch,

black or blue plainhead cleanleg cock or hen, red or yellow plainhead cleanleg cock or hen, black, blue, red or yellow crested cleanleg cock or hen, black or blue booted crested or smoothhead cock or hen, red or yellow booted crested or smoothhead.

JACOBIANS.—Black or red cock, yellow or white cock, any other color cock; hens, do.; blue cock or hen.

TURBITS.—Wing—Black cock, blue cock, red cock, yellow cock, any other color cock; hens, do. Young Class—Black cock or hen, blue cock or hen, red cock or hen, yellow cock or hen. Tail—Best cock any color, hen do. Solid—Best cock any color, hens do.

OWLS.—English—Blue or silver cock, black, red or yellow cock, any other color cock; hens, do. Young class—blue, silver or white cock or hen, red, yellow or black cock or hen. African—Blue, silver or white cock, red, yellow or black cock; hens, do.; young class, blue, silver or white cock or hen, red, yellow or black cock or hen. Chinese—Black or white cock, blue or silver cock, hens do.; young class, black or white cock or hen, blue or silver cock or hen.

DRACONS.—Grizzle, chequer, blue or silver cock, red, yellow, black or white cock; hens, do.; young class, any color cock, any color hen.

RUSSIAN TRUMPETERS.—Black or mottle cock, any other color cock; hens, do.

BLONDIETTES.—Laced cock any color, barred or arrow-pointed cock any color; hens, do.; young class, best bird, cock or hen.

SATINETTES, Brunettes, Bluettes and Silverettes.—Best cock, best hen; best cock or hen bred in '93.

DOMINO, Vizor, Turbiteen or Oriental Turbits.—Best cock, best hen.

SWALLOWS.—Black or blue (barred or barless) cock, red or yellow cock; hens, do. Full head white-barred—Black or blue cock or hen, red or yellow cock or hen. Snipped and Plainhead—Best cock, best hen.

MAGPIES.—Black or blue cock, red or yellow cock; hens, do. Cock or hen bred 1893, any color.

NUNS.—Black cock or hen; red or yellow cock or hen.

LONG-FACED TUMBLERS.—Badge cock, any color, Saddle cock any color, Muffleg cock any color, Cleanleg cock any color; hens, do. Any variety bred in '93, cock or hen.

INSIDE TUMBLERS.—Best cock any color, best hen any color.

PRIESTS.—White barred—Black or blue cock, red or yellow cock; hens, do.

SHIELD TRUMPETERS.—White-barred—Black or blue cock, red or yellow cock; hens, do.

SHIELDS.—White-barred—Any color cock or hen.

QUAKERS.—White-barred—Any color cock or hen.

STARLINGS.—White-barred—Any color cock or hen.

PIGMY POUTERS.—Any color cock, any color hen.

ARCHANGELS.—Any color cock, any color hen.

S. F. ANTWERPS.—Any color cock, any color hen.

RUNTS.—Any color cock or hen.

ICE OR FIREBACK.—Best cock or hen.

HELMETS AND MOREHEADS.—Best cock or hen.

HOMERS.—Best cock, best hen.

ALL VARIETIES NOT CLASSIFIED.—Best cock, best hen.

New ads. this week: McClure, Fogleson and McLean.

CLASSIFICATION.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

I was very agreeably surprised when I received the last issue of THE FANCIER and noticed that the A. P. C. had taken the final step and decided to hold an exclusive pigeon show. I also see that you have taken the only course by which a pigeon show can be made a success—the offering of a liberal classification. It is all very well for Rounder and your Boston correspondent to talk of limited classification and premiums on the per cent. basis, but when you get down to business and begin counting the number of your entries you will find that they are not there—like the flea when one tries to catch him. I have had some experience with premiums on the per cent. plan myself, as superintendent of the pigeon department in our State Poultry and Pigeon Show. I entered twenty-three birds, paying \$5 50 in entrance fees, and winning twenty firsts, two seconds and one fourth, with 161 birds on exhibition. My winnings amounted to just \$2.37. My birds, too, were entered in the most popular classes—Turbits, Owls, Jacobins and Tumblers. This is my last per cent. show.

Now, if I remember aright, one of your correspondents gave the following little stingy classification for African Owls: Blue cock, blue hen, any other color cock, any other color hen. I would like to see the show that had the gall to offer such a classification which I would help by making an entry. If you must be limited in your classification, I do not see how we could possibly get along with anything less than the following in the Owl classes, viz., best white cock, white hen, blue or silver cock, blue or silver hen, yellow cock, yellow hen, any other color cock, any other color hen. I think any one who has bred Owls will readily see what a handicap it is for a yellow to compete in the any other color class.

In Tail Turbits, I believe, he gives us the liberal (?) classification of best cock any color, best hen any color. Now we might get along with the following: Black cock, black hen, any other color cock, any other color hen. I would like to ask Mr. Levering if his specials on Turbits include solid and tail Turbits, if they are better than the wing birds. Say the first prize black-wing cock, first prize black tail cock and first prize solid-black cock compete together for Mr. Levering's special. This would make a sweepstake and give every one a chance; besides, it would be a greater honor to win.—C. W. BUTTLES.

A TRIP TO EVANSVILLE.

BY C. J. TANNER.

[Owing to a transposition of the matter, making nonsense, and in order to set all things right, the latter portion of this article is reproduced.]

I have lengthened this article considerably more than I expected to dwelling on the respective merits of these grand Fans, and yet have not said a word about the youngsters, of which Mr. Gilbert has dozens. A pair in every nest was the order of things, and which made me feel, by comparison, very blue, for if I raise one-third of my Turbits which hatch I think I have been remarkably successful. Of the young on the floor Mr. Gilbert has some particularly choice specimens, a couple of which were immediately selected as future winners by Mr. Kuhn upon entering the loft. The Colonel agreed that, among the fifteen or twenty young already out, the two referred to were his choice of the bunch. One is out of Mr. and Baby Blair, and has already acquired the art of placing the top ridge of its chest on a line with its toes. The other, out of the Lee cock and a Derby hen, has excessive spread of tail and short back, but hardly so much style as the Blair bird. Both of them possess diminutiveness, long thin heads and necks, narrow rumps and well-rounded, expanding chests, and will be a strong team for the Scotch class of '93 youngsters at the first show of the American Pigeon Club.

After feasting our eyes to our heart's content on the rare selection of beauty confined in this loft, we adjourned to the dining-room, where a bounteous repast had been prepared under the supervision of the Colonel's handsome and accomplished wife. To this we did full justice, mincing matters the while with remarks on white Fantails, New York Show, faked tails and the prospective meet of the American Pigeon Club, to all of which Mrs. Gilbert lent a voice, being as well posted on pigeon topics as her spouse. Dinner over, we indulged a "Henry Clay" and a couple of hours was pleasantly spent in pigeon chat, at the conclusion of which we were whirled to the depot and bided us homeward, having spent as agreeable a Sunday as falls occasionally to the lot of a pigeon crank.

PIGEON ITEMS AROUND BOSTON.

BY OUR BOSTON CORRESPONDENT.

I do not know just how to answer Mr. Rittenhouse as to having classes for one-year old Barbs. It seems to me the deeper I go into the subject the further I am from the end. The line must be drawn somewhere, but there is surely a great deal of common sense in Mr. Rittenhouse's argument. I would like to see a classification that would embrace all these things, and hope to some time, but it is something we must wait for. It has not been long since young bird classes were given, and if too many ideas are put forward all at once more harm will come of it than good. As I am not a Barb breeder, I do not expect or wish my ideas to weigh as authority, and would like to have all the Barb fanciers express themselves on the subject. We do not hear enough from them. If they would all send an article to THE FANCIER and give their views I think it would benefit their variety in more ways than one. Mr. Rittenhouse has given us a new idea. Now let us hear from Messrs. Haven, Tiemann, Newell, White, Pick and others.

The idea of having challenge and champion classes struck me as being a great scheme, and I think this is something that should receive more than passing notice from all fanciers. What earthly show has the young fancier to ever win a first premium unless he has a bank account and can either buy some noted winner or send to England for them. No doubt a great many entries are lost at the leading shows just on this account. The young fancier reads about these wonderful birds and what they have won in the past, and he knows full well they will be entered at a certain show. Is he foolish enough to send his birds, which he has perhaps bred in his own loft, to compete against them. Oh, no, he will keep them at home and no one will ever know how good his birds are. If the old stagers could be made to compete in a challenge class all this would be done away with and we would have more new specimens in the regular classes. This is just and as it should be, and I hope to see others take up the idea and let us see what can be done to

have these classes in the shows to occur next winter.

By the present outlook Baltimore is to have more than their share of pigeon shows next winter. I have just been told by the Secretary of the American Columbarian Association that Mr. Levering has offered \$210 in specials for a show to be held in his city, to be competed for by 1893-bred birds of the different varieties, and THE FANCIER just at hand tells us the American Pigeon Club have decided to hold their show in Baltimore also. This seems too bad, for every one knows how much the New England fanciers want a show held in Boston. Unless both clubs can in some way combine and give one grand show, I hope one or the other will reconsider and come to Boston. This would divide things more equally.

While speaking of a combine, I would say I have heard a number of different opinions expressed lately, and they all hope the A. C. A. and A. P. C. will bury the hatchet once for all and join hands for the good of the fancy. This having two elements, and one continually backbiting the other, is doing more to harm both than anything else possibly can; and, as near as I can see, the gentlemen of both sides are ready and willing at any time to cry quits and have peace—I say the sooner the better for all concerned. Mr. Levering, as the president of the A. C. A., has offered specials for a show held in Baltimore; now let Mr. Kuhn, as president of the A. P. C., put up his specials for the same show; then have a committee appointed from each club to select a superintendent. This could be done, and I think to the satisfaction of all. Then every pigeon fancier in the country will patronize the show, as there can be no personal feeling or politics to keep them from doing so.

If the writer who requests in such a commanding way that I go around more and visit a few lofts that he knows of will send me his address I will be only too glad to call upon him, and, whether he keeps duffers or fancy pigeons, I will do the best I can to give the readers of THE FANCIER a description of them. As to the fanciers he tells me to call upon, I would say, in the first place, if he

would look over back numbers of THE FANCIER he would find I have already given a pretty good idea of what is contained in a few of them, and as to those I have not visited, I would say it is not through lack of desire to do so, but for want of time. I would suggest that this party who is so fond of kicking about what others should do call upon those fanciers he mentions and write up a description of their lofts and birds such as would be satisfactory to him. I am sure THE FANCIER will be pleased to give him space at any time. I would like him to distinctly understand that I am under no obligations to him or any other fancier, and claim the right to write about whoever I like. I am always ready and willing to give my readers all the news that comes to my notice, and have not been backward in putting out an idea of my own once in a while. I shall not follow suit to him and write what I know to be entirely false. As to the office I hold in the New England Pigeon Association, I can only say I have done my utmost to fill the position to the satisfaction of all, and if there are any dissatisfied members I have yet to hear from them, and would ask him to explain a little more fully what he means. I would also ask him to pray tell us who are the many "prominent members" who have withdrawn from the association because they were dissatisfied with the way it is run. I venture to say he cannot name more than one, and had that one explained his grievance at the time I am quite sure the trouble could have been adjusted to his satisfaction.

In conclusion, let me say to this gentleman, (?) who is trying to create ill-feeling among the members of the New England Pigeon Association, and who wishes to dictate what I shall do and what I shall not, first, you are simply taking pains for nothing, for I feel sure, should you disclose your name, every loyal member of the club would say you were no fit person to represent our association, and, for myself, I say fire ahead, find all the fault you can and sit up every night in the week to write something you think is smart, but don't run away with the idea that my nervous system is the least bit shattered, for I assure you I enjoy reading the writings of a fool, sometimes, as well as

those of an intelligent person. I have clipped the articles by "Hickey" and his brother from the Stock-Keeper and pasted them in my scrap-book, side by side.

THE REARING OF YOUNG PIGEONS.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.]

My objection to maize or Indian corn as a general dietary is pretty well known, though as an appetizer or relish a handful may be occasionally given.

Common pigeons, and those of the fancy kinds that have entire liberty, consume a large quantity of green food, especially during the spring and summer months, and it is partly to this fact that I attribute their comparative immunity from many of the ills that aviary-kept pigeons are especially liable to. An intelligent person will readily understand why and wherefore, for the anti-scorfulous and blood-purifying virtues of the green vegetables that pigeons mostly favor are well known. Cabbages, lettuce, dandelions, mustard and cress and other similar succulent plants are greedily devoured by pigeons, as any one in possession of a garden in close proximity to a dovecote will quickly discover.

For years I have supplied my aviary-kept pigeons with green food during the hot summer months, and counsel my readers having the welfare of their pets at heart to adopt a similar course. A few cabbage or lettuce leaves should be tied together and firmly fixed close to the ground, so that the birds may peck off their requirements in accordance with the dictates of their nature.

It is highly desirable that whatever green food is given should be freshly gathered, and the remains removed before any signs of decay are observable. Once or twice a week is often enough to provide pigeons with a supply of green food.

Saline and other matters are of far greater importance than is generally supposed, *i. e.*, if pigeons are to be kept in health. Every tissue of the body requires them, and the bones need their aid for construction and support. The natural desire and longing for these necessities is amply verified by the "salt-licks" of North America, to which large animals and birds resort for hundred of miles in

order that they may satisfy their cravings and obtain "salts" to enrich, cleanse and purify the blood. "Salts" of many kinds are found in the bodies of animals and birds, the principal one being chloride of sodium (common salt). Potassium and lime salts are also essential, the latter being of the utmost importance, for without lime in one form or another there can be no bone formation, neither can eggshells be constructed.

Other natural ingredients of the blood and tissues are the salts of magnesia, oxide of iron and phosphates. Silicia must be thought of, for although its duties are chiefly mechanical, it contains many mineral substances of priceless value, and which, in conjunction with the salines named above, are necessary for the proper digestion and assimilation of the cereal grains which form so large a proportion of the food of pigeons.—W.

NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

In the line of suggestions I have made that fanciers must never believe a young bird dead till it smells, and never throw an egg away till—well, till it smells too. I want to give another case. I have on the desk before me a shell that I would like to send you, if I didn't know that it would break all to pieces in transit. It was laid on May 4th, as shown by the mark. On the 16th I found it away over in one corner, cold as ice. It had been knocked there by the fighting of two cocks whose boxes were too close. I marked it "Cold—16th," and put it back. On the 18th I found it out again, and once more put it back. But the crowning discovery came on the 21st, when I again found it displaced and cold. It had a bad crack in the side, and one end was mashed in so that blood had escaped and congealed. It had doubtless stuck to the breast feathers of the hen, and had thus been lifted out. Into my mouth it went, as usual, for I don't mind a little thing like that, and then I dived into my pocket for a postage stamp. Not finding that, I got a piece of court-plaster, dried the egg as best I could with my handkerchief, and then pasted the court-plaster over the hole. There were no signs of life in the egg—not a motion; but yesterday my patience was rewarded by finding the shell pushed

neatly to one side, and in the nest two nice healthy young. It took just nineteen days to hatch that egg and it had three terrible mishaps, but there's the youngster to show that it don't do to be discouraged. I am going to put that shell away and have it ready to show any "doubting Thomas" who may be disposed to question my veracity.

F. M. GILBERT.

NEWS NOTES.

Says Mr. A. W. McClure, of Windsor, Ont.: "My specialty (Pouters) is one for which a comparatively brief breeding season is more likely to be productive of good results than one more protracted, and for this reason, and also on account of the inclemency of the weather, I did not mate up until about the first of April. So far, however, results have been very satisfactory, and there are some young which, as far as their immature condition permits, give evidence of great promise. Blue-pieds, in point of numbers of their progeny, are ahead of reds, and with good weather from now on I have every reason to hope that '93 will compare favorably with pigeon breeding records for the past few years; but at best surmises are always of a speculative nature, and the old axiom of "don't count your chickens, etc.," might consistently be reconstructed to read in the Pouter votary's guide-book "Don't count your young Pouters before they are moulted."

Says Mr. A. A. Rackliff, of Danvers, Mass.: "Thanks for the cuts of Gilbert's birds. There are lots of us who never see a pigeon show, and cuts of birds like those are a great help to us. My birds are on their third round of eggs, and I am having great luck with the youngsters."

Mr. H. T. Klusmeyer says: "I have had a good breeding season so far, having about thirty youngsters (Owls) flying and am getting overcrowded."

"I see by your paper that there is a lot of talk about classification at shows," says Mr. T. A. Havemeyer, Jr. "I should think it would be well for each fancier to give his idea for his own breed; therefore, I give below my idea for the classification of Fantails. Fantails, eighteen classes;

white plainleg cocks, black or blue plainleg cocks, red or yellow plainleg cocks, white booted cocks, black or blue booted cocks; classes for hens same. Saddlebacks, any color cock, any color hen; tail, any color cock, any color hen; silkies, any color cock, any color hen. This would cover everything, I should think."

THE TURBIT SCALE.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

I am much pleased to see in the last issue of THE FANCIER the views of two more breeders of my favorites, but they, too, differ widely in some of their views. My brother fancier, Mr. J. G. Orr, is very decided on disqualification. The other, Mr. Feather, has about the same ideas on the subject that I have, but both jump on me regarding the head counting twelve points. Now I did say head, when I should have said beak, but I did not make any mistake as to the number of points.

Now take the head in all points—skull, beak, mouth, cheeks, gullet, eyes and wattle—and the scale calls for fifty-one points without peak, which would certainly be three more out of a possible hundred. Now to say that the whole head proper, that is, what constitutes the head of anything else, is certainly the most important point of the Turbit, and, from what I have been able to see and learn from the writings of breeders of many years, I must agree that the head proper stands first and foremost. As to the feather-leg point, no one ever saw a Turbit without feathers below the hock. No one, "I think," would hardly expect to win with or exhibit a booted bird with boots two or three inches long. Come, brother fanciers, air yourselves, and let us hear from two more next week. Now is the time to settle this question, before the great show of the American Pigeon Club comes off, that no one may have any complaint or charges of favoritism.

R. S. RYAN.

STRAY HOMER.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

A Homer cock came to my loft about a week ago, fed and watered and then left, but came back the next day and will not leave. He is banded N 4929.—C. W. DOTY.

553 West Centre street, Marion, O.

A LOOKED-FOR MURDER.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

It is hard after all my efforts to keep peace in the fancy to have to give up and warn a fellow-fancier of approaching and impending death. If ever Charley Tanner comes near that honeysuckle-bowered villa of mine, he will be met by an irate little woman, a shot gun and two dogs.

The cause of the whole thing is that Fantail article of Tanner's, and Mrs. Gilbert refuses to believe that the mistake lies with your foreman, who mixed up his "takes" in "making up the forms." Tanner says: "Of young ones Mr. Gilbert has dozens. A pair in every nest was the order of things wife." She wants to know if he saw young ones all over the floor in the house, and whether she looked like they were all hers, and, if not, whether he thinks she sits in the loft and explains to the breeders where to lay. Then he says he spent as "agreeable a Sunday as falls to the lot of a pigeon," and "which made him feel very blue." She wants to know if he is insinuating that her pie crust was too heavy or the coffee not good. But he adds insult to injury by stating in cold type that the "bounteous repast had been prepared under the supervision of the Colonel's handsome and accomplished crank." This is awful! She don't mind my being called a crank, but she draws the line at the term being applied to her.

There is trouble brewing. I'll do my best to keep her from starting to Louisville with the gun and dogs; but I can't keep her away from the next show, so Tanner had better arrange to stay at home. Yours in sorrow,

F. M. GILBERT.

HAY—BEAUFORT.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

When I made that little remark about faked tails in my article on champion birds I did not mean to convey the impression that Mr. Hay's birds had faked tails. Understand, I am not crawfishing, for I firmly believe the Hay Fans fairly beat Gilbert, and always like to give the "devil his due." I was just kidding the windy Gilbert about his defeat. Gilbert has always said he would stand defeat like a man when it came. Now I would like to ask the

readers of THE FANCIER, has he done it? Echo answers "no!" Mr. Hay has tried every honorable method to convince Mr. Gilbert that his birds were not tampered with. I have no interest at all in the matter, but always like to see fair play. Gilbert's attack on Hay is enough to drive any honorable man out of the fancy. I think the question can be settled by letting Mr. Abel keep one of the first prize winners until after moult, or by a more cruel method, which I would not resort to: Let Mr. Abel take one of the birds, pull the tail and keep the bird until the tail grows in again.

BEAUFORT.

POINTS IN TURBIT JUDGING.

A short letter on pigeons at this period of the year will doubtless to many on first thoughts seem rather out of place. However, I feel sure all will agree with me, says a young fancier in Poultry, that it is far from so in reality, for is it not during the breeding season when the judging points should be thoroughly considered and established, so that both breeders and young fanciers may know what to breed for? We have heard a great deal lately about the mania for "beak." Now, breeders of Turbits all know a good thick and short beak is by far the most difficult point to obtain, and what is more, that with a good beak other head properties naturally come; therefore I think the beak rightly takes its place as the first point to be considered. A short, thick, well set Bullfinch beak is what judges should look for in Turbits; it cannot be too short and thick. However, I should always give preference to stoutness than to mere shortness; the mouth, when opened, should give the appearance of what is called a wide gape, which term explains itself when the width of the gape is considered from eye to eye. The lower mandible of the beak should be thick and fit closely (almost within) the upper, the edges of which should slightly overlap the lower, which give to the upper mandible, beak and face generally a downward appearance. We do not want a downward curved beak, which although it may appear short is really far from being so. Thus the most difficult point to breed undoubtedly is the beak, but do not let anybody imagine beak is everything, for there are many other points yet to be

considered. Closely following the beak properties comes fulness of frontal. This is very difficult to obtain without getting a coarse wattle, which we do not want. The wattle should be even and of a fair size. What I mean by fulness of frontal is a complete filling up behind an even wattle, so as to present an oval appearance, which should extend well over the crown of the head without any flatness, and round to the ear lobes on each side, leaving no crease or indentation anywhere. The sides of the mouth must be well filled up so as to give no appearance of pinched facedness. Do not confuse a full-faced bird with a down-faced one, as many of these are not in reality the least bit full, as their bones are often quite visible.

The point to consider is the skull, which in a Turbit, like its mouth, cannot be too wide, provided it be well filled up, leaving no flatness or bump anywhere on the head. I do not call a bird with two bolting eyes and a wide flat skull a good skulled bird, although it may undoubtedly possess a very broad skull. Bolting eyes were a short time ago much liked, but I do not think any great preference has recently been given to them by Turbit judges, as with very prominent eyes one generally finds a more or less flat skull and a down face, instead of the full face and well filled up skull. The eyes must not be in the least bit sunken. The beak and face of a Turbit cannot be too short, provided they allow for a complete fulness of frontal, so that there is no stop, break, or rise in the profile, which should be even. Now, presuming you obtain all these points, you have not a true Turbit unless it possesses a gullet, which, as I have heard a well-known judge and breeder say, is everything to set off Turbits and Owls, and I maintain it to be one of the chief points, and a point I should most strongly recommend beginners in the fancy to look well after in their purchases, for in doing so they will be defending themselves against buying made-faced birds, which undoubtedly exist, and the unfair part about them is that they do not reproduce themselves in their youngsters, which they are seldom able to feed. Show birds with gullets are sure to be genuine, and will reproduce themselves, and are, as a rule, good feeders. Understand, I am

not saying that all birds without gullets are made-faced, as nothing is further from my mind, as many of our best and truest Turbits sadly lack gullets. However, what I do say is that birds with gullets are genuine, and therefore in giving due commendation to and bring forward this most beautiful point in our show Turbits judges will at the same time be defending all young fanciers from making fruitless purchases. A good high beak and well spread frill are both points which must not be forgotten. In conclusion, let me urge one more point which has been sadly neglected of late—namely, the mane. True, Turbits must have good manes, rising up from the back to the very top of the peak without any break. The body, to my mind, should be fairly short and compact; chest fairly broad smart carriage, flights and tail well up, and not too long; the neck and legs of a proportionate length, the latter free from stumps of feathers.

BOSTON DISTURBANCE.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

Replying to "Observer" in last week's issue of THE FANCIER, what's the matter with you and the Hickey family, anyway? Hasn't anybody written up your loft? And, by the way, who are the large numbers of dissatisfied members, and what are they dissatisfied with? If such exist why do not they step up at the meetings and have their say? Surely, nothing is ever done without first having been brought before the meeting. Maybe you are one of the dissatisfied, and if so, quite likely you keep your mouth shut when anything is being done and then kick afterwards. As to the new club, of course Mr. Twombly has heard such a rumor, but paid no attention to it, nor thought any more about it than he does now that you have mentioned it. As to "the position he now fills," I may say that I don't know of any one who would fill it more conscientiously or who would have the interest of the club more at heart. If you know of any one who would handle the (to me it seems thankless) position as well or better just propose his name at the next annual meeting. I believe in giving every one a show, but at the same time I believe in having the best interests of the club

in view when officers are elected.

As to your views on the duties of the Boston correspondent, what do you know about such duties? If you are so well posted why don't you send in a few accounts of your visits? I have no doubt but the editor of THE FANCIER would be very glad to give you a job on the same terms as Mr. Twombly's. Were I in the latter gentleman's place I would respectfully advise you that I didn't consider it any of your business *what* I wrote. Now, in regard to Mr. Twombly's articles, *re.* our lofts, I can say truthfully that I never asked any man to say a word about my birds, and I don't believe any of the other gentlemen ever did, and I don't know where you got the idea that he considered our lofts the representative lofts of this region. I'm sure I never heard him make any such claim. Your very gentlemanly remarks *re.* the other gentlemen being too modest, etc., etc., were quite true. They certainly are, and I have found them all nice fellows. But, on the other hand, I don't know that I have ever heard the first-mentioned lot do any blowing (barring Tim and Jim, whose pleasantries we have all heard). However, your chief grievance seems to be that Mr. Twombly has not written an account of your loft and that of several others. Let me say that Messrs. Heroux, Rutter and Davis have been "written up," and that most of the other gentlemen were written up not long since in a very brilliant manner.

Your idea of what is for the interest of Boston fanciers must be decidedly crude if you think a lot of rot like you have written is going to do any one any good. When you get home take out your dictionary and look up the meaning of the word "suburb." I think Lawrence would hardly be called such and Needham is just a "leetle" far out, isn't it?

For a man who has no touch of the "sour grape" trouble you give a remarkably good imitation. Rats! The last sentence of your article gives you away.

Don't know Hickey? Nor his little brother? Too bad; you would enjoy each other very much. There's "a pair of you."

Well, as long as you don't know "Hickey" and so probably won't know what I said to him, I will wind up my remarks to you somewhat as I did to him. You have made statements

publicly that are false, and I now challenge you to prove, over your own signature, that there is any "ring" or "clique" in the N. E. P. A.; that the club has been run in the interest of any one or few members, and that there is any dissatisfaction (other than yourself, and what *you* are kicking about I can't see) among the members. It is the opinion of every one that I have talked with that the club is, and has been, well managed, and neither you nor any one else can say that there has ever been any friction at the meetings. It seems to me a pity that when, in reality, everything is going along so well some sorehead should try to convey the impression to the fanciers at large that the club was about to collapse. Now, as I said to the "twins" (guess old lady Hickey laid triplets) let's see how much sand you've got.

C. F. HAVEN.

REARING HIGH-CLASS PIGEONS.

The difficulty of rearing high-class pigeons is well known to all who have tried to breed birds to win at large shows, and as very little has been written about the treatment of young birds in the nest, I propose to say a few words, which I hope will assist those who have not had much experience to put specimens in the show pen which would otherwise die in the nest.

First of all, to carry out the treatment, I advise the old birds must be tame, so that the young can be handled without their leaving the nest; presuming this to be the case, and that they have just hatched, the first thing is to see that the old birds have a supply of soft food and commence to feed their young. If, after being hatched several hours, the young ones have nothing in their crops, you may presume that the old birds have no food for them, and they must be fed from the mouth or will soon be dead. This is done by taking about half a teaspoonful of "Thorley's Soft Food, made rather thin, in the mouth, and getting the beak of the young bird between the lips, when his crop can be filled and he can be replaced under the parents, when in all probability they will commence to feed before the young require more food; but if not they can be kept alive by proceeding as before,

and when the birds are a week or ten days old a syringe can be used instead of mouth-feeding. Now, if the birds feed their young when first hatched things generally go well till the old birds begin to think about going to nest again, when they frequently leave their young to die from exposure to the cold. In this case there is nothing for it but to move the young under more careful birds, or to take them to the fire, wrapped in flannel, unless a greenhouse is at hand, in which case they can be kept near the hot water pipes, and brought up by hand as advised, on the soft food mentioned.

Now, supposing neither of the difficulties mentioned here occurred, and that you have a very promising youngster in the nest just beginning to feather, and the old birds taking great care of it, if they are birds with very short thick beaks it frequently happens that, owing to the quality of beak in old and young, the birds are unable to feed the thick-beaked young one, and you must resort to hand-feeding while the bird remains with its parents.

It is a good plan to go round the loft twice a day to see that all the birds are properly fed. With healthy stock birds, sound and suitable food, a well-arranged loft, and attention to the above details, the percentage of young lost in the most can be reduced considerably. One more word of caution and I have done. See that you have no mice in your loft, as these pests do more harm than most people are aware of. I use poison to get rid of them, and find it answers well, care being taken that the pigeon cannot get at it. Those who want information as to the general management of pigeons should read Mr. Lumley's book.—JAMES WRIGHT, in Feathered World.

THE HAY EXHIBIT.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

In your issue just to hand I find a letter from the pen of Alexander Hay, respecting his exhibit at the New York Show wherein my name is introduced, and this must be my excuse for addressing you on the subject.

Now, sir, in his introducing my name in this matter I would have had no cause of complaint, providing Mr. Hay had been content with tell-

ing the truth, but this he does not do, far from it. The casual readers would infer from the remarks that, after examining one of Mr. Hay's birds, I expressed myself satisfied that his exhibits were all O. K., and that the awards made by Mr. Stanton were correct, and that Mr. Gilbert's birds were fairly and honestly beaten.

Now, I say right here, I never did anything of the kind. What the bird was ostensibly examined for was to see if any of the cushion feathers were extracted to let the tail up, as the bird had this appearance as it stood in the pen, as in fact all his birds had; this plan being adopted, some years gone by, in England, but since the Fantail Club was formed the mode of faking has been discontinued. After handling the bird I said the cushion feathers were all there. Still, the very fact of this being so was the more convincing to me that the primary feathers had been tampered with, and, when done the cushion feathers get moved out of place and show an unnatural ruffle. Further, I drew attention to the fact that one of the feathers in the centre of the tail of the bird in question was not grown more than half its length, and at that period of the show gave the bird the appearance of having a split tail, although it showed no signs of this when first penned, or in fact until the Wednesday when she began to show signs of want of grooming afresh.

It would be interesting to Fantail fanciers of this country if Mr. Hay would explain what caused this particular feather to be about three weeks old at the time of the show. Did it get loose and drop out when he was "working out his own salvation," teaching his birds how to take care of their tails after they had grown them, eh? Such accidents happen, you know, when natural tails are not allowed to take their course.

In connection with my name Mr. Hay has introduced Mr. Stanton's, who judged the Fan classes.

Now, I dare say I have been more intimate with Mr. Stanton than I have with any other fancier in this district since I came East and I believe him to be thoroughly honest and straightforward. Still, with the knowledge he possessed, I consider he lacked firmness in not acting upon that knowledge and expressing his disapproval of Mr. Hay's mode of

preparing birds for a show by passing his exhibit.

Mr. Hay can't deny and, I take it, Mr. Stanton won't deny that he, in company with another gentleman, visited Mr. Hay's loft a short time previous to the New York Show, where Hay's birds were in view with their tails weighted with leads, which, to the uninitiated in the mystery of tail making, is known to be the preliminary process of making a double row of feathers into a single one, and thereby giving an unnatural spread to a bird to which it is not entitled in its natural state.

I go further, and assert I was present and saw Mr. Hay pen his birds, and with my own eyes saw him remove leads from the tails of his birds, and challenged him on the spot as to the illegality of such practices. If this is not tail faking I should like to know what is. The answer he made to me was: "They all do it." Now, I say they don't all do it, and, what is more, I contend they have no business to, and my grounds for saying so is that a fancier who was ignorant of the fact that a bird's tail had been monkeyed with in this fashion, and thereby had succeeded in catching the judge's eye and being awarded a prize, might be induced to buy it at a long price and get disgusted with his bargain before it had been in his loft a week, because in that time a made tail will revert to its original position and shape. Mr. Hay says it takes more than tail to make a prize Fantail and that body plays a very important part. In this I agree with him, and that very fact admitted should have placed his exhibits, especially in the hen class at New York, playing second fiddle to at least two of Mr. Gilbert's exhibits (Hay's birds, with the exception of one cock, which wasn't in the money, are too narrow-chested by far). These two hens, purchased by Mr. George Brown from R. Blair, of Johnstone, Scotland, and shipped to Mr. Gilbert, should have won hands down at New York, judging them from every point, and are the two most typical Fans in America today, and they didn't even get a notice at New York.

I drew Mr. Stanton's attention to one of them, in particular, and he pointed out a single twisted feather in the tail.

Now, this bird has no twisted feather in its natural state, nor was

the feather twisted when I left the show on Monday night to go to Mahwah to attend to my stock in the morning.

How this feather got twisted I am somewhat anxious to know and would give a trifle to be assured that it was caused by inadvertence when the birds were removed in my absence to a walking pen for judging purposes. Without the feather altogether this bird can give away points in tail and body formation and beat anything I have yet seen in America, and I flatter myself I know a little about a Fantail, if not much, and it was clean and in good show condition as any in the class when penned.

Now, I have no hundred dollars to throw away, as I am a poor man, and I opine Mr. Hay is no millionaire, and such braggadocio as he indulges in with reference to a "hundred dollar cup" seems to me much "tall talk." Still, if Mr. Hay will vary the offer to show three white Fans and three saddlebacks, 1893, bred in America, and the battle-ground be the Liverpool Show next year, in January, where there will be judges who know what prize Fantails should be, *honestly shown*, I will see what can be done to accommodate him, and the birds can be subsequently shown at the New York Show on their arrival back, neither of the birds to be in the hands of the owners until they are exhibited in New York after their return, the cost of sending to Liverpool and back to go with the verdict. To the varying of the challenge to three white and three saddlebacks Mr. Hay cannot take exception, as he publicly announced at the New York Show he would beat everybody in saddles, as well as whites, next year.

I have no desire to enter into a long controversial paper war with Mr. Hay, nor will I. He is not the class of fancier it is desirable to have an argument with, nor any other man who so far forgets himself when argument fails to act the bully and want to go outside and fight. Such modes of settling differences of opinion is neither gentlemanly nor commendable.

His remarks to myself at New York in that line I treat with contempt, but I am credibly informed he gratuitously insulted the donor of the cup, which was awarded to him, but had the donor himself been compet-

ing for it it would have gone to another channel.

If such actions are to be tolerated at our best shows I think it is high time that gentlemen fanciers retire from the arena altogether, and see how long the other set get along without them. Specialist clubs will go a long way in giving a quietus to ungentlemanly actions at shows, and I am pleased to see the rapid strides they are making in different sections of the country, as they are the life and soul of the pigeon fancy.

JOHN GLASGOW.

MAGPIES IN 1892 AND 1893.

Although the average excellence of the birds shown at the leading shows during the past season was quite up to the mark, it did not strike me that any phenomenal specimens were seen, says F. Warner in the Fancier's Gazette. This was most likely owing to the bad luck experienced by the majority of fanciers during the breeding season, in which respect I never remember hearing so many complaints. The bitter winds of the spring, followed by a wet cold summer, played havoc with the youngsters: the survivors being, as usual, the bad or moderate specimens, the choicest after a brief and melancholy survey of this world, taking their departure to other and, it is to be hoped, more genial climes.

It won't take me very long to sum up the prevailing faults of last season's birds. They were: A want of richness and lustre in color; flatness of head, with a tendency to shortness of face. These are serious faults, and ones that every breeder ought to do his utmost to prevent. It is the easiest thing in the world to get them into a strain, but there are none more difficult to eradicate when once they have been allowed to get a firm footing. Surely, by this time, Magpie breeders ought to know what the right type of a Magpie should be; but it is quite evident that some of them do not, or we should not see so many—an increasing number it seems to me—bad-headed specimens exhibited. By far the most objectionable shape of head seen is the one broad in skull in front of eye, with a lot of frontal; and the most astounding and incomprehensible part of the whole matter is, that two or three judges positively like it, and always choose birds beautifully

developed in that respect for the winners. There were some sweet little birds, particularly blacks, at the Palace last year, very short in face, but at the same time they had very prettily-moulded heads, and are much to be preferred to the heavy-headed type. They reminded me very much of the birds that used to win many years ago under Mr. Esquilant, but their disappearance was marvellously rapid directly the Magpie standard was issued, and now that they have ventured on the scenes again, let us hope they will take their departure equally quickly.

In criticising color, I will take each variety separately, and starting as usual with blacks; I must say they lack much that is desirable, both in density and purity of color and lustre. At the Club Show at Grantham, where I had the privilege of handling the black classes, I found but very few birds possessing that density and brilliancy of color which is so characteristic of a Magpie, and at the same time so beautiful. This failing was most noticeable in the young classes, and, of course, marks in respect of color the downward tendency of the birds of to-day compared with those of previous years. Some birds were bronzy on neck, others were ticked on head and on the throat, close up under the beak, whilst many were very dull in color and lacked lustre generally. A great deal of this failing in color is undoubtedly due to crossing with duns and reds, and very favorite crosses they are with some breeders. Why they should be I really don't know, as it surely does not benefit the black, and I cannot see what good it does to the red. It might benefit the latter in type and size, but at the same time produces sooty rumps and tails. No, these crosses are in my opinion a mistake, and, if persisted in, the color of our black Magpies will soon be no better than that of Barbs and Carriers.

The reds possess plenty of color, but there is a want of uniformity about it, and very few birds are of the rich blood-red which I believe everyone is agreed is the most desirable. I was much struck with the color of some of the reds exhibited in the stock class at the last Club Show. It was the most beautiful I have ever seen; and with such material in the fancy, it ought not to be

long before we see some remarkably-colored reds of the right shade.

As regards the yellows, one often hears it remarked that they are not so good as they used to be. It may be so, but I will content myself with saying that they are no better—decidedly no better—than they were. say, eight years ago, when Mr. Chapman was at the top of the tree. Some of his birds were models to be remembered; and although distance of time probably lends some enchantment, I must admit that I saw nothing last season that could beat them in color or, in fact, other properties. Apart, however, from individual birds there is a marked improvement in the rank and file, a remark which applies to all colors. The classes are usually well filled with fairly good birds, and one does not see the "nerve shockers" that were so abundant in bygone days. The prevailing fault in the yellows of last season was, as usual, the mealy or biscuity tone of color; it is a deep, dull, heavy shade, and has no charm about it compared with the bright golden yellow.

The great sensation of last season was the vast improvement in blues, but in cocks only; for the blue hens were were almost as great a sensation the other way—in fact they were about as bad as they could be; they never have been good, but this time they fairly took the cake, and I don't suppose we shall ever see them so bad again—at any rate, let us hope not. The blue cock class at the Palace was really wonderful, and every one of the seventeen birds exhibited was noticed; they have improved all round, but more in color than anything else, and it is quite an exception now to come across a blue cock unsound on rump. They are getting much better in head, smaller in size, and more typical in shape, whilst clean beaks are rapidly taking the place of the ebony box-shaped beauties of only a season or two ago.

But blues still possess a most deadly fault, and that is their eyes; they nearly all seem to have nasty, dull, grey eyes—squeaker's eyes. Not one in ten has the beautiful fish eye; it is a great pity, as nothing detracts more from a bird's appearance than a bad eye, and if breeders will only give the matter a little attention we shall soon see a vast improvement.

As regards the silvers, I will not say any more than that I consider they

are getting clearer in color and smaller in size!

The one remaining color shown in sufficient numbers to call for comment is the dun, and its one great fault was want of uniformity in color; one occasionally sees a dun of the rich brown Carrier shade, but they are few and far between; they are usually either a sort of pale washy fawn or a dull slate, sometimes light, but often very dark, nearly black. The reason of this is undoubtedly owing to the fact that the majority of duns are flukes—that is to say, their parents were not mated together with the intention of breeding duns. Being, as a rule, the offshoots from blacks, they are more typical than the other colors; in fact, one rarely sees a bad-headed or bad-beaked dun, and last season some very pretty birds were shown. Dun cocks were, as usual, very scarce.

Having begun with fault-finding, I will conclude by mentioning the improvements and good features generally of the birds shown last season. Markings were, I consider, wonderfully good all round, and in many cases absolutely perfect, and honestly so, too; in fact, I must say that anything like trimming was scarcely seen, and when one bears in mind the hundreds of birds exhibited, and that accuracy of markings in such an important feature in a Magpie, it is a most creditable state of things, and one that the Magpie fancy is to be congratulated upon. Another improvement is in the color of beaks. In blacks there are more of the bright salmon and less of the sickly white heavily-stained beaks. The reds and yellows, which the previous season had developed quite a little epidemic of stained beaks, have now pretty well recovered; and blues, as I have said before, are vastly improved.

The size of Magpies is much more uniform than it used to be, and the blacks are still ahead of the colors in that respect, but the latter are making headway, and giants are getting scarce. There is, however, still much room for improvement in size, as in all other properties, and there is certainly no reason for fanciers to give up this lovely variety because (as I have heard more than once) Magpies are now so perfect that there is nothing else to breed for.

Dr. Linneweaver, of Lebanon, Pa., is dead.

ESTABLISHING A KIT OF TUMBLERS, OR ROLLERS.

BY GEORGE SMITH.

From the Feathered World.

When an amateur proposes to take up the above Fancy it is of great importance to choose a suitable locality, particularly if he intends going into the long-flying hobby. For instance, if you live in the country, or on the outskirts of a large town, so much the better, as I always consider that a kit of birds is capable of flying, under such circumstances, at least two hours longer than birds flown in the smoky atmosphere existing in large towns. This latter is a great drawback to a kit of birds, as in damp weather the dirt and soot settles on their plumage to such a degree that it is impossible for them to remain on the wing for any length of time. The high buildings they have to contend with are also detrimental to good flying, as they act as inducements for the birds to drop, especially if in the kit there happens to be a bird not quite up to the mark. Sometimes one of these faulty birds will cause the whole of the kit to drop away. From experience I have found that a locality not too thickly settled is far the best, and if the houses are low and the country flat so much the better. For if the kit is flown where the ground is uneven the birds have to trust to the wind being in the right direction—that is to say, if the wind is blowing uphill the birds fly much more easily, as the wind is underneath them, as the saying is, which causes them to sail away for hours. On the other hand, if the wind is blowing down the hill, the current is above them and beats them down, and birds travelling uphill against the wind soon become fatigued. Leicester is a flat country and a good place for long flying; fanciers there can guarantee doing a good fly, as a rule, at any time. The wind not making much difference to them. Sheffield is just the reverse, very uneven, and it is not until owners see which way the wind is blowing that they can rely with any confidence on their birds doing a long fly, even although they have been especially trained for that purpose.

I might say that the foregoing is written entirely from my own experience, and, as I have kept these birds over a quarter of a century, I feel sure it will be taken as correct. I have flown them in the thickly inhabited parts of large towns with success, and also in the country, where they get plenty of fresh air, and can safely say that there is no comparison between the two, as it is quite an easy task to fly them in the country for ten and eleven hours at a stretch, provided that they have been trained from young ones after the advice given in "Highflyer's Guide." The loft is the next question I shall deal with, and this is a subject of great importance. If you are favored with a nice bit of garden at the back of your house, it is very nice for your pets, and in summer time, if you are particularly fond of your birds, they will often keep you at home many an hour watching them as they fly.

Since these birds require a loft differently arranged to one for other varieties of pigeons, it will perhaps be well to state from my own experience how it should be built to suit the locality you happen to live in. In the first instance, supposing that you live in the busy parts of London, or any large town where spare ground to your premises is out of the question, a fancier might say, "There is no possible chance of my keeping pigeons here, as there is no ground to build upon." This was the case with me when I first came to the "Lace" town; however, a true fancier is not easily shaken off his favorite hobby, and being conducted with the building trade I could see one chance of keeping them, viz. between the ceiling and roof. By placing a dormer outside I soon had a capital loft, and by putting down a boarded floor and dividing it into three compartments I had accommodation for 100 birds without much outlay. Still, pigeons kept in a dwelling house are objectionable both to the occupants and the owner of the property, and I should strongly advise fanciers not to adopt this method, for even if the place is kept scrupulously clean there is always a strong smell. However, this was the kind of place I had to

content myself with, and where I spent many an hour watching my birds, both in the place and on the wing. I might say that here I established one of the best kits of Tumblers that ever flew, a kit of birds that could hold their own against any in England.

Some fanciers have the idea that a kit of birds flown from the top of the house can be made to fly as long as the owner thinks fit; but this is a great mistake, for if birds are not in flying condition it is impossible for them to remain on the wing any length of time, and they will often drop away if frightened to any extent. It was always my motto to treat my birds kindly, which is by far the best plan, and when the kit was getting low I used to put one or two old veterans on the top as an inducement for the birds to drop, which they used to do all around me without the least fear. I am writing now of nearly twenty years ago, when Tumbler flying was all the rage; in fact, Macclesfield Tipplers, which are now so popular, were almost unknown in this part of the country. At the present time there are not so many kits flown from the tops of houses as there used to be.

My advice to all amateurs is to build a nice place in your garden, as far away from the houses as possible, so that you can teach your birds to drop on to it without first alighting elsewhere. This is of great importance, especially to those who go in for long flying. By teaching your birds this habit, you have them entirely under your control, which is absolutely necessary, in order for you to do much good with them. A kit of birds that drop on a building where they are out of your reach are, in a sense, your masters, and often when you think of doing a long fly, it ends in disappointment. It is of great importance to keep the floor of the loft a good distance from the ground to prevent damp, and by all means see that the roof is thoroughly waterproof. If it is your wish to reach champion form, have the gas put in your place if it can be managed. Your birds will require you to spend a lot of time upon them. This, however, will not be grudged by those who are heart and soul in the matter; they will look on the trouble as a real pleasure. I remember once going to see a fancier's pigeons do a long fly—they did one in good style until dark. I was highly delighted with their performance, but was more than a little surprised when the birds got no supper, because, forsooth, it was too dark for them to eat. I thought such treatment was most unreasonable, and the very way to spoil any kit of birds. I came to the conclusion that the owner of these birds was no fancier. How would any of us, after a hard day's work care to go to bed supperless? For that reason I advise having gas laid on where possible, so that birds which fly till dark can have a meal by artificial light.

I said in my last letter that if you wish to reach champion form, have the gas put in your loft. This is of great importance to those who wish to compete in matches for long-flying, as at such times the birds fly until it is totally dark. Consequently, a place such as I have already described is the only chance you have of flying your birds fifteen minutes by gaslight, and unless you can do this, at such places as Leicester, you would just be out of the stakes. If a gas bracket be fixed near the glass casements, it will throw a brilliant light outside so that the birds can see their dropping place, and with a little practice, even if ever so dark, the birds will find their way back into the loft, that is, if they can enter from the roof.

There are, no doubt, many of your readers who have no convenience for carrying out these ideas, and have no choice but to drop their birds on the house. When this is the case, teach your birds to drop on the lowest building near at hand. Leicester fanciers practice this method earnestly. For instance, some teach their birds to drop on low walls, closets, or little outbuildings. Those who cannot do this, teach them to drop on the house as near the spout or eaves as possible. This plan does away with the chimney pot nuisance; as these are always awkward things for a kit of birds to alight on.

The first difficult dropping place I have seen, was that of Mr. Warner, of Belgrave, the champion, a very low place in the yard, right in the centre of houses, so near to his loft that anyone would imagine it was impossible for the kit to drop there without first alighting on the houses. Mr. Holland's last place, situated amidst a lot of three-story houses, was also very difficult for the birds to alight, his birds being obliged to come down without circling around, as they usually do. These kind of places make considerable difference to the time birds remain on the wing; but with perseverance you can teach your birds anything.

[CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.]

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A. J. McLean, 13 Prospect street, Charlestown, Mass., offers for sale Fantails, Jacobins and Turbits. All good birds, but I need the room. 13-14

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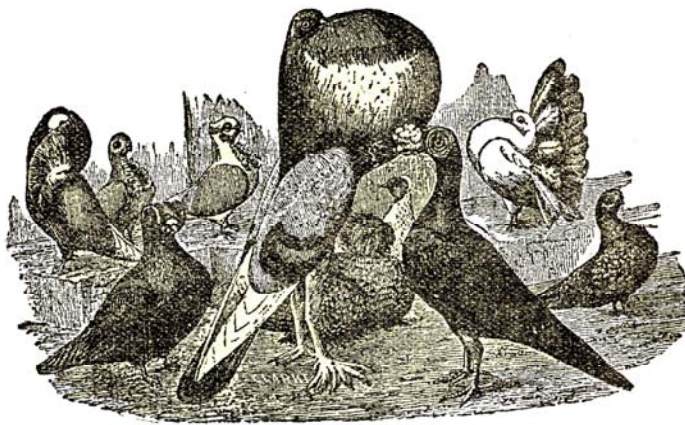
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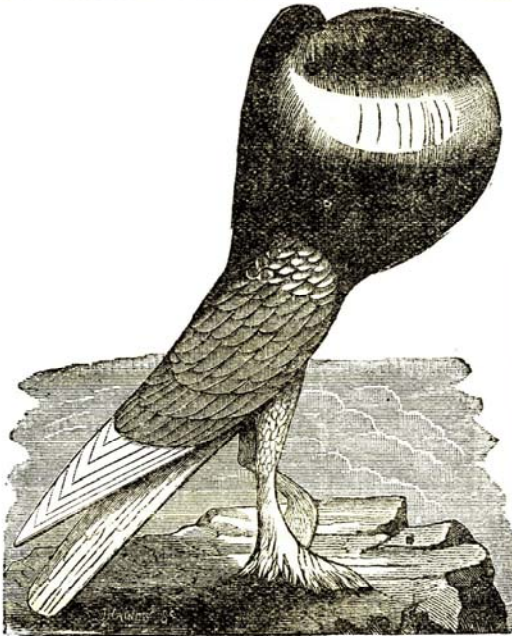
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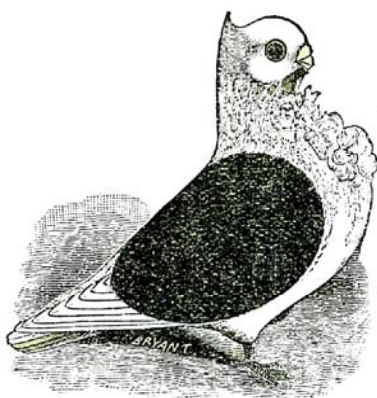
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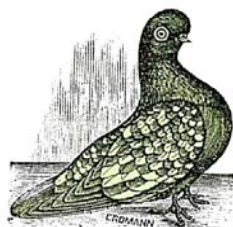
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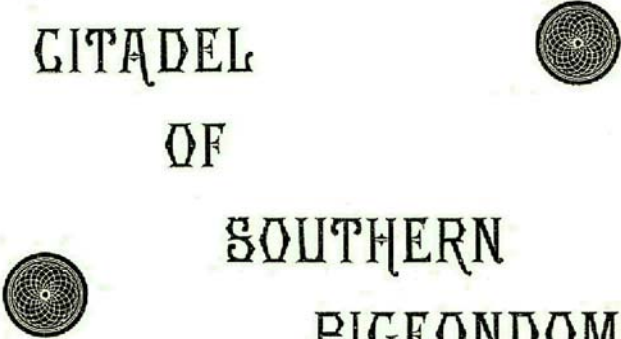
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