

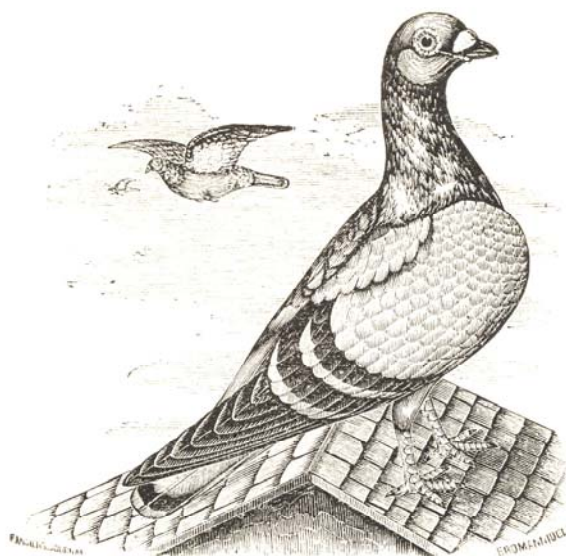


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VOL. VII.

BALTIMORE, MD., FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1893.

NO. 18



The Homing Pigeon.

Mountainside Lofts.



.
HAVEMEYER BROS.,

Proprietors,

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THE FANCIER.

WINNERS—1892-3.

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

1893.—Short-faced Tumblers, 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, prizewinner, \$8; almond cocks, never shown, as good as the winner, \$6; kite cock \$4; yellow cocks \$6; red Bald \$8; 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 \$8.65, 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-rung 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.

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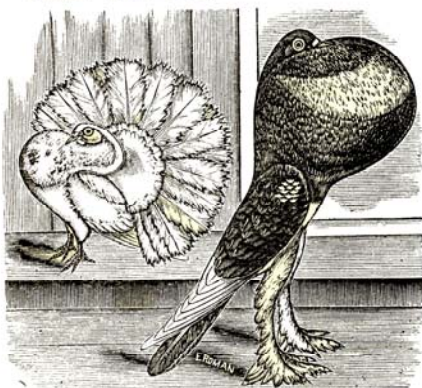
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Dealer in Choice Food for Pigeons, such as Canada Peas, Tares, Pigeon corn,
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Send for Price and State what is Wanted.

ANDREW MUEHLIG,
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On 14 entries 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
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—02 Pair left—Good Birds

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Just arrived a large importation of many varieties of Pigeons.

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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.

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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.

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The trade supplied by the Baltimore News Co.

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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.

The breeding season thus far has not been a very good one, so far as numbers are concerned, in many parts of the country, but what is lacking in numbers is made up in quality, judging from the birds we had the pleasure of viewing on our recent trip. As there is a prevailing desire upon the part of show managers to offer specials and provide classes for young birds, we hope all fanciers will band their youngsters, so that they will be eligible to compete for the handsome specials offered to the breeders of fancy pigeons by Mr. Kuhn at the first show of the American Pigeon Club, which will be held November 30 to December 5, inclusive, at Baltimore.

Speaking of the American Pigeon Club and its contemplated big show brings to mind the fact that this club will have the best judging talent the country can produce for their show, men under whose decision all fanciers may safely place their birds. The club will also have a novel affair in the way of champion classes, or, in other words, any bird having won a first prize at any leading show will be eligible to compete in the champion class. This is a new feature, and no doubt it will be hailed with much satisfaction throughout the land.

Mr. Buttles in speaking of these classes remarks that he thinks they would create a lot of trouble. We would say that these classes were only made after a thorough investigation of

the system and after securing the opinion of many of our prominent fanciers, both by letter and personal interview. We shall place every one entering in these classes upon their honor regardless of any band or ring.

Indications point to the fact that the American Pigeon Club Show will be the largest ever held in this country. The most prominent fanciers in the country have already stated that they propose to show their appreciation of a progressive body like the American Pigeon Club with a substantial entry. Success of a most rare order is assured.

We are advised that the entry of Homing Pigeons in the World's Fair flights from the plaza in front of the government building is very heavy, and is made up of birds from the following cities: Washington, D. C.; Philadelphia, New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Buffalo, Detroit, Pittsburg, Milwaukee, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Newark, Lynn, Fontanet and several Canadian points. All entries must be filed before next Monday, July 10.

The heaviest entries up to date are from the East, being from such fanciers as T. Fred. Goldman, Francis Whitely and others from Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, Newark, New York and Brooklyn. Large cages will be provided for the birds sent to the Fair and a special guard will be placed over them in order that every detail in connection with the races will be fully carried out, in order to place the races above suspicion.

We hear that many fanciers are losing a quantity of squabs and squeakers just now, says Feath-

ered World, and it is hardly to be wondered at, as from the inquiries we have made the reason may be attributed to three causes: Firstly, filthy lofts; secondly, insufficient ventilation; thirdly, overcrowding. Too many fanciers are neglectful of their birds at this the most critical time for the rearing of young. A little neglect in not having the loft thoroughly cleansed twice a week is sure to cause many a disaster, more especially at this time of a remarkably hot season, as the nests are little better than hot-beds, and if proper supervision is not given to the thorough cleansing of them those little pests, the red mites, will multiply by the thousand, and woe betide any squabs there may be, for they will be literally plagued to death by these minute insects, or the parent birds will soon forsake them, so that if the squabs do not die from the first-mentioned cause they will soon be starved, as the old birds will not venture near them.

BEAUFORT AGAIN.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

I have just read, with much interest, the list of special prizes offered by the American Pigeon Club. I see the club have prepared a class for champion birds, and as I believe I was the first to mention having a class for champions and an open class for fancy pigeons, I beg space in your valuable paper to make a few remarks in regard to same, which I hope will be given serious attention by the managers of the American Pigeon Club before it is too late to avoid a great deal of trouble which the special list (as is) is bound to bring the aforesaid club, unless a change is made. In the first place there can be no competition in the champion class, for the simple reason that there are no champion birds in America. A bird, to become a champion, must have its show record kept by an official organization, which I know has not been done, as this plan

of having champion classes was only first spoken of a few weeks ago. If it is decided by the fanciers of America to have such a class for birds as this there will have to be an association formed, to keep a list of the winnings of each bird shown. This association should also have an official paper or book, issued yearly, in which all the records, etc., should be kept.

I think, right here, is a scheme some reliable firm could take hold of and make money. It would be no difficult matter to keep a list of winnings of all the first prize birds exhibited at our large shows. Something like this will have to be done, or the matter should be dropped altogether, as we have no birds now which can officially be termed champions. I have no interest in the matter, whatever, except that it is a pet scheme of mine, and for this reason I should like to see some enterprising firm organized and incorporated, to take hold at once before the show season opens, and give it a thorough test. We can thus, by next year, have the winners separated into two classes, champion and open, which I firmly believe will cause a great many more birds to be exhibited at our leading shows, and will make the show season a great deal more interesting to every one, at the same time giving the American fanciers credit for having adopted a new and novel mode of exhibiting fancy pigeons. In looking over the special list in Turbits I see the popular Tail Turbit has been entirely ignored and solid birds given a place. Now, give us Tail Turbit breeders a show. Make your motto read: "Treat every one alike" and the American Pigeon Club is bound to come out a success.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for your valuable space, and hoping this matter will at once be given proper attention.—C. W. BUTTLES ("Beaufort").

STRAY HOMER.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

A blue Homer cock, with band, S 6581, countermark 511, came to my loft last week.

DR. CHARLES H. MEYER,
Baltimore, Md.

THE FANCIER is conceded on all hands to be absolutely the best.

TWO WEEKS AMONG THE FANCIERS.

BY JOHN H. KUHN.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.]

Arriving in the city of Philadelphia we dropped in at the Fanciers' Journal office, where we had the pleasure of an introduction to J. H. Drevenstedt, the well-known editor of the Poultry and Pigeon Department, who I found to be a very entertaining gentleman, possessing a good fund of business logic on all matters pertaining to the fancy. He, in turn, introduced us to Mr. Skelton, and in the company of these gifted scribes we ventured forth in search of refreshments, and two hours was well and pleasantly spent in an interchange of fancy sentiment and pigeon discussions. Time pressing us we were forced to bid adieu to this good company, only to cast our lot into the fathomless depths of pigeon enthusiasm, emanating from the genial and hustling secretary of the American Tumbler Club, Mr. Frank S. Walton, whom we found at his place of business. This gentleman was happy to see us and pleasantly entertained us with a ripple of pigeon lore for an hour or so, after which we accepted his invitation to dine. We repaired to the Bullitt building, where a sumptuous repast was served. Mr. Walton is sure to see that his guests do not suffer for attention or lack of variety of edibles, and it is well nigh impossible to spend a cent when in the company of this generous-hearted gentleman. After dinner we took the train for Merchantsville, N. J., to inspect those widely-known lofts and Tumblers owned by our host. On the way to the depot we stopped in at the bird store of Mr. Ed. Vahle, the right bower of the Philadelphia Pigeon Club. Mr. Vahle bid us a royal welcome in his suave and agreeable manner and showed us his stock in trade, consisting of birds, dogs, animals, poultry, pigeons and all kinds of supplies for the health and enjoyment of the same. He has an almost endless variety of fancy pigeons (the stock we were chiefly interested in), and some very good specimens among them, which his show record will attest. To describe them would take more space than is at present accorded us, and will only say that fanciers visiting Philadelphia will do well to

look up this estimable gentleman and will be sure to find their time pleasantly and instructively spent, as well as being able to purchase really good stock at very nominal figures.

Arriving at Merchantsville we wended our way to the lovely residence of Mr. Walton, where we doffed our coats and "cadys" and donned the linen dusters and white felt hats this gentleman reserves for the exclusive use of the pigeon loft visitors. The lofts, two in number, in rear of the residence, are about 50x15 feet, neatly painted on the outside and whitewashed on the inside and well adapted for the purpose of Tumbler breeding. The interior construction is artistic, nesting-places being in the rear and fronted with wire. Here I saw the nicest constructed perch ever brought to my notice, combining uniformity and utility. It is an iron projecting bracket and resting on the pinnacle of each is a small circular platform, whose diameter on the surface would not exceed 3 or 4 inches. This pedestal is designed for the occupancy of but one bird, and being slight of construction, the object occupying it is outlined in a pleasing and tasty manner. These pedestal perches would be just the thing for Pouters and Fantails, as there is no shelf or bridge to crumple up the extended tail feathers. In these lofts is a stream of running water, ensuring a fresh, clean drink or bath for the birds on all occasions. There are many good Tumblers embraced in this collection, which possess both acrobatic and exhibition quality. There was the red rosewing cock, special winner at both Philadelphia and New York, and whose portrait has recently been presented by Mr. Walton to most of our leading fanciers. This bird has been too often dilated on to require any mention from me; still, as it was my first introduction to him, I resorted to a critical inspection of him, and was at once struck with the great dissimilarity in feather of the original and the drawing. The print suggests an overly large and very loose feathered bird, while the original, at a glance, impresses one with his neat, compact shape and tightness of plumage. We examined a solid or self-colored muffed red Tumbler cock, which possesses a rich, clear color throughout and nicely muffed; also a pair of very fine '93 bred silvers, handsome color,

good bars and exceptional boots, bred from an imported pair of birds. This pair would be hard to beat (age considered) should they go into the show pen this fall. In this loft were all imported stock, and besides those above referred to we were shown some very fine black mottles and some blue and yellow muffed, most all of which were on eggs, and should produce some wonders, if proper mating is any criterion. The next loft contained domestic Tumblers, all of Mr. Walton's own production, and some clinkers among them. I appreciated his skill of production, being an enthusiast on this subject, and knowing from years of experience in other varieties what a very difficult matter it is to get good clear depth of color when marking is a primary object. This loft of Tumblers he manufactured from virtually nothing. Starting several years ago with a motley lot, whose only characteristic was acrobatic ability, he by careful and judicious selecting and matching, has gotten them down to a point where they will reproduce without uncertainty their grand color and accurate markings. In this lot are some red mottles, that for color marking and muffs one might travel many miles to find their equals; also some grand solid or self-colors, all muffed, that would fill the Tumbler fancier's heart with delight to own. Mr. Walton breeds muffed birds exclusively; doesn't take any stock at all in clean leg birds, as he says he can get all the grand color points of the latter and then the additional feature of muffs. One thing I can assure the Tumbler Club members of and that is they have a secretary who is exclusive. Mr. Walton won't talk any pigeon but Tumbler, but on this score his volubility has no limitation. We talked Tumbler and looked at Tumblers the entire afternoon, and it was only when darkness overtook us that we left the lofts. We again encroached on our host's hospitality, and after supper talked Tumbler till bed time, at which juncture we took the train once more for the Quaker City, loth, however, to relinquish the companionship of one of the most whole-souled and agreeable fanciers I met on my trip. After a night's rest at the Bingham House we were ready for a continuation of our journey. We intended calling on Messrs. Groves, Bailey, Pettit, Laird,

Scholes, Erdman, Yewdall and other Philadelphia fanciers, but fate seemed against us, as the early train found us on our way to Glen Riddle to view the collection of Jacobins of our old friend, Mr. Atwood B. Hoskins. Glen Riddle lies in a garden spot of country, and the lovely residence of Mr. Hoskins is so situated as to overlook the beauties of it all. The undulating surrounding country, studied here and there with clumps of timber and watered by a creek flowing through the centre, would form an ideal picture for the artist's pencil.

We lost no time in an inspection of the Jacobins as soon as we were joined by our host, who was away at the time of our arrival, but who came up about an hour after. Mr. Hoskins has six lofts all devoted to Jacobins and containing in all about three to four hundred birds. The old champion red cock, of which many of my readers have doubtless heard, was looking trim as ever, and exhibited the same grand style so well displayed in his youth. This Jack is a wonder; in fact, the whole strain of reds are. They attract at a glance by their good style and carriage, which lends so much aid in the display of the immense feather property they carry. This strain of reds, I should say, are the head of the van in this country. The quality is not confined to one or two specimens, but there are a dozen or two all so fine that one seems, as you examine it, to be a rival of the other. Their strong forte is hood, a point to which Mr. Hoskins attaches great importance, and which is a striking feature in his collection, none of them being short in this point. Mated to the red cock is a yellow hen, considered by Mr. Hoskins and also by Mr. Crawford, her former owner, to be the best yellow Jack hen ever exhibited in America. She won first at Louisville two years ago in the strongest competition ever provided for Jacobins. Mr. Hoskins paid Mr. Crawford \$100 for her, which was by no means an exorbitant figure when her quality is considered, and I doubt, if it had not been for the tie of long acquaintance and friendship existing between these two gentlemen, that Mr. Crawford would have parted with her for any monetary consideration. From this pair Mr. Hoskins has a '93 red that, with proper age, for feather development will outclass his heretofore in-

vincible sire. His blacks and whites are also good, a '93 white which we inspected being particularly promising, having immense hood, mane, rose and chain, heavy feather well put on, and is withal a small-bodied bird. We were greatly surprised at the great improvement in blues made by this fancier during the past two or three seasons. They are gradually crawling up to the standard of the other colors by Mr. Hoskins' judicious crosses of blacks and whites. Mr. Hoskins can lay claim to the origination of this color, though there are several breeders now working on them, in most cases from the material originated at Glen Riddle. In one loft are the surplus stock—assorted cast-offs from which he does not breed. This is the "for sale loft," and many a fine specimen that would grace the average Jack fancier's loft finds its way there. If I wanted ten pairs to breed I would nearly as soon make my selection there as in the stud lofts, as the blood is the same, and such blood as this will tell in breeding. We feasted our eyes on the rare Jacobin merit embraced in these lofts for some time, but, like all other good things, the close came, and, after partaking of an elegant lunch at the hands of our host's estimable wife, we bade adieu to both and were soon lost to the charming scenery of Glen Riddle speeding on the train for Philadelphia.

Arriving once more in the Quaker City, we found we had but five minutes to catch the train for Reading, which place was our next stopping point. The first fancier to claim our attention in Reading was Mr. F. A. Shofer, whose lofts contain about sixty Jacobins made up of the Hoskins and Crawford stock, which he is crossing with excellent results. The birds as a whole are a good collection and some few individual specimens were away above the average; a white, in particular, would bear comparison with the best. With fair success attendant on the good matings here shown us, I should say Mr. Shofer will be in the front ranks at next season's shows.

In company with this jovial Jacobin fancier, we repaired to the residence of our old friend, Mr. W. Harry Orr. We found him the same old jolly enthusiast as of yore, and was as glad to see us as we were to shake his hand. No time to waste, and we

at once repaired to his noted Turbit lofts, which are two stories high and adjoin his stables, the entire upper floor being devoted to Turbits, wing-marked and solid whites. A Turbit fancier could pleasantly spend an entire day in viewing the rare quality embraced in this collection. He has many good ones in all colors. We were shown the best blue Turbit cock I have ever seen—grand short bullfinch beak, immense skull development, very full wide mouth and cheeks, bolting eyes, good gullet, frill, peak and mane, fine color and good marking, a real gem of the first water. This cock will cause a sensation when he appears in the show pen this fall. I also examined a little red hen that possesses great Turbit merit, having good head and beak, very wide mouth and full cheeks and wonderful profile; is also good in color and marking and, in fact, is a nicely finished bird all over. A yellow cock possesses grand substance of beak and well-bulged frontal, good eye, peak, gullet and frill, but could have little richer color. We were also pointed out a couple of nice young blacks bred from the grand-headed black hen sold by this gentleman to Mr. Levering, and of which there has been so much written by the respective prominent Turbit men. These young cocks are nice birds, well worth owning, and with proper age should make up as winners in strong company. There were many others in this collection that are more than worthy of detail description, but it was difficult to fully appreciate the good points of the others after looking critically over the blue cock above described, his development of points being so remarkable that it laid an otherwise good Turbit completely in the shade. I don't think \$1,000 would prove a sufficient incentive for Mr. Orr to part with him, especially as Harry is well blessed with this world's goods and not likely to ever feel the need of cash. After satiating our Turbit merit appetite we adjourned with Mr. Orr for a refreshment of the more substantial sort, and after enjoying the bounteous repast we indulged a social pigeon chat over a glass or two of champagne until bedtime, when we reluctantly bid our host adieu and jumped the train for Allentown, where we spent a good night in slumber and refreshed us for the morrow's start.

Early in the morning, in company with our old friend, Mr. George W. Eckert, we called upon Mr. William Lentz the gentleman of tailed Turbit reputation. We found at this fancier's place one of the finest and neatest-arranged little lofts we had ever seen—a miniature pigeon palace which must be seen to be appreciated. Space will not admit of a description, but it demonstrates fully that Mr. Lentz is a true lover of his pets to provide for them such luxurious quarters. We found he had about gone out of the tailed Turbit fancy, and the stock now claiming his attention is composed of white African Owls, solid white Turbits and a very grand pair of white Owls with jet-black tails. This latter pair of birds he purchased from an importer at the New York Show last February. The cock was winner of first premium at this exhibition. They are the grandest headed pair I have ever seen, very short and tremendously thick in face, regular marble heads on them and great depth of cheek. Should like to own this pair, as indeed any short-faced frill fancier would if he saw them.

Next we repaired to the widely-known Owl lofts owned by Mr. Geo. W. Eckert. The lofts are three in number and are situated over the carriage-house. They are neatly arranged, plenty of light and sunshine and running water, with a spray bath for the pets. My introduction of and allusion to this gentleman's stock is hardly necessary, as there are few but who know of him and his stock, but as George is constantly improving and working on new colors, etc., I must beg leave to refer in brief to a few of these wonderful Owls. As a collection to-day, he stands second to none in the country, having rare quality in all the varieties of the Owl family. It was with great surprise we noted the wonderful strides made in this loft on Chinese Owls. Not only has Mr. Eckert the whites, blues and silvers, but also very fine blacks, reds and yellows. When a fancier has had the experience in breeding for good red and yellow color that I have he cannot fail to appreciate the attainment of it, as seen in the Eckert Owls. A yellow Chinese hen was particularly grand in this point, and has a very good head and beak, grand in rose and whiskers. I was also very favorably impressed with the blacks.

He has many good ones. The blues, silvers and whites are all well up in Owl points and will compare favorably with the best I have seen. In African Owls he showed us all colors, whites and blues and silvers being in the lead in both quantity and quality, though this is quite natural, as we don't expect to find the blacks, reds and yellows up to the standard of the more popularly bred colors. In English Owls he possesses both quantity and quality. A grand pair of blues hold the position of honor, both imported, cock a winner at Louisville and New York, then owned by Mr. Foust; he has a grand thick short face, is very cheeky and has a rare gullet, three very essential points in the make up of an Owl. The hen is a '92 bird and a grand one for her age; has a very short beak of tremendous substance (for a hen), possesses great width and rotundity of skull, fine gullet and good frill. From this pair Mr. Eckert should get some world-beaters. He has a grand lot of silver English, not only one or two but a dozen, all worthy of keen comparison with the best company. Both in cocks and hens, one striking characteristic of this collection of silver English is their abundance of frill. We also saw some good red, yellow and black English, both sexes. Two points which forcibly impress one on examining the Eckert Owls are substance of beak and wonderful down-face, and it is prevalent in all the varieties, both English and foreign. There will be very hot Owl competition furnished from this loft the coming season.

Time pressing, we bade our host good-bye and jumped the train for Newark, N. J., of which I will tell you next week.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

FELL'S POINT CLUB.

The Fell's Point Homing Pigeon Club had its third race July 2, from Greensboro, N. C., a distance of 301 miles, air line.

The entries were Alex. Westerman, six birds, and Luther Conradi, one bird. The start was by R. E. Potts, who wired that the birds were liberated at 9 A. M., with weather cloudy and light wind. At Baltimore the weather was clear, with southeast winds. The first returns were two birds to the Westerman loft a blue

cock, W. 13,467, countermark. 13, and a blue cock, W. 8,855, countermark 49. Both arrived at 6.15 P. M.

The birds were held at the liberating station five days on account of bad weather. The other members did not desire to ship birds to Greensboro. The race ends the old bird flights of the club for this season.

THE AMERICAN PIGEON CLUB SHOW.

Since Mr. John H. Kuhn, of Louisville, was up here there has been lots of talk about the above show, which is billed to be held in Baltimore, November 20 to December 5. Most of the boys realize that a good thing is offered them, and, I think when the time comes New England will send down a good entry; but I have heard some little side talk the past week by a party who is very much opposed to said show, for reasons best known to himself, and which misrepresentations if taken in as gospel will work harm to the exhibition. I would advise all the New England boys to make a critical survey of the situation before swallowing it, says "Humming Bird in American Stock keeper. Look into the matter and see if your friendly adviser has not got a rather dull axe to grind and wants to use you to turn the wheel.

I don't care two straws for the trouble between the American Pigeon Club and the A. C. A., so I am not going to sacrifice my interests to help the cause of either one or the other in their factional fight: what I am interested in is a good show with good inducements where I know I'll be sure of getting my premium money. The best I see in sight at present is the show of the American Pigeon Club. They have got good classification and good prizes, and the best of all is, I am sure of what I win. Kuhn has been tested and has paid a security debt; he is not likely to go back on a club in which he is the principal. Don't let Mr. A. C. A. advocate feed you up on promises; if you do you are liable to walk home from the show; they have got a moneyed man at their head, but when he finds out they are trying to use him to accomplish their own selfish ends he'll be sure to pull the reins. American Pigeon Club will pay out. The men in it have been there before and have a correct estimate of the undertaking.

Don't listen to any little tales of woe from people who have got stuck in the mud and who promise to carry you on their shoulders if you will just help them out. Go where you can get the most for your money and where you are sure of a hundred cents for every dollar you win.

THE FANTAIL.

For artistic beauty, for constant display of fresh surprises in form and shape, every minute displaying fresh beauty with change of posture, showing points that are charming and captivating to the eye of a fancier, the Fantail stands in bold relief; no one endowed with the least taste of the beautiful can but admire this variety, says F. E. H. in Feathered World, for as you stand and watch its every movement displaying fresh and unexpected glimpses of loveliness, you feel charmed, and even forget yourself in the pleasures afforded; also as a proof of its popularity, notice at our shows the Fantail has more admirers crowding round its pens than most of the other varieties, especially the ladies, who are strict connoisseurs of all that is pleasing to the eye, and now that the rival factions have united (thanks to the efforts of the Fantail Club) to produce the typical bird, with its large well-spread and evenly balanced tail and body of symmetrical proportions, and shown to advantage by what is termed in the fancy action, nerve, style, and which is really life in healthy excess, then, I say, who can help the admiration which such a thing of elegance calls forth?

That which I think the Rev. Sergeantson some years ago—*i. e.*, the combination of all that was best in the English and Scotch types—has now become an accomplished fact; the coarse, flat, large-tailed English bird of years ago has been mated with the stylish, small-bodied, petite-formed and wonderful actioned Scotch beauty, and the result has justified those predictions, in that we now have almost as perfect a Fantail as it is possible to produce, consequently this change has raised this variety in public estimation, as instanced by the increased sales, also by the largest entry ever known at the late Crystal Palace Show, when almost perfect specimens were exhibited, to the delight of those favored

ones who were present. To those few who still contend that a Fantail should essentially be a bird of tail properties at the expense of other points, because of its name, I would quote a few lines out of an excellent book written by Mr. G. Ure. He writes: "I have heard it said that tail should be the first property, because of the name 'Fantail.' This rule of sound should be carried out in all breeds. Thus the trumpeting of the Trumpeter would be the grand property. How does it hold here? In the few books I have read where this bird is described I do not think trumpeting is ever mentioned, does not even stand as number one in the totting up of the point judging, and it certainly is not reckoned by judges at shows; so here at least there is nothing in a name." The standard of perfection published by the Fantail Club is as follows:

Head.—Small; fine and snakey. Beak.—Thin, and of medium length, the upper mandible slightly curved at the tip like that of a Dove. Color of beak.—Whites, saddlebacks, reds and yellows: Flesh color. Blues, silver and blacks: Black. Beak Wattle.—Small and fine in texture. eye.—Whites and saddlebacks: Dark hazed or bull. Blues, silvers, blacks, reds and yellows: Pearl, gravel, or orange; the former preferred. Eye cere.—Very fine. Neck.—Thin and swanlike; tapering well off as it approaches the head. Length of neck.—Corresponding with length of back, so as to enable the head to rest closely on the cushion—10. Body.—Shape: Small and round. Back: Slightly hollow in centre. Length of back: Corresponding with length of neck, so as to enable the head to rest closely on the cushion. Rump: Small but of efficient size and strength to balance the tail evenly. Chest: Broad, round and free from hallowness, except a slight parting in the centre. Breast: Round and full—20. Wings.—Set on fairly low, and very closely tucked in at the chest. Flights of medium length and well closed—5. Cushion.—Full and massive; the feathers at the back closely overlapping each other and spreading well over the tail feathers—6. Tail.—Slightly concave; and circular, filled with long, broad, evenly set feathers, closely overlapping each other, and as thick as possible in the centre—15. Legs.—Of moderate length; not stilty;

set well apart, and free from feathers below the hocks. Feet.—Small, fine and neat. Color of legs and feet.—Bright red—4. Plumage.—Feathers hard and tight fitting—10. Carriage.—The bird should stand on tip-toes and walk in a jaunty manner. Head: Thrown back in a graceful manner, resting closely on the cushion. Chest: Upright, so as to carry the breast almost in a straight line with the legs. Flight: Just clearing the lowest tail feathers and almost meeting at the tips. Tail: Carried well up, not being allowed to drop or incline forward—20. Motion.—Convulsive jerking or twitching of the neck and apparent upheaving of the chest—10. General appearance.—Closely built.

Colors and varieties.—Whites, saddlebacks, blues, silvers, blacks, reds, yellows and lace. Saddlebacks.—White with colored wings, each ten flights. Blues.—Sound, bright and clear, with two broad, well-defined, black bars across each wing, and one at the top of each tail feather. Blacks.—Jet black, with beetle-green lustre. Reds and yellows.—Rich and sound throughout. Lace.—Loose and deficient in webbing, each fibre being separated.

EXTRA POINTS.—Saddlebacks,—5 for color and 10 for marking. Blues, silvers, blacks, reds and yellows,—10 for color. Lace.—10 for lacing.

There is no doubt we have obtained the present excellent standard by the previous judicious crossing of the English blood with the Indian, as instanced by the occasional sports, or throw-backs, such as appear by feather-legged, crests, peaks, etc., which every breeder sees produced in his loft, also to the excellent saddle blood, which has been the means of improving our shape in body (a most essential point), also the style and grace which our whites now possess. This is proved by the appearance of splashes, etc., which sometimes show themselves. The former birds, peaks, crests, etc., would be best set aside for the pie. The latter, "splashes," etc., may safely be used in the breeding-pen to great advantage. To produce the best average, I should advise the selection of the finest and smartest of hens, possessing extra points in nerve, carriage, style, etc., to a cock of typical proportions, excelling in feather properties, as I think it is almost the unanimous opinion of breeders that we get the

shape of body, etc., from the hen, the cock producing the other requisite properties of feathering, tail, etc. Avoid coarse and badly-formed bodied birds.

I should advise those living in large towns or crowded centres to turn their attention to the colored varieties, such as blacks, blues, yellows, reds and saddles, as these do not suffer so much from want of condition (a most essential point in whites), as many a good specimen is compelled to take a lower position in the show pen through want of condition, which is unfair to the birds shown, and disappointing to the exhibitor, and washing for condition is only a poor substitute for one naturally shown in the pink of condition. There is a splendid field for the young enthusiasts to give their attention to the colored varieties, as there is more room for improvement in these than in the whites, and although they have made rapid strides, and are becoming more popular every year, still they are not equal in certain points to the whites.

In conclusion, don't get disappointed with, at first, not meeting with the success you anticipate; by patience and perseverance you may become the happy holder of the Fantail Club's challenge cup or plate, and so the law of compensation will come in.

There is one variety that I have omitted to mention—*i. e.*, the laced Fantail, a most ethereal-looking beauty. Mr. Chapman possesses some of the finest specimens, and I think they are great favorites of his, and, under his skilled management, have attained points of great merit.

HOMING PIGEONS FROM THE FALCON.

A pigeon arrived here this morning with a message signed by E. B. Baldwin, meteorologist of the second Peary Arctic expedition, and announcing that the Falcon was off Ocean Grove at 8 A. M. to-day steering north; wind northwest; weather cloudy. All well on board.

The following message was received by pigeons Nos. 227 and 60. They were found in the loft at 10.30 this morning:

"Off Cape Henlopen, June 28, 2 P. M.—On board the Falcon, steering southeast; cloudy, and wind southeast; nine knots. Pigeons, burrows

and Esquimo dogs all right. Pilot Chambers just left the vessel."

E. B. BALDWIN,
Peary Arctic Expedition.

The following messages were received, signed E. B. Baldwin, by pigeon No. 8, at 12.36 P. M.:

"Off Elberton, New Jersey, June 29, 9.37 A. M.—Lieut. Peary's Arctic ship Falcon. Capt. Henry M. Bartlett sends greeting to the World's Fair, Chicago: May success crown Columbia's grandest centennial effort."

By pigeon No. 75, at 12.50 P. M.
"Off Seabright, New Jersey, June 29, 10.15 A. M.—Mrs. Peary's Homing pigeons carry greetings and best wishes from the Falcon to Mrs. Potter Palmer and others of America's noblest women who have striven to make the World's Fair a crowning success."

Yardley, June, 29.

THE POUTER DISCUSSED.

THE SUPERIORITY OF SHAPE OVER
MARKINGS—THE HARDEST PROPERTY TO GRASP.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

At last some of the Pouter men have come to life again. In one of your late issues I see Mr. Feather comes out in an article on judging Pouters. I would like for the Messrs. Ward, Acton, Heroux, McClure, Lassetter, Muehlig, Honig, Wagner, Taulman, Kuhn, Gibson, Martin, Rinke, Heitmeyer and others, including yourself, Mr. Editor, air themselves on the subject. The above names include the foremost breeders of the Pouter in this country. After one looks the list over he would naturally conclude that every man mentioned there knew just what a Pouter should be. But do they? Not in my estimation. The very endorsement of a Pouter by some of the above parties would condemn him in my eyes. The above list could be divided about equally between the ones who regard a Pouter as I do and those whose ideas differ from mine. Among the latter are some very old and prominent breeders, but I must say, like the young congressman from Texas said when the United States Supreme Court sustained Speaker Reed's rulings, "I am sorry I can't agree with the court." I am like the young congressman. Much as I respect the views of some of the men who bred

Pouters when I was a boy, still I can't agree with them, and why there should be such a vast difference between men who have made a study of the bird I can't see. To me there is nothing prettier than a good-shaped Pouter, but a long, low fellow has no beauty in my eyes. I suppose a deep colored Pouter perfectly marked, even though of poor shape, would still be a pretty bird; but he wouldn't be half so pretty as a Nun, Swallow or Magpie, whose chief characteristic beauty lies (I think) in color and markings. Then, if I was an advocate of nice markings in preference of everything else, I would go into the varieties where markings were their chief characteristics; but when you talk of a Pouter you must sacrifice everything else, if need be to get shape.

Now don't anybody get a notion in their head that I don't value markings at all. I admire them very much and breed for them all I can. I have several birds that I would gladly give \$25 to be able to pluck eight or ten feathers from some parts of their body and grow them on to some other parts. But if the bird was lacking in shape—unless of good strain—I would give him to some little boy, even though he were perfect in markings. The great trouble in "sizing up" a Pouter lies in discernment. Anybody can tell if a bird is marked nicely or not. A boy will speak of the "half moon" and the "white feathers on the wings" the first time he ever sees a Pouter, but it takes a trained eye to distinguish the most important points. I think the girth the hardest property to grasp correctly. In the first place, a bird must have his crop inflated to tell anything about the girth, for I consider "length of waist" 75 per cent. of the girth. If a bird will blow a good-sized crop that starts out abruptly at its base, and its legs are set fairly back on body, it will, of course, have a good length of waist, and consequently, in my estimation, a good girth. True, the width across a bird's back, the depth through from back to breast and the manner of carrying the shoulders have quite a bearing on the girth, but a bird good in waist is invariably good in other girth requisites; so to arrive at the girth properly you must take crop, legs, shoulders and curve in back into consideration. If a bird's crop runs

down too low it can't be good in girth. It shortens the waist, thickens the substance through from back to breast and, as a rule, the crop is usually wide at the shoulders in such birds, frequently projecting from the sides of the shoulders. All this tends to make girth look thick.

Legs are also hard to understand correctly; in fact, my eyes are not trained thoroughly enough yet to grasp them. The great desideratum is to get a good length from hock down—at least, so Fulton, Ure and other able writers tell us. Now I have studied my birds for years, trying to be able to conclude which of them were good in that respect and which lacking. I am as far from knowing as ever. I should judge the length from hock down to the junction of the feet with the legs to be two inches, and for a man to stand off a distance and tell which is the longest lower leg, when the difference is only a small fractional part of an inch, is beyond me. I judge the legs as a whole. Of course, the longer they are the better, but they must be nicely shaped, set on far back and close together, with the feathers fitting close around the thighs and junction of thighs with body. Such will look longer than some legs really longer, but set on more forward and wide apart, with loose feathers veiling part of the thighs. Of course the bird must stand firmly on his legs and not crouch. Too many of our fanciers simply strive for a long leg. They will go into ecstasies over some bird of their's with a seven-inch leg, and when you see the bird and remark "that his legs don't seem so long," they will chuckle and tell you "that the bird will fool you worse than any you ever saw," and add "to go and measure his legs." If any of my birds are to fool me I want them to fool me the other way, *i. e.*, I want them to *appear* longer in legs than they really are. Outside of a few fanciers whom I have talked with, none of them ever speak of the shape of the legs. They don't say a word about the distinct outlines of the thighs, the closeness together that legs are set on, which is one of my very first observations always. The latter anybody ought to be able to tell at a glance. How few men ever notice whether a bird's legs are set on far back or not! This, unless you can get a bird to show off at least a little

bit, is hard to judge correctly. Then that nice sweep inward from thighs to hock—not one in a hundred ever notice it. I don't value it as much as either of the other qualities just mentioned; still, whenever you see it you can gamble the bird is bred well.

I admire proper boots very much. I want, in preference of everything else in this connection, the feathers to lay close around the thighs, so the latter can be freely seen. I suppose lots of fanciers have noticed that some young Pouters, when about a month old, look longer in legs to them than ever afterward. This is because you can then see the whole of the limbs, before the loose feathers, growing around the thighs, partly hide them. I have noticed it many times. I would get a promising youngster about a month old and put my hand under his belly and raise him up, so he would have to stretch his legs long as possible to keep from being lifted off the floor. I would congratulate myself then and there that this certainly was to be the best-legged bird in the country. After he got a month older he wouldn't look near so well as some others that had about escaped my observation. So it goes. I have quit figuring on them now until they begin to pout and show signs of wanting to mate. Then you can take their measure right.

Then, as to crop, how few fanciers really have the right idea of a crop! Most of them want a great big crop, without regard to shape; in fact, they don't seem to know that the crop must be shaped in any certain way. I have seen men admire a bird that blew such a large crop that it actually rested on its tail and finally fell over backwards. They considered that just the thing. I don't want such excess of crop. I like a crop just bordering on the danger line, *i. e.*, just as big as the bird can carry conveniently when tightly filled. Of course, it must be round as possible and, above all, start out abruptly from the breast. This is the hardest part of the crop to get right. In nearly all large crops it runs down too low. Lucky is the man who owns a bird with a good-sized crop that is of good shape at its base. The crop must be evenly distended all around and well balanced. I like for the beak to be nearly hidden, sinking down in the crop, creating a slight dent, or, rather, a depression like is

seen in an apple where it is attached to the stem. A very slight fullness at back of neck is necessary to make the crop round. A great many birds are seen that blow a crop not larger than a good-sized lemon. This, I think, is caused by breeders overdoing the thing in trying to avoid getting birds coarse and large. Any novice can distinguish between the two extremes, but it is a good judge who can notice just where the turning point begins, where the excess either way first makes itself manifest.

I never measure my birds. I would if I thought it would assist me any. It only misleads instead of helping. Every Pouter man must know that there is no way of ascertaining the actual length of a bird while at his best. I mean while he is blown up and extended as long as he can possibly extend himself. I am sure a good Pouter when in this shape is an inch longer than he would measure in hand and stretched out, as they usually measure them. I am thoroughly satisfied of this. Then, on the other hand, you take another bird and measure him in the usual way and he may measure more than the former. Then put him on the floor and he will blow just a little—not enough to stretch him out perceptibly, but still just as much as he ever extends himself—and he will never look as long as you would have a right to expect from the measurement taken of him; yet the latter will be considered the longest bird. Just think of measuring a bird's legs! And that is the extent to which some parties figure on the Pouter's chief property. The longest leg is the best leg is the way they deem it. It makes no difference how they are set on, where they are set on, how they are shaded or whether they crouch or stand on them. It makes me feel like fighting every time I talk to such men. Measurement! That is all right when figuring on a piece of ground, calico or rope, but on pigeons—I'll none of it.

The greatest drawback in improving pigeons is that so few people realize the value of pedigree in them. I frequently have men tell me "that they have just bought a dandy big Blower" (they always refer to them as dandy big Blowers). When I ask of whom they got them they will say: "From somebody down in South St.

Louis, whose name they don't know, who traded a cinnamon Blower and a speckled Ruffleneck for it to a bird-store man." They don't know who the bird-store man got it from. Before ever they are through talking I know just about the kind of a bird that dandy big Blower is. They usually pay about \$1.50 to \$2 for him. Then they will go around to all the bird stores, and every one else who has cheap Pouters, and buy a mate, at times mating yellow and black or red and blue together. How can such a man succeed? It is out of the question.

Count me in on the Pouter Club, for no variety needs concerted action among its admirers more than does the grandest of all pigeons—the Pouter.—H. A. BUDDÉ.

THE PEDIGREE BREEDING OF PIGEONS.

BY RICHARD WOODS.

From *Fanciers' Gazette*.

Notwithstanding the fact that I am a firm believer in pedigree breeding and have for many years practised with much success what I am about to "preach," it is not without a certain amount of diffidence that I give publicity to the views I hold on this important subject; and although I have no desire or intention of creating controversy, our good-natured editor will, I doubt not, throw open his pages for the publication of any opinions my readers may feel disposed to express.

The importance of the subject *cannot* be denied; important in the fullest sense of the word, for it concerns so much and interests so many. Ah! and doubly—nay, trebly—important when we come to realize the solid fact the future type and character of most varieties of pigeons are pretty much at the mercy of present-day breeders. With so large a responsibility on our shoulders, does it not, I ask, behove one and all to strive to do the utmost to breed up to the generally recognized standard of excellence, and thereby derive not only a large amount of pleasure and satisfaction, but also merit the gratitude of myriads of fanciers to follow?

Breeding high-class stock is frequently referred to as a science, and although a scientific study of the subject is *absolutely necessary*, I am inclined to the opinion that the pur-

suit of pigeon culture partakes more largely of art than science. I am led into this train of thought from the indisputable fact—reality—that it is impossible to lay down any hard-and-fast rules that would in *all* cases apply. To more clearly explain my meaning, I will, illustrative of science, take a very simple example.

All chemists know perfectly well that a mixture of hydrogen and oxygen in the proportion of two parts of the former to one part of the latter produces water. This, then is science. Why? Briefly this: Because the change is brought about by certain *fixed* laws. Has any breeder of fancy pigeons, I ask, succeeded in simplifying the production of high class stock in this manner? I trow not. This in scrutable fact is, to my mind, a wise dispensation of Providence, for if fancy stock breeding could be reduced to a rule-of-three sum, the gratification the pursuit engenders would soon be decreased to a marvellous extent. "Is it not the glorious uncertainty of results that keeps the game alive?" But let me not be misunderstood as underating the scientific part of the process of breeding, for I do not by any means altogether attribute the production of good stock to the art—or cunning if you will—of the breeder. Far from it, for it is an established fact that certain rules *must* be observed—should, in fact, be regarded as inviolable; and it is to those rules that I shall later on direct my reader's attention.

Art—as applied to pigeon culture—can only be acquired by experience, and it is well that it is so, for were it otherwise, artfully bred birds (good ones) would be so plentiful that they would rapidly decrease in value. Should the question, "What is art?" be asked, I would reply, "The practical application of judgment and skill." In support of my contention, then, that art plays no inconsiderable part in the breeding of fancy stock, I need only refer to the persistency with which some men, year after year, turn out those wonderful specimens which make their names so famous.

To found a strain is simple enough, but to establish a strain of high-class stock that, if properly managed, may be depended upon from generation to generation to reproduce those marked characteristics of the breed, and the many excellencies for which the ar-

dent fancier and breeder fervently hopes, is quite another thing. It is, as I have just said, very easy to found a strain, but unless built upon solid principles it is worse than useless to establish a family or race that must in its very conception depart from the beaten track. The breeding of good birds, even by those versed in the art, is in all conscience, difficult enough without being trammelled with stock that has been produced by an heterogeneous admixture of blood.

Many beginners in pigeon culture commence their career in a most erroneous manner. Intuitively they are seized with the idea that, to succeed in breeding, it is absolutely necessary to match together birds of *totally different* families, and, to their subsequent chagrin, be it observed, this is the course they invariably pursue. Could anything be more fallacious or misleading? That a change of blood is at times advisable all thoughtful men agree, but to assume that because *too close* breeding induces sterility and disease, all breeding stock *must* be unrelated, is—well, the height of absurdity. Consanguineous birds, in the hands of an experienced person, they very often prove of priceless value. Much more might be written on this subject, but enough has been said to dispel the mistaken idea so widely prevalent.

Having fixed on the breed it is desired to cultivate, and carefully studied the points and properties of that particular kind of pigeon, noting well the defects most commonly met with, the intending breeder should procure his first stock from a person who makes a specialty of the breed selected.

Luckily, pedigree stock is nowadays fairly abundant, as the majority of old-established breeders have surplus birds frequently to dispose of—stock, too, that is not to be despised, for even in the hands of the tyro it may "throw" remarkably good specimens. Stock of this kind may generally be bought at easy prices, so that a "blue-blooded" foundation may be laid at small cost. With a view of ascertaining the hereditary tendencies of the various points and properties, this stock should be exclusively bred from for a season or two, and although no great progress may be made towards the attainment in prospect, much practical knowledge that is unattain-

able in any other way will have been gained, and what—viewing in the mind's eye future operations—must be regarded as equally important, the purity of blood will be intact.

After a few seasons' breeding, the weak points of this stock, as well as the strong ones, will be clearly manifest, and one's course for the future will be equally plain. For example, we will suppose that fashionable breed, the Show Homer, is being cultivated, and that well-bred stock has been bought at the outset. Judging by outward and visible signs, our hopes for the future are high; we hail with delight the promising progeny, which for a time appear to possess all the highly-cherished attributes of the bird; but by-and-by, as development proceeds, our idolized youngsters—one and all—shoot out in feather and develop a coarseness of wattle that cannot in a Show Homer be tolerated. In other respects our birds are good, so that the defects of this stock are clearly proved. A valuable lesson has been practically learnt, and we can therefore with much assurance shape our course accordingly. Happily our birds are fairly correct structurally, so that we have only to concentrate our energies in the direction of shortening the feather and reducing the wattle.

To do this other birds must be introduced, or years of patient breeding indulged in; but when our object has been accomplished we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that the originals of our stock have, at our hands, been gently improved upon; in fact, a new strain will have been formed, and that, let us hope, a valuable one.

HOMERS FOR THE ARCTICS.

In consequence of the success of the messenger pigeon service organized at the United States Naval Academy, Lieut. Peary has decided to use pigeons as messengers on his exploration trip to the Arctics, and is having built a cote on board the Falcon similar to that of the United States practice-ship Constellation.

MT. CLARE CLUB.

Messrs. Schoman and Knell and C. Wagner, of the Mt. Clare Homing Club, had fourteen birds home from

Frederick Junction, July 2. None of these birds are five months old, and had not been over twenty miles away from home before.

PIGEON ITEMS AROUND BOSTON.

BY OUR BOSTON CORRESPONDENT.

Having long had a desire to go out to Needham to see our genial fancier "Bob" Bowman, I hied myself thither one evening last week. I found him at home; and, after being introduced to his better-half and other members of his family, I was taken out to see the chickens, for which a large run has just been completed. He has evidently had good luck in hatching this season, judging from the number of chickens he showed me. His pigeon loft is one of the best I have found on any of my trips into the suburbs. It is made of match boards on the outside and sheathed on the inside and well lighted. The size on the ground is 10x30; about 10 feet high in front and 6 feet back, facing the south, with a wire aviary along the entire front. The inside is divided into three sections, which gives each section 10x10 feet. Along on one side of the first section are a row of mating cages, where the birds are mated and put in training for the show pen. This section is used at present as a reception-room. On entering the next or middle section we found ourselves among the birds, which seemed unusually tame. There were a number of odd cocks there, but I noticed a pair of red Fans that were very fine, also a pair of yellows that are not slow, by any means; also a pair of blue Swallows and one or two pairs of black-tail Turbits. The next section is where the clinkers are kept, and the first one that caught my eye upon entering was that famous Bokhara Trumpeter I have heard and read so much about. He has been trimmed for the breeding season, so I could not see him in full feather, but he is a dandy, and no mistake. The next I saw was a blue Turbit cock, of the Ingram strain, that is an extra fine one. He is mated to a very stylish little hen, and "Bob" says they threw him one that was simply out of sight, but it was too good to live and passed in its checks while very young. There are blacks, red

and yellow wing Turbits; also black and white Jacks and a few pairs of white Trumpeters breeding in this section. The upper loft, which runs the entire length of the building, is kept for Tumblers, and "Bob" has some good birds in solid black; red, yellow and splashes. He has bred a number of fine young blacks of good color and very long muffed. One thing in particular that is noticeable in nearly all of "Bob's" Tumblers is their carriage. They have the real Tumbler shape, which is a great point with their owner. A few of these birds will be on exhibition at the coming American Pigeon Show if nothing happens. "Bob" is an old and systematic breeder, and the neatness and convenience of his loft is sufficient proof that he is a true fancier. When I started for Needham it was my intention to call on the Messrs. Carter and Hudson, but owing to so much time spent with Mr. Bowman it was impossible, and I shall make another visit to see them in a week or two.

Through the influence of the secretary of the New England Pigeon Association, Mr. A. M. Ingram, of Quincy Mass., has been appointed to officiate as one of the judges at the American Pigeon Club Show. Mr. Ingram has been a fancier since a boy and has bred pigeons in both England and America. His judgment is taken by the fanciers around Boston in preference to all others, and the New England boys will all feel pleased with the selection. The American Pigeon Club have shown wise judgment to secure his services. Every one can rest assured his decisions will be impartial, and that it will be the bird and not its owner that gets a premium under him. The classes which he will judge have not been decided upon as yet.

The long list of specials offered by Mr. Kuhn at the American Pigeon Club Show gives an idea of what an inducement it will be to show with that club. It seems to be the intention to have a champion class for each variety, and as this is a new era in a pigeon exhibit it should be taken hold of with a will. The idea, as I understand it, is this: The entry fee in the champion classes will be the same as in other classes, but the prize will be a medal, which will be given

to the best bird in the class. The winner of a medal will be known ever afterward as a champion. This scheme may not commend itself to those fanciers who are after money only, I think when one considers the amount of advertising that will go with a medal winner it would be worth while entering one or two in some of these classes. I have often wondered why more medals are not offered as specials at pigeon shows, and think it a very appropriate prize and worth a small gamble to win one.

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The fine weather we have had of late has been a great benefit to young pigeons, and now is just the time when the birds should be looked after with great care. Be sure the water in the fountains never runs dry, for the old birds cannot feed their young without it. If youngsters have to go with empty crops they will take canker and die, sometimes in a very few hours. I received a letter from Mr. Willetts, of Lowell, this week, wherein he states that he let his water run dry, and upon going to the loft at night found six very promising youngsters dead. We cannot be any too careful at this season of the game, and neglect is sure to be expensive.

ESTABLISHING A KIT OF TUMBLERS, OR ROLLERS.

BY GEORGE SMITH.

From the Feathered World.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 399.]

I will now call your attention to Tiplers, the birds now so much admired, and since there are many amateurs taking up this fancy, perhaps it will be beneficial to many to explain the different varieties which figure under the name of Tiplers. First, there are the birds that are flown at Macclesfield, Congleton and in the Pottery districts; these are supposed to be the pure breed. They are nice-shaped birds, with good head and beak, and are what I consider Tiplers to perfection being compact in every shape and form. First-class birds of this sort are pretty flyers, and although many of them appear to be of a delicate nature, they have been known to fly twelve, and even fourteen hours at a stretch.

Then we have the class of Tiplers that are chiefly flown at Leicester. The majority of them are both larger and stronger than the Pottery type, and look more capable of doing a long fly, but they do not come up to the Pottery birds

for shape and head points. Many of them appear to have a lot of Tumbler blood in them, which no doubt has improved their flying qualities. These birds are chiefly mottles, and many of them have proved themselves to be champion flyers in all kinds of weather.

Next we have the class of Tiplers flown at Lincoln; these are almost all dark birds, chiefly grizzles or "greasers," they call them in the Pottery districts. There are also many dark chequers and blues. The birds of this type are strong and muscular, with broad chest, tapering off to the tail like a wedge, and they have a very pretty style of flying, generally mounting in the clouds for hours. They have been bred from the Tippler and Tumbler crossed several times; in fact, there are about three-parts Tippler and one-part Tumbler in them. The majority of these birds have originated from the Nottingham Tiplers and Tumblers, and the writer furnished these fanciers with their ancestors some few years.

Fourthly, we have the class of Tiplers bred for exhibition, birds which I would not recommend to any one for flying purposes. I will not make any comment on this class of birds now, as later on I shall have a little to say on the subject. However, if you want your birds for high and long flying, seek the acquaintance of a fancier whose hobby is entirely in that direction; and, on the other hand, if you want birds for exhibition, shape, color and markings are what you want to look to, and it does not matter a jot what kind of mongrels the parents are, providing that they breed the class of birds that are required in the show pen. The best way to obtain such birds would be to correspond with those who have taken prizes at our late shows.

If an amateur pays a visit to some of these towns where high and long flying is indulged in, he would have every chance of purchasing birds that met with his approval, and if it is possible to buy them at so much per hour it would be satisfactory to both parties, for if they were seen to fly ten hours it would be proof sufficient that the birds were good ones. Still the purchaser must not expect that he is going to fly them ten hours always, or at first start off, if so, in many cases he will be disappointed. The different treatment, the different locality, and the different birds they often mix with, will make the difference, and they seldom do much good for flying purposes. However, if you are to be successful with them, and fly them well, you must adopt the same plans that they have been accustomed to by their late owner, and feed and attend to them in a similar manner.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The grand list of personal specials offered by Mr. Kuhn for the American Pigeon Club Show created a great deal of favorable comment.

THE LITTLE SCOTCH FAN.

BY MRS. E. A. HURD.

"Oh, dear me!" said a little Fan man,
"I suppose I must sit here all day
In this horrid old pan and do what I can
To make this dove business pay."

"The summer is waning, the autumn is nigh,
And what will our master say
If there are no profits to put in his pockets?
He'll say 'This dove business don't pay.'"

"Then we'll be advertised, sold below cost—
That's what the ads. will say—
We'll be jammed into pockets and fired like
sky-rockets
Into old paper bags every day."

"They'll cull us all over and single us out
To make room for the surplus, they'll say.
The buyer'll stand by with never a doubt,
But they can't fool us pigeons that way."

"We'll be sent C. O. D. from the East to the
West—

Perhaps be returned the next day
Without food, without water, perhaps to be
slaughtered,
Because this dove business don't pay."

"So I'll do what I can," says the little Scotch
Fan,

"I'll hatch every egg that I lay;
They'll all be so nice they'll command a good
price,
And then the dove business will pay."

MORAL—Good stock is the foundation of
success.

THE OWL CLUB.

EDITOR THE FANCIER:

Mr. Klusmeyer, who has sent out inquiries asking our breeders to join the Owl Club, writes me that he has received several answers from persons wanting to know what benefit they will derive from joining the club. Now, we should think that any person who is so entirely ignorant as to ask such a question should be kicked out of the fancy. However, for their benefit, we should like to answer that the grand specials which are to be offered by the club will probably be open to members only. This is only one of the many benefits you will derive from becoming a member of the American Owl Club. We are now very near the top of the ladder of success, and earnestly ask the co-operation of every Owl fancier in the country. All we ask is that you send your name and \$1 to Mr. Klusmeyer. We will then have slips printed and sent out to each member of the club, which he can fill out with the officers which he wishes to have at the head of the club. I think I can positively state that the club will not meet with any association where proper classification is not given us.

C. W. BUTTLES.

BREEDERS' DIRECTORY.

Addresses will be inserted in THE FANCIER for \$2.00 per year, payable strictly in advance. Those who breed more than one variety, can have addresses under other headings (after the first) for \$1.00 for each variety.

Archangels.

George T. King, P. O. box 1, Richmond, Va.

Baldheads.

Orlando Robinson, 395 5th Ave., West Troy, N. Y.
A. T. Davis, 79 Lebanon St., Maplewood, Mass.
C. C. Johnson, box 343, Buffalo, N. Y. 3

Barbs.

W. W. White, 1101 N. Broadway, Baltimore, Md.
John V. Yegge, De Witt, Ia.
George T. King, P. O. box 1, Richmond, Va. 4
J. S. Rittenhouse, 38 S. Fourth St., Reading, Pa.
G. A. Fick, 1300 N. Washington St., Baltimore, Maryland.

Blondinettes.

R. S. Groves, 1433 S. 15th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Carriers.

George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.

Dragoons.

Mount Royal Lofts, Cote St. Antoine, Montreal, Canada. 22
George T. King, P. O. box 1, Richmond, Va.

Fantails.

L. Rottman, Benton, Holmes Co., O.
G. A. Beaty, 459 S. Mercer St., New Castle, Pa.
Stickley & Co., 210 N. Sum'er St., Nashville, Tenn.
P. M. Gilbert, Evansville, Ind.
R. E. Knapp, 109 Upper 3rd St., Evansville, Ind.
C. J. S. Baron, 937 E. Green St., Louisville, Ky.
C. J. S. Baron, 937 E. Green St., Louisville, Ky.
C. J. S. Baron, 937 E. Green St., Louisville, Ky.
George J. P. Mexal, Evansville, Ind.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.
Fred C. Weiss, 9 Upper 6th St., Evansville, Ind.
William L. Korb, 1708 W. Market Street, Louisville, Ky. 2
George Josenhans, 341 W. Forty-fourth Street, New York, N. Y. 11
A. L. Love, 2938 Henrietta St., St. Louis, Mo. 13

Flying Tumblers.

Orlando Robinson, 395 5th Ave., West Troy, N. Y.
Herbert Lyman, Waltham, Mass.
Geo. F. Raible, 14 Dalton Ave., Cincinnati, O.
O. C. Caspersen, Neenah, Winnebago Co., Wis.
Dr. F. R. Reynolds, Eau Claire, Wis.
Isaac Sprague, Jr., Wellesley Hills, Mass. 16
F. W. Gorse, 71 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.
L. Korb, 1708 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky. 16
Max Dannhauser, 40 Union Avenue Brooklyn, N. Y. 22
D. A. Teeter, White House Station, N. J.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.

Helmets.

A. Samuel, 115 Pratt Street, Buffalo, N. Y. 7
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.

High-Flyers.

H. Tieman, 1123 N. Central Ave., Baltimore, Md.
Max Dannhauser, 40 Union Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Homing Pigeons.

Orlando Robinson, 395 5th Ave., West Troy, N. Y.
F. Wardell Taylor, Langhorne, Pa. 13
O. F. Connelly, Carlisle, Cumberland Co., Pa.
Wilbur C. Littlefield, Milton, Mass.
Leo Portman, 3423 High Ave., Louisville, Ky.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va. 20
W. W. Bretherton, Portland, Oregon.
Fred G. J. McArthur, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.
H. W. Buschman, 822 N. 3d St., St. Louis, Mo.

Inside Tumblers.

H. F. Whitman, 2045 Alameda Avenue, Alameda, Cal.
H. E. Bissell, Charleston, S. C.
A. T. Davis, 79 Lebanon St., Maplewood, Mass.
M. F. Hankla, Topeka, Kan. 22

Ice Pigeons.

A. Samuels, 115 Pratt Street, Buffalo, N. Y.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.
Chas. W. Morris, Jr. 719 8th Street, S. W., Washington, D. C. 31

Jacobins.

Thos. W. Tuggle, 823 Broad St., Columbus, Ga.

Jacobins.

A. L. Baker, 44 E. Northwood Ave., Columbus, O.
E. Albright, 422 Columbus St., Cleveland, Ohio.
H. F. Whitman, 2045 Alameda Avenue, Alameda, Cal.
H. E. Bissell, Charleston, S. C.
L. Korb, 1708 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky.
F. A. Schofer, 321 N. 8th St., Reading, Pa.
Leo Portman, 3423 High Ave., Louisville, Ky.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.
George Josenhans, 341 W. Forty-fourth Street, New York, N. Y.
C. A. Koehler, 17 DeKalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Macciesfield Tipplers.

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George T. King, P. O. box 1, Richmond, Va.
A. Samuels, 115 Pratt Street, Buffalo, N. Y.
Wm. Ehinger, Jr., 1327 N. 4th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 22
John H. Lammers, 39 S. Caroline St., Baltimore, Md. 24
G. A. Fick, 1300 N. Washington St., Baltimore, Maryland.

Owls.

C. F. Schlange, 1810 W. Market St. Louisville, Ky.
H. T. Klusmeyer, Jr., Easton, Pa.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.
Wm. Ehinger, Jr., 1327 N. 4th St., Philadelphia, Pa.
J. G. Nagle, 2025 Fitzwater Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 9

Pouters.

Fred. Filsinger, 227 Carbon St., Syracuse, N. Y.
Stickley & Co., 210 N. Sum'er St., Nashville, Tenn.
L. H. Budde, 1448 Sullivan Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
J. H. Brede, Middletown, O.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.

Rollers.

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L. Korb, 1708 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky.
O. C. Caspersen, Neenah, Wis. 19
W. Stevens, 59 Grange Avenue, Toronto, Can.

Sattinettes.

R. S. Groves, 1433 S. 15th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Starlings.

John V. Yegge, De Witt, Ia.

Swallows.

A. Nolting, 480 E. Georgia St., Indianapolis, Ind.
L. Korb, 1708 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.
A. L. Love, 2938 Henrietta St., St. Louis, Mo.
G. A. Fick, 1300 N. Washington St., Baltimore, Maryland.

Tail Turbits.

W. S. Lentz, 526 Walnut St., Allentown, Pa. 20

Trumpeters.

F. A. Rommel, 1302 N. Central Ave., Baltimore, Md.
A. L. Love, 2938 Henrietta St., St. Louis, Mo.

Turbits.

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George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.
Wm. Ehinger, Jr., 1327 N. 4th St., Philadelphia, Pa.
J. G. Nagle, 2025 Fitzwater Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

White Homers.

J. G. Nagle, 2025 Fitzwater Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.

Moorheads.

George T. King, P. O. Box 1, Richmond, Va.

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Carriers—For sale several high-class English Carrier cocks bred from winning imported stock. Mt. Royal Lofts, Cote St. Antoine, Montreal, Canada.

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Dragons—High-class English Dragons from best imported stock. Winners at best shows and mated to breed. For sale much below cost. Mt. Royal Lofts, Cote St. Antoine, Montreal, Canada.

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J. N. Sherk, Myerstown, Lebanon Co., Pa., breeder of white, red and blue Fantails, blue English Owls and Wing Turbits of the finest and best strains. Birds for sale at \$3 per pair and upwards. Satisfaction guaranteed. Stamp for reply. 8-32
Fred. C. Weiss, 9 Upper 6th St., Evansville, Ind. Breeder of white Fantails exclusively. My crested Fantails have won at all of the leading shows in America. My surplus stock only for sale. Send stamp for circular and prices. 10-1y

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If you wish to purchase a grand pair of 507 miles Homing Pigeons, or grand youngsters bred from 507 mile record parents, and all guaranteed in good health and condition, and the result of many years' training and mating. Send to O. F. CONNELLY, Carlisle, Pa., for circulars. 23-22

T. Fred Goldman, breeder and flyer of Homing pigeons, 832 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 3-29

Homing Pigeons—Mated breeders and banded youngsters at reasonable prices. Address R. BAYLE, 1643 Race street, Philadelphia, Pa. 7-20

Jacobins.

H. E. Bissell, Charleston, S. C., breeder of fine Jacobins and Inside Tumblers exclusively. For sale cheap, to make room, a fine lot of Jacobins and Inside Tumblers. These birds are from fine stock and guaranteed to give satisfaction. 23-6

Magpies.

George Kuffner, 1748 Harford Ave., Baltimore, Md., breeder of yellow and black 12-11 smoothhead Magpies for pleasure only.

Pouters.

A. W. McClure, Box 287, Windsor, Ontario, breeder of Pouters in blue and red-pied only. Don't write for other colors—I haven't got them. A few pairs of good blue Fantails to spare. Terms always the same. Nothing sent C.O.D., but satisfaction assured on each shipment or no sale.

Wm. W. Kline, box 820, Reading, Pa. Having concluded to devote my entire attention to Turbits, breeding that bird exclusively, I am about to close out my entire stock of Red-pied Pouters. As these birds must be sold at once, they will go at cost and some at half price. Two pair at \$18, worth \$25; 4 pairs at \$15, worth \$20; 3 pairs at \$12, worth \$20; 5 pairs at \$10 worth \$18. A fine pair recently purchased from Mr. Heroux \$15, cost me \$20.

Rollers.

Saddles and Badges—I am now breeding Saddles and Badges only, in black, red and yellow. These birds are bred to color and marking for the show pen. Every bird in my loft is a first-class flyer and performer. Just state what you want and mention THE FANCIER. CHARLES LIENHARD, 438 W. Court street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Birmingham Rollers, all booted. Every bird performs and flies at a good altitude. Macciesfield Tipplers or Highfliers. These wonderful flyers are a great source of pleasure to a fancier of cloud flying. Pure white Bruener Pigmy Pouters I imported from the best English loft. Circular free. Dr. Edw. Moore, Albany N. Y.

Swallows.

Oscar Seifert, 388 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J., offers for sale all colors of Swallows (white bars, full heads), all colors of wing (or shield) Trumpeters, Priests, Fire-Backs (white barred) Spot Turbits, Rose (or horn) Jacobins, Pigmy Pouters in all colors, white barred, Runts and blue Magpies. Here are bargains for fanciers. 18

Swallows.

Thomas W. Davis, 305 S. Orange St., Peoria, Ill. Swallows a specialty in all the standard colors, full crested and well booted; solid yellow Tumblers and Ice Pigeons. Good reference and square dealing. Fifty 16-15 years a fancier. Send stamp for reply.

Tumblers.

Must be sold at once. 5 pairs Inside Tumblers birds will perform a few inches from the floor. \$4 per pair. **P. A. SCHEID**, 122 Sherman street, Lancaster, Pa.

C. W. B. Gerner, Allentown, Pa., offers for sale 20 pair Outside Tumblers in all colors at \$2 a pair; 20 pair Baldhead Tumblers in all colors \$3 a pair; 15 pair white Pouters \$5 to \$10 a pair; 10 pair white Runts \$5 a pair—all breeders. Also single birds for sale. State wants. Satisfaction guaranteed. 16-17

Inside Tumblers in reds, yellows and blacks, Archangels, Barbs, Carriers, Fantails, Jacobins, Magpies, Moorheads, Nuns, Owls, Priests, Quakers, Swallows, Trumpeters, Tumblers and Turbits in standard colors. Write your wants. **M. B. NOBLE**, Otterville, Ill. 6-5

For Sale, the finest lot of booted Tumblers in red, yellow, black, blue and mottles. All first-class birds and raised this year. The lot at \$1.00 per pair. **M. SCHEIN**, 621 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, Md. 7-19

Turbits.

E. H. Sanford, 2118 Oak Ave., Baltimore, Md. Peak crested Wing Turbits in the various colors. Prize winners at Boston and Cincinnati Shows. A few birds for disposal.

George Feather, Ballou Avenue, Dorchester, Mass., breeder of peak-crested, solid white and wing Turbits—blue, silver and yellow English Owls. Over 120 special, first and second premiums have been awarded my birds in these two varieties, including highest honors at Louisville, New York and Boston, 1892. Pairs or single birds for sale at all times. State wants. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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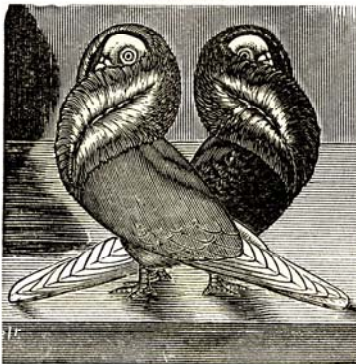
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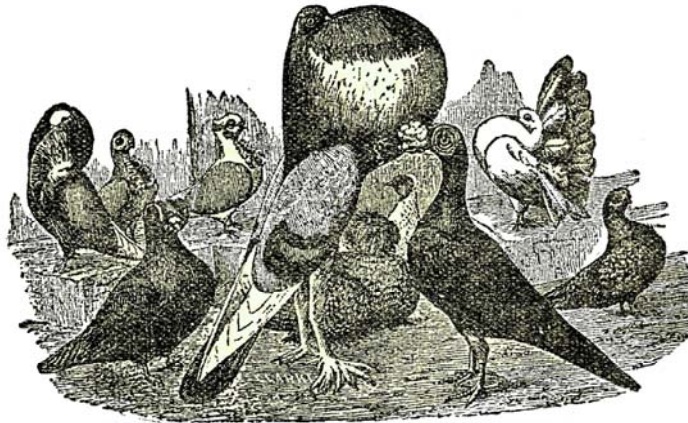
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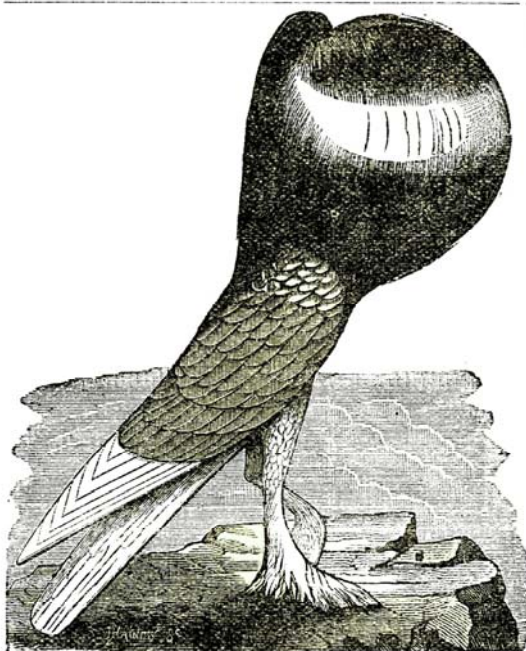
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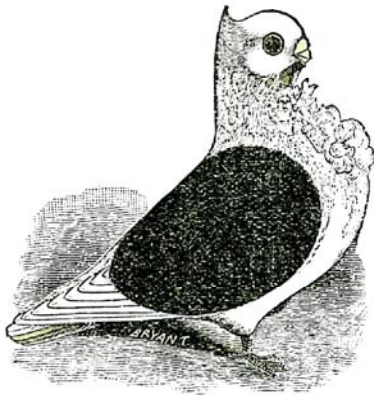
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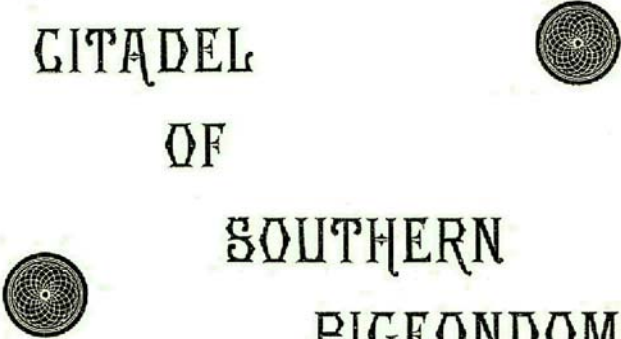
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