

dred miles; and in 1877, from the city of Baltimore, Md., one hundred and seventy miles, air-line. This year our birds flew, on the 15th of June, from Sunbury, Pa., one hundred and fifty miles, air-line; from there we sent fifteen to Altoona, Pa., two hundred and thirty-five miles, air-line; from there to Steubenville, Ohio, three hundred and fifty-five miles, air-line; and from there Mr. Wueflear and I sent each one bird to Columbus, Ohio, five hundred miles in a straight line. We had requested Adams' express agent there to let the birds loose between 5 and 7 o'clock, a.m., but only with clear weather and favorable wind. Had my instructions been followed there is hardly any doubt but that our pigeons would have returned; but our birds were liberated with cloudy weather, and every flying fancier knows by experience that there is nothing so bad for pigeons as to fly them in cloudy or foggy weather. The consequence was that our two birds got lost, although they had flown the year before from Elmira, and this year from Altoona and Steubenville, having made the distance from the last named city in ten and a half hours.

(To be continued.)

Sunday Pigeon Flying

I notice, in *Familiar Science* for August, that it is the intention of the New York Club to have their races and many of their flies on Sunday. I am not one who like to have religious arguments and semi church going sermons continually being forced into my ears, neither do I wish to lecture the New York Club or any member of it on religious matters, or how any one of them should or should not spend their Sundays. Perhaps I observe Sunday as little as any of them, and it is quite likely I attend divine worship as few times in the year as any of them, so I wish it to be thoroughly understood at first that I am not one of those screaming, squeamish individuals who think they are doing a great religious work by always worrying their neighbors by showing to them the railroad track which they are on, bound for the bad place below. But, to be short, I do solemnly protest against pigeon-flying on Sunday.

It must be remembered pigeon-flying as an amusement amongst us now promises to become very popular, and I am sure there are very many good fanciers, as well as myself, that will look on Sunday flying as a step in the wrong direction.—There are many good fanciers, I am sure, will not indulge in flying at all if it is going to become a Sabbath-breaking amusement, and I am sorry to see that such a society as the New York Club should unanimously decide to have their races and many of their flies on Sunday. I am quite sure if this practice is indulged in it will be the means of

keeping many good fanciers from belonging to a society who follow the practice, and besides it gives a bad name to the sport generally. Might just as well hold regettas and horse races on Sundays as to fly pigeons. True, they do these things in some countries; but not in the Northern States or British Possessions.

I like to see a Sabbath observing community. I have never failed to notice where the Sabbath is well observed that that community are law-abiding, peaceable and prosperous, saying nothing of the matter religiously. Some would look on it as a sin, others not; that is a matter for every man to think for himself upon. I do not say myself it is a sin. Perhaps it is not a sin as some would view it, but of a community who would boat-race and horse-race and pigeon-fly on Sunday, and a community who would not, were I choosing a home I would steer for the Sabbatarian community.

The New York Club say several of their birds have been shot on week days, whereas no shooting is indulged in on Sundays. Do not the New York Club know they are setting an example to western cities, say Cincinnati, Chicago, Louisville, St Louis, cities that pour out their Sunday shooters by the hundreds. Now, if it becomes fashionable in New York to fly pigeons on Sundays, these cities will follow suit, and the consequence will be the columbarian societies of America will be known as Sabbath breakers, which, to say the least, if it brings no harm to the cause will certainly bring no good.

I would like to ask any member of the New York Club, who is the father of boys. Would you just as leave meet your sons coming home from a pigeon race on Sunday as from a Sunday-school? I think I well know the reply every right-thinking man will give to this question, and I am clearly of opinion, while allowing that the members of the New York Club have a perfect right to do as they please, and fly their birds on Sundays or Mondays, still I am quite satisfied their making a practice of it will not forward but injure the cause.

True, amusements of this and many other kinds are practiced in many countries in Europe on Sundays, but there, it must be remembered, Sunday is not observed in the same way nationally as it is with us, and we therefore cannot point to them as a criterion. We, in this country, are more British than any other nation, our laws are founded on British common law, and our institutions are mostly off-shoots from Britain, and our Sunday observance was transplanted from there, and the better it is observed the better for the whole community. I, for one, do solemnly enter my protest against any pleasure or pastime, such as pigeon-flying, on Sundays, and I do hope the New York Club will rescind their resolution to fly their birds on that day.

× ROADS.

Strathroy, Sept. 10th, 1878.