

have it proved they are cock and hen. He gives James credit for 2nd and 3rd prizes in them when he only won 1st.

"He says that the 1st prize for collection was placed upon Weldon's coop and then taken off. This is false. He also says Weldon had 31 birds, and Geo. Hope, winner of silver medal, 40, and that Weldon was entitled to the silver medal. Weldon had five varieties and Hope fifteen, so there could be no comparison as to which had the better collection. In conclusion I would say that this man Jones was an exhibitor himself last year and was defeated in every class where there was any competition. His great trouble was when he got thirteen extra prizes, and thought that the Industrial Association should give him thirteen 1st prizes in cash, but the secretary of that association was equal to such men as Mr. Jones, and refused to pay out their money upon such birds as he showed. If he has such good birds let him come out, the writer will show against him any of the Antwerp, carrier, dragoon, turbit, owls, trumpeters, tumblers, winners of prizes at this show, for the whole or any one class separate, for \$25, to be given to the Infant or Protestant Home, each to name one judge, and if they cannot agree, appoint a third.

"Thanking you for your kindness in allowing this explanation, I remain, dear sir, yours,

JOSEPH WALFORD, *Judge*.

Toronto, September 28th, 1881."

We publish the above that both sides of the question may be heard.

It is but fair to say that "J. B. J." in his criticism on the judgement confined himself entirely to the birds. He did not imply that the judge was influenced by any improper motive in making his awards. Mr. Walford says that "J. B. J." is influenced by friendship for Mr. Weldon, spite against the other exhibitors, and disappointment at his own want of success at the previous show. This must be merely supposition, and we think it would have been better in Mr. Walford to have confined himself entirely to refuting "J. B. J.'s" statements. It is merely a matter of judgement between "J. B. J." and Mr. Walford.

Fanciers are apt when criticising the birds in a show, more especially if their own are not competing, to take a very high standard for comparison, and "J. B. J." has done this, taking the best English birds.

Honest criticism, although not pleasant at times, will always prove beneficial. We considered "J. B. J.'s" criticisms honest, therefore we published them. Whether his judgment is correct or not we cannot say, but being an old and enthusiastic fancier, who has made fancy pigeons his study for years, he must have a good idea of what constitutes a show bird.

There has generally been a good deal of dissatisfaction with the judgment on pigeons at Toronto, and it will be likely to continue so until Toronto

fanciers are content to forego the honor of having one of their number to act as judge.

J. B. Johnston, Esq., of Toronto, is not the writer of the article signed "J. B. J.," as many seem to suppose.—Ed.

#### Editor Review.

DEAR SIR.—Just as I was leaving home I got a copy of the *Canadian Sportsman* of 7th inst, containing what was intended to be a reply to my letter of Sept. 15th, in *POULTRY REVIEW* of last month, but so far as I can see it is no *reply* at all but a long tirade of personal abuse, and being so scurrilous I had almost made up my mind to treat it with silent contempt, and will now say only very little in reference to things he mentions.

Mr. Walford commences by saying "J. B. J. is no other than J. B. Jones, a disappointed exhibitor last year, and said to be the travelling agent for the Dominion Line of Steamers." When I exhibited last year I made 52 entries (single birds), but had the misfortune before the show opened, to lose six of my best birds, but put the 46 in, with which I took 39 prizes (and have the tickets to show if necessary), and the diploma for best collection of fantails; and when I say I got double the quantity of prizes I expected, I leave Mr. Walford to judge whether I was a "disappointed exhibitor" or not. I have every reason to believe I was the most satisfied exhibitor there, and have no hesitation in saying I took the largest percentage of prizes in the pigeon department.

Mr. Walford draws attention to the fact that I am *no other* than the agent of the Dominion Line of Steamers. What this has to do with the matter in question I do not know, but thank him all the same for the free advertisement. I am pretty well known to the public and most of the fanciers as such, and if I am not, I am not ashamed of them knowing it.

Mr. Walford says: "In his article he shows considerable spite against many of the exhibitors." I fail to see this, but if my criticism was a little more severe on some than others, it was only because it deserved it, and can assure Mr. Walford that I had no spite or ill feeling against any exhibitor, or anyone else. I believe I am on good terms with all that exhibited, that I know, and my strongest desire is, for the good of the fancy, that our friendship should continue, and hope in the future they will show themselves *true fanciers* by not getting their "backs up" when their birds are subjected to a little impartial criticism from those who are asked to "take a few notes."

Regarding the merits of the birds I have nothing to take back from what I have already said, and which is considered pretty correct by those who