

The Winter Shows.

The indications now are that during the winter of 1884 poultry shows will be more numerous than ever before. We have already received the advertisements and notices of a greater number than ever before at this time, and some are still to be heard from.

The first on our list is that of the Ohio State Poultry and Pigeon Breeders' Association,* to be held in Toledo, Ohio, January 2nd to 8th, 1884. There is every promise that this will be one of the finest exhibitions ever held on this continent. Toledo is easy of access to Canadian fanciers, and we hope a large number of them will avail themselves of this opportunity to show their American cousins the quality of the stock they have.

The Montreal Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association will hold their annual exhibition in Montreal on January 22nd, 23rd and 24th. Unfortunately the dates of this show conflict with those of the P. A. of O., but it is the best arrangement they could make to avoid time of Carnival and Eastern Townships exhibition. We hope fanciers will give this exhibition a share of their exhibits.

Next in order comes the show of the Poultry Association of Ontario, to be held in the City of Toronto from January 15th to 25th. This is the big Canadian Show, and every Canadian fancier should exhibit at it, and be present if possible. Let us have a rousing turn-out here, and enable the managers, who so manfully shouldered the deficit of last year, to clean themselves, and leave a surplus in the treasury.

The exhibition of the Eastern Townships Poultry, Dog and Pet Stock Association will be held in the City of Sherbrooke, P. Q., on the 30th and 31st of January and 1st of February. The list (which we printed) is a good one, and should draw a good exhibit from all parts of the country. The birds will be scored, and all prizes paid at the close of the show. This exhibition will give Ontario fanciers an opportunity to return the visit paid by the President, Secretary and members of this association last year, and they can stay over at Montreal and enjoy the Carnival, which is held from 4th to 10th February.

A new poultry association, to be known as the Bowmanville Poultry Association, will hold its first annual exhibition in the Town of Bowmanville on the 12th, 13th and 14th of February. We hope the fanciers will give the new society every encouragement. See ad.

The old, well and favorably-known Midland Central Poultry Association will hold an exhibition in the Town of Peterboro' at some suitable time—not yet fixed—that will not conflict with

those already advertised. The date will be announced in our next issue. The old friends of the association will be sure to rally to its support, and others will find it to their advantage to join them.

The Huron Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock Association will hold its second annual exhibition in the Town of Seaforth during the month of February—the date will be given next month. This association held a very successful exhibition last year, but expect to do much better this year. More of this show next month.

The Fancier's Holiday.

Of late years it has become the fashion for everyone in business to take holidays at some time during the year, if circumstances will at all permit of it. The favorite holiday season is in the heat of summer, and for many reasons this time is the most pleasant and best for the majority of people. Still there is one class that we believe could change this order of things, and take their holidays in the winter season with great advantage to themselves. This class is the poultry and pigeon fanciers.

We now see a majority of exhibitors sending their birds to the winter shows, while they stay at home anxiously awaiting the result to be published in the prize-lists. There is always to them a feeling of disappointment whether successful or not, as if successful they cannot tell to what extent, without knowing the strength of the competition, and if unsuccessful they are filled with a vague feeling that something has not been right. To fully enjoy success the fancier must be at hand to appreciate its extent; and if unsuccessful he must be there to be satisfied.

To be successful as a fancier it is almost necessary to visit the shows, and stay there from start to finish. Nearly all the most successful fanciers do it. They understand the advantages to be derived from cooping and looking after their birds, and seeing that they are in the best possible condition when the judges commence their labors. The beginner will learn more at one show by comparing his birds with others than he will by years of study without such chance of comparison; valuable acquaintances will be made, and much information gained in conversation with others better posted than himself, which he can carry home and use to advantage in the future.

There are many other reasons that will present themselves to the fancier why it will be both pleasant and profitable to take his holiday in winter during the holding of the shows. We would like to see every fancier who shows his birds accompany them, and come with the determination to do his share to make the few days