

fowls, and still lack the faculty of applying them in judging; he may also have the latter and not have that nice sense of honor which makes their application complete; or he may have ideals of his own which he will judge to, instead of using the popular standard. These failings will certainly show themselves in time, and the best way to remedy them is to direct attention to them.

We have some excellent judges in Canada—perhaps with all their faults they are equal in ability and honesty, and as free from prejudices as any in America—but still they have their faults and failings. Perhaps if they were given an opportunity to “see themselves as others see them” they might be induced to correct objectionable features, and become what their abilities fit them to be, and what the fancy greatly needs, first-class, consistent judges. We have had many years acquaintance with the three gentlemen who may, from the many years they have acted as judges, and the frequency with which they are called upon to act at our largest shows, be considered as our principal judges in Canada, and have closely watched their conduct. We now purpose to give the result of our observations, backed up by the opinions of many who have, like ourselves, been close and interested observers.

#### SHARP BUTTERFIELD.

No other fancier in Canada is so well known, at least by reputation, as the one named. For many years it has been considered only necessary to secure his services as judge to insure the work being well done. He is one of the most genial of men, his rubicund face seldom being seen without a smile. To this more than to any other quality does he owe his popularity. He is a thorough and skilled breeder, and seems never so happy as when handling stock. He has the capacity of getting through an immense quantity of work in judging, and has a wonderfully retentive memory—seemingly possessing the power to imprint on his memory, as by photography, the details of a whole class in a show, and retain the impression for weeks. In fact Mr. Butterfield possess many of the most essential qualities required for the position of judge, and if he would set his mind to overcome a few defects, he would become second to none to be found anywhere.

His principal failing is inordinate self-conceit, and to this weakness may be traced nearly all his deficiencies as a judge. He seems never to tire talking of his own knowledge and ability. Flattery is very dear to him, and through it is the surest way to his good will. So much of this commodity has been applied to him that it has caused him to regard himself as almost infallible. He would undertake, with the greatest complacency, to teach Louis Wright or Tegetmeier in

poultry matters, and the *American Standard of Excellence* he regards as far behind the one of his own conception. He has made no pretence, that we are aware of, to judge by the *American Standard of Excellence*, even when the rules of the shows require it. If a dissatisfied novice comes to him for explanations, he will go away contented in five minutes, and with a profound impression of the judge's wisdom, and the utter absurdity of any standard but Butterfield's. James Main is the only fancier in the country that Butterfield can't talk over in five minutes; it takes a full day to bring James around.

Now, we have spoken somewhat plainly to Mr. Butterfield, as we think it necessary in order to penetrate the self-complacency which encompasses him like a coat of mail, and we hope it will have the desired effect. Our readers all know that we have never been backward in giving him praise and credit when he deserved it. A new order of things is now inaugurated, in scoring, and fanciers expect through this system that the Standard will be applied. His standard may be an excellent one, but exhibitors prefer one that is more generally accepted. Judges are called in to arbitrate between exhibitors; the *Standard* is the law (if so adopted) and their guide, and the judge who disregards it in his decisions is not true to his trust. It may be difficult for Mr. Butterfield to put his prejudices aside, as many of them are dear from early associations, but with the *Standard* and score-card he will have a constant reminder before him. We hope these remarks will be kindly taken by Mr. Butterfield. They are prompted by our desire to see his abilities put to their best use, and this they never will be while he allows his prejudices so largely to influence his judgment.

Next month we will have a few words to say about Messrs. Jarvis and Buck.

#### Montreal Poultry, Pigeon, and Pet Stock Association.

At the last meeting of the executive of the above association it was decided to hold the annual exhibition on the 13th, 14th and 15th of February, 1895. The executive are hard at work endeavoring to make the coming show the best yet held.

To meet a long felt want it has been decided to give prizes for dressed poultry, and one member has already promised \$25 for that purpose, and as this is a new departure for Montreal, it is expected to be liberally patronized. Donations of birds from our best breeders have been promised for prizes in the former classes.

Every bird not disqualified will be scored by an A. P. A. judge, who will also have charge of a scoring competition, open to all exhibitors who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity of testing their abilities.

JAMES H. CAYFORD.

Montreal, Oct. 10th, 1894.