

Mr. Hazledine has started the ball rolling in the direction of a Pouter Club. We think there is plenty of room for such an organization with such men in the fancy as Mr. Kuhn, Dr. Hanselman, Mr. Chris. Wagner, Detroit; Mr. J. H. Muehlig, Mr. J. H. Brede, Mr. J. W. Acton, Mr. W. F. Sinemaker, Mr. G. H. Buckle, Mr. Glidden, Mr. Geo. Dufield, Mr. E. F. Hazledine and Mr. Page, the latter gentleman has been nominated as Secretary. We will be pleased to receive further nominations for offices in the Pouter Club.

Many exhibitors may be disappointed in showing high class pigeons which possess color and marking only. It must be remembered that form always takes precedence to color and marking, for instance what good is a Pouter if he is perfect in color and marking but is short limbed, thick in girth and short in feather. What good is a Carrier if he be ever so fine in color if he has not good skull and body points. Take a Magpie for instance though it is not considered a high class bird, what use is it, be it ever so cleanly cut in marking if it has a round head like a Tumbler. This may also apply to several other varieties. It is therefore necessary for fanciers to be careful in their selection of show birds.

#### STRAY FEATHERS.

BY H. R. DONOVAN, TORONTO.

**M**R. Editor, about those bricks, come around and I will lend you a few now the breeding season is over. Being a plain man with agricultural tendencies I am not used to fancy spelling, so instead of *conferance* in my last donation *conference* would suit me just as well. Also in last par. I did not write about young Carriers with big strong eyes, but those with big *staring* eyes. As the bricks will come in handy next season, kindly return them when they have fulfilled their purpose, but be sure and send them back free from gore.

While at it I might as well mention another error, an omission this time. I should be sorry to refer to a man as a white mouse, or a buff Cochin, or in fact a fowl of any kind, but you make me (unwillingly) do so. In the second paragraph, page 106, last line but one, if you put in the words "who are ready to take anything" between "all rounders" and from, you will get the sense of what I intended to say.

Mr. Alfred Geddes, the Secretary of the Eastern Ontario

Poultry Association, Ottawa, finds dogs give his neighbors too much "music" and so has drifted into pigeons as a hobby. He has made a start with Dragons, having received two pairs from the well known Mount Royal lofts of Montreal. They consist of one pair of blues, a chequer cock and silver hen.

The massive and genial A. J. Groves, will act as Superintendent of the Pigeon and Pet Stock at the Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, this year. A better man could not get the place. Mr. Groves, is one of those men not found outside the "tight little isle," familiar with everything that walks on four legs or that flies in the orthodox way. Exhibitors may depend on having their stock well looked after.

"All About the Flying Homer," is the name of the latest *British Fancier* handbook. It is written by Mr. H. Kendrick, junr., an authority on what I prefer to call the Messenger pigeon, is not "padded" but practical from cover to cover. The price is but four pence and may be had from the British Fancier Co., Manchester, Eng.

While on Messenger pigeons, I may say that I have the honor of being the first person to receive a message per pigeon post from Montreal. Full particulars are given below from the *Toronto Mail*, of August 13th, the fly taking place the previous Saturday and the message being conveyed to my house, on receipt, by Messrs. Gairdner, senior and junior:—

"From Montreal to Toronto is 333 miles. To have Messenger pigeons accomplish this flight in one day has for some time past been the ambition of the numerous Messenger pigeon fanciers of Toronto and Montreal, and many are the pigeons which have been lost in the efforts made to accomplish this feat. At the commencement of the present season the Executive of the Ontario Branch Dominion Messenger Pigeon Association, recognizing the advantages which would accrue should such a flight be successfully made, organized a sweepstakes event from Montreal to Toronto with the hope that it might induce fanciers to risk their more valuable birds in order to accomplish the connecting of the two great Canadian cities by Messenger pigeons.

Ten days ago the secretary received the requisite notification from four of the Ontario Branch members that a trial would be made on Saturday to accomplish the flight, and that official made arrangements for the same, but when the time came for shipping the birds it was found only one fancier, Mr. James Gairdner, sr., was in a positio