

for the bird, it is quite possible for the owner to derive more money from it by keeping it in his own loft to breed from.

There is an infatuation amongst fanciers to own the best that outsiders know nothing about. It is a feeling which cannot be realized by those who are not like themselves; and when one produces a specimen which fills the standard, it is nearly always, as it most assuredly should be, placed beyond any money value. I have myself been at auction sales of fine bred animals, and have seen a first-class specimen sold at a very high figure, while an ordinary one, although a full brother or sister to the same, would be knocked down at a nominal price. Nothing more than this illustration is needed to show to non-fanciers that even owning the same strain is only the first step in the ladder, to ascend at the top of which is a delight that not one in a thousand is destined to participate in.

### ✕ ROADS.

#### Homing Antwerp Stations.

The following gentlemen have kindly offered to receive, properly care for, and liberate as instructed, any Antwerps intrusted to their care:

Freeman, Ont.—J. Peart.  
 Guelph, Ont.—J. E. Horsman.  
 Paris, Ont.—J. A. Case.  
 " C. B. Capron.  
 Port Hope.—Geo. Hope.  
 St. Catharines, Ont.—A. W. Bessy.  
 Strathroy, Ont.—Dr. E. Nugent.  
 " Jas. Fullerton.  
 Toronto, Ont.—Chas. Goodchild.  
 " Thomas Adams.  
 Waterloo, Ont.—Jas. Lockie.  
 Woodstock, Ont.—J. J. Spracklin.

This list will appear each month, and we hope to receive the names of all who are interested in this fancy, and can attend to the duties set forth above.

#### Races and Exercises with Carrier Pigeons by the Continental Club of New York.

As on the 6th of June we will have the inter-State race, given, under the auspices of the New York Continental Club, and as some of its members will also contest for the 500 mile flight, which will take place about the middle of July, the New York fanciers commenced to train their birds about the 20th of April.

As no doubt you have among the numerous subscribers of our esteemed paper a great many Homing fanciers, and among them also quite many new beginners, and as your paper is recognized now as the monitor of the Homing pigeon fancier and clubs, I will let them know through it the

way I have trained my birds, as also the other members of our society.

Unexperienced birds—that is birds that have never been trained before—should be exercised very carefully. The first time they should be sent only 5 minutes from the house, then 10 minutes, then 1 mile, then 2 miles, then 3 miles, then 4 to 5 miles in two or three different directions, then 8 or 10 miles in the direction you wish to train; 15 to 16 miles, then 23 to 25 miles, then 35 to 40 miles, then 65 to 75 miles, then 100 miles, then 135 to 150 miles, then 175 to 200 miles; after that you can send 50 miles higher up each time, and after 350 miles 100 to 125 higher up at once is not too far.

But don't let the inexperienced fancier be deceived by training for these long distances, as if they do they will lose all their birds, and cause them to lose their faith in them, besides also their courage. A new beginner with a few birds should train the first year from short distances only, say 40 or 50 miles; the same birds, the following year, 100 to 125 miles; the third, 250 miles; and then, if he has plenty other birds to fall back on, he can send the fourth year 400 to 500 miles. But there are a great many birds lost each year by training only as far as 250 miles, particularly when the weather is cloudy, and therefore clear days should be selected, and if directed to parties for the tossing of the birds it should be particularly recommended to select a fine day.

To show the fanciers how difficult it is sometimes for birds to return to their homes from 240 miles, I will mention that last summer I trained several birds for the 500 mile race, and I and two other fanciers of our society sent five birds each to Altoona, Pa., which is about 235 miles air-line. Our birds had flown twice from Sanbury, Pa., 150 miles. They were tossed at Altoona at 11:30, a. m., the weather not having been clear enough earlier in the morning, and only two of our birds returned the same day, the first being my bird "Jupiter," coming in 5 hours 29 minutes, and the second bird coming in 6 hours 14 minutes, and these were the only birds that came home the same day. The second day only three or four more came; three were caught in Philadelphia, and five or six were lost. From Altoona we sent three birds to Steubenville, Ohio, 355 miles, air-line, thus jumping 120 miles at once, and our three birds returned,—two making the distance in 10 hours 30 minutes, the day being a very fine one and the wind favorable; the third bird came six weeks afterwards. We then sent each one bird to Columbus, Ohio, about 500 miles, air-line, and the birds being tossed in cloudy weather both were lost.

The first race of our society took place on the 8th of May, from Hamburg, Pa., 105 miles, air-line,