

hen eggs till she has sat from two to five days on china eggs.

JAMES M. LAMBING.

Parker's Landing, May 6th, 1880.

[NOTE.—Written for last issue, but arrived too late.—Ed.]

The Duty Question.

From the amount of attention that this question has received one would be led to suppose that there was really something in it. The number of meetings called, the petitions which were drafted, the articles which were written, and the arguments which were employed all seemed to point to some great wrong which had been committed against the poultry interests of the Dominion of Canada. I have sought honestly, and carefully, but in vain, to find what this great wrong could be. If in the imposition of a tax of 20 per cent. on poultry, fanciers see an insurmountable obstacle to the *proper* improvement of their stock, I cannot but differ from them; in it I see but the careful forethought and keen perception of a just government, who are endeavoring by every legitimate means to build up the different industries of the country. This tax of 20 per cent., while it will not exclude the importation of birds for the improvement of stock, will, in a great measure, aid in building up this branch of live stock, for when the fancier finds that it is cheaper for him to breed his own birds he will be led to take that interest in his fowls which will result in placing Canada upon the same footing as that occupied by England and the United States.

Again, by the imposition of this duty the money of the beginner will find its way into the coffers of the Canadian fancier instead of across the border or water. The novice starting out will find that as good stock can be procured in his own country as abroad, and at a much less cost, which will induce him to purchase from our Canadian fanciers, and aid and stimulate them in the improving of their birds.

Of course if the general opinion of the Canadian fanciers is to aid and build up this branch of industry in the United States at the expense of their own country, it is open to them to do so, but if they are truly Canadian, patriotic and unbiased, they will combine to a man and use every legitimate means in their possession to keep this present duty in force.

P. Cock.

Halifax, N. S., May 22nd, 1880.

It's funny! but a soft-palmed woman can pass a plate of hot chicken soup to her neighbor at the head of the table with a smile as sweet as distilled honey, while a man with a hand as horny as a crocodile's back will drop it to the floor and howl around like a Sioux Indian at a scalp-dance.

Homing Antwerp Stations.

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

Brantford, Ont.—Jas. C. Montgomery.
 Chatham, Ont.—Sam. Holmes.
 Freeman, Ont.—J. Peart.
 Fisherville, Ont.—G. H. Pugsley, (Cayuga Ex.)
 Guelph, Ont.—John Campbell.
 Hamilton, Ont.—R. Mackay.
 Kingston, Ont.—McAdams & Sawyer.
 Montreal, No. 20, Fort Street.—Fred. Whitley.
 Peterboro', Ont.—Jas. Saultier.
 Paris, Ont.—J. A. Chase.
 " C. B. Capron.
 St. Catharines, Ont.—A. W. Bessey.
 Strathroy, Ont.—Dr. E. Nugent.
 " Jas. Fullerton.
 Toronto, Ont.—Chas. Goodchild.
 " Thomas Adams.
 Waterloo, Ont.—Jas. Lockie.
 Woodstock, Ont.—J. J. Spracklin.
 Yorkville.—Geo. Hope.

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.

Unsatisfactory Experience.

As a rule we generally hear very little of the unsuccessful experience of fanciers, either as breeders of fancy poultry, pigeons, or in the training and racing of homing Antwerps, and believing that both sides should be heard to give a healthy tone to the fancy, I purpose giving mine with the latter for this season.

About the middle of April I commenced to train twelve birds for the inter State race, to take place on 16th June. Half of them were old birds—that is from one to five years old—and the balance over nine months. One of them, when but thirteen weeks old, had flown over forty miles last season, and in good time. They had been well exercised around home, their lofts and surroundings were kept comfortable and clean; they seemed much attached to their loft, and a number were breeding. Altogether I had reason to expect the best results if the birds had good homing qualities.

After several tosses up to three miles in the direction I wished to train, they were sent by rail to a station six miles distant. Here the first loss occurred, a blue cock bred from stock imported from Belgium, and one of the most promising specimens, in my opinion, that my loft contained—great muscular development, brilliant eye, and as hard as a block of wood to the handling. On the hamper being opened he immediately flew to the roof of a grain-store close by, and was with difficulty made to join the others, still circling about; and after a short flight with them, returned to the roof of the grain store, where he still is I suppose.