

cities of the Province of Liege, Belgium, had 84 wagon-loads of pigeons *en route* to various points in Belgium and elsewhere. Each wagon would hold at least 45 panniers, and estimating 45 to each, our contemporary, *L'Epervier*, computes that at least 20,000 pigeons were dispatched on that day by the amateurs of the province.

Two persons having lately been convicted before the court at Charleroi of having fraudulently connived at the escape of pigeons to the injury of Mr. L—, were sentenced, the first to three months imprisonment and a fine of about \$5; the other to eight days imprisonment, both with costs.

Complaints having arisen of irregularities of the telegraphic service in Belgium in connection with pigeon flights, those employed in the offices have been prohibited from participating in future in such contests. Belgium pigeons societies in their races, as a rule, allow a remission of one minute for every 300 metres (1 metre equals 39.37 inches) necessarily traversed on foot, by the shortest route, from the loft to the office in reporting the return of a bird, 150 metres giving an allowance of half a minute. Some societies compute fractional parts at the same rates, but this in practice is not considered to work equally well.

Editor Review.

Being in London this week I called on Mr. Jas. O. Weldon, and he kindly drove me out to see his birds. After tea we took a stroll round his place, first of all visiting some pheasants he has, English and Japanese. He tells me he has a lot of eggs down from these, and expects young birds in a day or two. We next went to see his feeders, under which he has any number of young birds and eggs, in Pouters, Carriers, short-faced Tumblers, Jacobins, &c. If everything goes on well, Mr. Weldon will have crowded lofts in the fall, although he is now having built a large wire aviary, with house attached. We next went to see his miscellaneous birds, among which I noticed several first-class shortfaces, Trumpeters, and notably, some really first-class Red Jacobins, and a beautiful pair of White African Owls, though perhaps a little large. He has some imported Red Jacobins which are unusually fine in hood and chain. We then saw his Pouters and Carriers, which certainly "take the cake" for anything I have seen for a long time. His Pouters are "A 1," and he has them in all colors, Black, Red, Yellow, and Blue-pied and Whites. I sat and watched them for an hour, and was most particularly taken with the whites, of which he has half a dozen pairs of grand birds, one old hen of Crystal Palace fame leading them.

She is a magnificent bird and fit to win in any company. His birds are also first-class in size, marking, &c., and would be hard to beat at any show. His Carriers (of which he has an immense kit in black and dun) are also "away up" and wherever shown his competitors would have hard work to beat him.

He has strong, healthy young birds from his best stock, and if successful in rearing them, they must of necessity improve the quality of fancy pigeons in Canada.

He spoke of trying at some of the leading American shows, and I have no doubt but that he would come off victorious in any of his specialties. He deserves great credit for importing these birds at such an expense, and is worthy of the success he has had in the past, and of the success he is certain to have wherever he shows his birds.

His loft are particularly clean and well kept, though a trifle small for the number of birds he keeps. Mr. Weldon informed me he has also several pairs of good birds, for which he had no room, away breeding.

H. B. DONOVAN.

Toronto, June 7th, 1883.

Homing Antwerp Stations.

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

Guelfh, Ont.—John Campbell.

Mt. Brydges, Ont.—Thos. Pearce.

Quebec, P. Q.—Chas. M. Smyth, Box 53.

Strathroy, Ont.—Jas. Fullerton.

Our Lefroy Letter.

Editor Review.

What is the reason of the non-fertility of so many of the early eggs this season is a question which is being asked by many chicken men, both in Canada and the United States. I think Mr. Carson has taken a wise step in bringing the subject before the fancy for discussion and interchange of opinion. That there has been some unfavorable condition or cause in operation is only too apparent, but whether it is the food, or the severity of the weather, or something else, is for the fancy just now to determine, and to become acquainted with the cause will be a long step towards preventing its re-occurrence.

In the first place I think it has been too general to be attributed to any peculiar system of feeding. At first I felt inclined to charge it upon the Asiatics, but as Leghorns and Plymouth Rocks seem similarly affected, that ground becomes untenable.