

Ring Doves.

Editor Review.

So many of your readers have written me lately with reference to the breeding and treatment of the above that I thought I might trespass on your well known pages to the tune of a column or so.

I have been breeding from four pairs this year, and the results have been most satisfactory. I made a strong cage out of an old packing box, divided it into four departments, half the front slatted, half boarded, with a good tight roof. I gave it two coats of good paint, and it is impervious to the smallest drop of rain. I put a perch in each from front to back, made out of old broom handles, fixed so as to be taken out and cleaned occasionally, and cut a door in each at the side nearest the slatted part. For nests I got four small sized cigar boxes, which answer the purpose splendidly. A good size for each cage is about two feet long, one and a half feet wide, and one and a half in height. This is a good large size, but smaller might be made to do.

I did not try to raise any before June, when I hung the cage out in the yard. In the winter, of course, I shall put it in the house or in a warm barn. I intend next season to try them in a small loft with flight attached.

I feed during breeding time on good small wheat with an occasional handful of hemp and other seeds. At other times I give a mixture of cracked corn, wheat and buckwheat.

I tried to cross a cock Ring dove with a hen Turtle dove, and had several pairs of eggs, but unfortunately all clear, however; I intend to "try, try, again" till I am fully convinced that it can't be made a success. I have some so tame that when I open the door of the cage they will fly out on my shoulder or head and take hemp seed from between my lips and fingers without the slightest signs of fear. They are pretty and interesting pets, but during the breeding season the males are rather too noisy to keep in the house.

Your truly,

H. B. DONOVAN.

Toronto, Sept. 15, 1883.

The Galveston News, always truly reliable, says that Jay Gould and his party, while looking over the Texas railroads, stopped at a farm house to get some eggs. The genial farmer asked \$50 a dozen for his hen fruit, whereat the great financier was somewhat astonished, and remarked that eggs must be scarce thereabout. "There are plenty of eggs here," was the reply, "but fellows like you that can afford to pay such prices, are scarce. That's why eggs are worth \$50 a dozen on this joyous occasion."

Industrial Exhibition.

The poultry exhibit at the Industrial this year, if not quite as large as on some former occasions, was, in the quality of the stock, very superior. The effect of the backward spring was apparent in the want of development in the chicken classes, but there were many that gave great promise for the winter shows. The poultry classes were all judged by Mr. Sharp Butterfield, who got through the work in his usual expeditious and satisfactory manner. Although there was some grumbling at the awards as is usually the case, there was little that could have been fairly altered. As is usual at this season, the condition of the birds had a great deal to do with determining the awards, and many birds now winners will have little chance at the winter shows with some they have won over here.

The Light Brahma class was not quite equal to that of last year, but the prizes fell to good specimens in both fowls and chicks; in the latter the pullets were best. Dark Brahmas, old birds fair; young, not up to former exhibitions. The Cochins were not numerous but the prizes generally fell to worthy birds. Dorkings were shown in much larger numbers, and of much better quality than we remember having seen them at any former fall show. In Whites the competition was keen; the 1st prize cock and hen were very fine; chicks promising. Colored, good; the chicks well grown and of fine shape. Silver grey a very handsome class all through. Plymouth Rocks were out in force; quality, fair—no birds of great merit. The Game classes contained a great number of extra fine birds, and although many were sadly out of condition, the class was equal to any in the show; the 1st prize Black-red cock and cockerel, and 1st prize Pile cock were particularly fine, and the winning hens were but little behind in excellence. In the any variety Game class were several fine birds in Brown-reds, Whites, and Spangles; the 1st prize in cock went to a White, whose better condition carried him through. Hamburgs, small display but good what there were. Blacks were most numerous; the males best in the class. Spanish, a large and excellent class. Leghorns, a good display in both Whites and Browns; the tickets marked fine birds. The French varieties did not make a large display; Houdans were most numerous and of good quality. Polands were much better than is usually found at fall shows, and the awards found good birds all through. The Game Bantam classes, as usual at Toronto exhibitions, were well filled with very fine birds. The other varieties of Bantams were not as numerous as we have seen them, but the winners were, on the whole, of very fine quality. The exhibit in geese was fine in