

THE DRAGOON.

BY W. K. JACKSON.

This variety is closely related to the Carrier, and in some respects it is very difficult to determine the difference between them. The Dragoon, however, is, according to standard, a smaller and slimmer bird, with beak not so long as the Carrier, wattle not so heavy, nor should they have any jewing under the beak. It is shorter in feather than the Carrier, but is well up on the legs, showing the thighs, with long, straight, well spread scarlet toes and shapely shanks. The neck, also, should not be same thickness all the way down, as in the former, but should be a little shorter and taper gradually to the shoulders. The head should be carried well up and the skull should assume the shape of a wedge, narrowing to the front. The beak wattle should also assume the shape of a wedge and should not be warty. Colour are as follows:—Blues, blue chequers, black chequers, blacks, reds, yellows, whites, &c.; blues, and blue and black chequers barred as usual. Be careful of light rumps in blues and silvers. The blues and chequers also have a dark eye-lash around the inside of the wattle, which should be looked to as a point in breeding and showing.

TORONTO BANTAM, PIGEON AND PET STOCK CLUB.

About twenty-five local fanciers met on the evening of the 24th of last month, at the photographic studio of Messrs. Thomson & Son for the purpose of inaugurating the above club. Mr. H. B. Donovan was asked to take the chair, and after discussion the above was chosen as the most appropriate name and the following officers unanimously elected:—President, Mr. Alex. Delaporte; Vice-President, Mr. R. Thomson; Secretary, Mr. Robt. Bourghes; Treasurer, Mr. G. McDermott. Executive committee, Messrs. John Miles, C.

J. Daniels, W. Fox and G. Groves. The membership fee was fixed at \$1.00 and 22 members then signified their intention of joining.

The next meeting was fixed for Monday, the 7th November, and the following gentlemen appointed a committee to draw up by-laws and report at that meeting, Messrs. Otter, Delaporte, Bonnick and Fox. The Club starts out with a good membership roll, which we hope shortly to see increased to at least fifty, are very enthusiastic and by various devices, to be alluded to hereafter, hope to keep the interest in their special branches of the fancy alive and "booming."

CRITICISM.

We have received the following letter, and have replied in what we think an impartial manner:—

Editor Review:—

In looking over the REVIEW for October, and particularly the prize list for pigeons, at the late Dominion and Industrial Exhibition, I was surprised that no mention was made of my having taken the silver medal for best and largest collection, and diploma for best pair of birds on exhibition, and would be pleased to know why it happened so. It certainly could not have been through your not knowing the fact for I am quite satisfied you did know. Why did you not leave out the notice of the silver medal at the Ottawa show also? Surely I had as good a claim on you as an exhibitor there, and hope in your next issue you will put this matter right. I think, too, your remarks on the pigeons were quite uncalled for, and particularly with reference to the "falling off," as you say. Your own usual large exhibit not being there, of course was much missed; but I know other birds were there that quite made up for them, and if you take the trouble to ask you will find that only *six* more entries were made in 1886 than in 1887, and those were more than made

up by birds shown, but not entered for competition, of which I had several myself. So, in fact, there was no "falling off" at all.

Again, you said Pouters "contained nothing of any account." Then, as you were judge, why did you not "lop them off?" We do not want birds in our exhibition that are "not of any account." I contend the Pouters shown were as good as any one in Ontario has got, and I flatter myself I know who has got all the Pouters "of any account." The same remark may apply to the Jacobins, as you also make mention of them.

It would have given me much more pleasure to have seen you at the show as an exhibitor and competitor than a judge. In fact, I think the latter was quite a mistake, considering your very close connection with the POULTRY REVIEW; and I trust when judges for our future exhibitions are being chosen that those in authority will not lose sight of this. A judge quite capable could, and should, have been found outside of anyone connected with either the Exhibition or a poultry journal, for reasons that are not difficult to discern.

Yours truly,

J. B. JONES.

Toronto, Oct. 24, 1887.

1st. Mr. J. B. Jones cannot have scanned the list of awards very closely or he would have seen that he has been credited with silver medal for best collection pigeons.

2nd. The list appeared exactly as it was in the Association books.

3rd. We have no recollection of Mr. J. B. Jones being awarded diploma for best pair. First went to Barber & Co. on Barbs, and 2nd to W. Fox on Carriers.

4th. Will Mr. J. B. Jones, in quoting again, please quote the whole paragraph? We said, "Pigeons showed a considerable falling off from last year; the *most of the high class varieties being conspicuous by their absence.*" Outside