

learned by authority, but no lesson is learned so well as that which is learned from experience and observation. For this reason, if for no other, the fancier cannot afford to entrust his flock to the care of subordinates; not, at least, for a few years. It is only by having the personal oversight of his flock; by ministering to their wants in the minutest particular, and by carefully studying their habits that the amateur can gain that knowledge which is essential to success. There is a wide field here for the cultivation of the habit of observation. And this habit, when once acquired, is useful in every occupation of life.—American Poultry Yard.

PIGEONS AND PETS.

WITH this issue of the JOURNAL, we present our readers with a new department under the above heading, which we hope may prove both interesting and instructive.

Don't use fountains in winter in a loft where the water freezes.

Put in a few drops of tincture of iron in the drinking water.

As the cold weather sets in, all your lofts should be well battened and lined or draughts are sure to be the rule.

On warm sunny days allow your pigeons their usual bath and fly in the aviary if one is at their disposal.

The usual winter shows will soon be upon us and we hope to see the pigeon fanciers one and all turn out in full force as this is the only way to keep the ball rolling.

At this time of the year, the foods best suited to pigeons are; peas, wheat, tares, and corn, if it can be got small enough. Most of the corn to be procured in Canada is so large as to nearly choke the birds in their endeavors to swallow it.

See to your drinking utensils. Tin or galvanized iron is apt to form a scum and rinsing will not take it off; they must be scrubbed. Earthenware is the best material but is apt to crack in winter in a cold loft.

There is a complaint among pigeons,

especially at this time of the year, which is known amongst experienced fanciers as "one-eye-cold." It is caused from birds perching against a draught, and will be perceived on the same side as that next the crack near which the bird is in the habit of roosting. The eye becomes swollen and a watery discharge runs down the cheek. The bird should be removed, put into a warm coop well sheltered from draughts and the eye carefully bathed with alum water. Give internally a capsule of glycerine and carbolic acid; or perhaps better still one of the many kinds of roup pills daily; keep the bird inside until it is perfectly cured.

The attention of all our readers is called to the unique and unparalleled offer which we make on page 757. Please go right to work, and see that each one of you, does your own share,—our list will then be doubled. Watch for our grand array of premiums in next issue.

COMING SHOWS.

Dunnville, Dec. 3, 4, and 5. R. H. Marshall Sec'y.

Poultry Association of Ontario, St. Catharines, Ont., January 7, 8, 9 and 10, 1890. R. Hamill, Secretary, J. C. Rykert, M. P. President.

OHIO.

Central Ohio, at Mt. Gilead, Ohio, January 7th to 11, 1890. J. Y. Bickdell, Judge, W. F. Bruce, Secretary.

Cleveland, January 14th to 19th, 1890. C. C. Schellentrager, Sec., Glenville.

Fayette Association, at Washington C. H., January 14th to 10th, 1890. J. B. Collier, Sec. Union, at Cardington, Dec. 17 to 21, 1889. G. S. Singer, Secretary.

NEW YORK.

International, Buffalo, N.Y., December 11th to 13th, 1889. H. M. Fales, Sec., La Salle, N.Y.

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