

catching themselves up again, I quite admit; but whether the cause be a giddiness in the head or not I cannot say (but incline to think so from having seen some house tumblers when too much flurried show a slightly tremulous motion in the head and neck), but that the cause is the same in every case I am thoroughly satisfied.

That my theory is correct in so far as it relates to rollers and house tumblers is generally admitted, and the proof is not ill to find, as, although I have almost no experience of rollers, I understand that such a casualty as that of a bird rolling so far as to be seriously injured or even killed is not of infrequent occurrence, which would scarcely happen if the action were a voluntary one; and in the case of house tumblers we find birds which rarely use their wings unless when forced to do so, or when under the influence of strong excitement, such as that of a cock attempting to follow a hen which he is driving and which has flown away from him. In either case the attempt would not be followed by such a fruitless effort if the bird had power to do otherwise. This last class, however, throw birds regularly which will fly as freely, tumble seemingly as sportively, and at the same time acquire as much skill in picking themselves up again as any other known breed; and for my part I cannot see why it should be supposed that the cause of the same performance in the case of the progeny should be different from what it undoubtedly is in the parent.

Another evidence I will endeavor to adduce from the peculiar flight of tumbling birds, and this to many minds will be a more satisfactory one; as I think that all who may have birds which do tumble in their possession, will be able to observe it for themselves—at least I have noted it in birds which had neither the blood of the roller nor of the Scotch breed within their veins and where the performance only came up to a very moderate standard; in fact, little more could be said about it than that they did tumble, but from my point of view, at intervals “few and far between.” The peculiarity to which I allude is hovering in the air, accompanied by a tremulous motion of the wings, during which, if progress is made at all, it is by no means as fast as at other times, and I think it is generally in an upward direction if the birds are taking a flight. It is from this cause that it is impossible to train other breeds to fly along with tumblers without spoiling the beauty of the flight, as the tumblers are invariably outpaced and disorder ensues. The singularity of the tumbler's flight in this respect, I am satisfied, proceeds from the bird steadying itself while endeavoring to overcome the inclination to tumble, of which, at least, partial evidence is afforded from the fact that the peculiar motion is frequent-

ly followed by a tumble, and to my mind is fully proved by the fact that the same unusual motions are observed among house tumblers which can fly in the loft, and these undoubtedly proceed from the cause.

I think the foregoing should be convincing proof that in no case is tumbling voluntary, at least to those who will follow out the subject by careful observation; but to those who may still doubt it, I would say, let them do as I have done, study the tumbling of every bird individually; let them mark off such as give the satisfactory proof that the action is an involuntary one, and I think from the small number of the others which will soon be left, that they will speedily be convinced. Merely as an indication of the principles on which observations may be made, I would say, at once mark off all cocks which tumble while driving the hen to the nest, as tumbling always loses time, and every cock is at that season too anxious to keep close to his mate to do so voluntarily; and the fact that many birds tumble better then than at any other time, is chiefly owing to the extra dash with which they fly in the case stated.—  
WILTSHIRE RECTOR.

A small quantity of hemp-seed thrown to the homers on entering the loft from a flight will greatly encourage them to come in quickly on arrival.

We understand that a young homer, belonging to a Toronto fancier, was liberated in London last week, and returned to its loft early the following day. The weather was bad.

A notice of motion is before the Canadian Poultry Association, to be considered at next meeting, that a cup valued at \$25 to \$30 be offered by the Association as a premium for pigeon flying. It is proposed that the race be 150 miles, and that the cup will have to be won three times by one party before he is entitled to it. First and only race of this season will likely take place the first week in October.

It seems that there is considerable dissatisfaction being expressed at the management and result of the late race for the silver cup, which was won by the Strathroy birds. Those who took part in the race have expressed themselves as being fully satisfied. If those who did not take part in it have any grievance or ground for complaint the columns of the REVIEW are open to them to make it known. It would be more honorable and manly to adopt this course than privately make insinuations that there was unfairness and collusion in connection with the matter.