

Exhibited.—1, John Plummer, London; 2, Joseph Lamb, London; 3, Arch. Kains, Delaware.

PIGEONS. *Carriers, Pouters and Tumblers.*—1, H. B. B. Alley, London; 2, P. Wyckoff, London. *Jacobias, Fantails, Barbs and Trumpeters*—1, C. A. Storie, London; 2, P. Wyckoff, do.

Best Collection of Pigeons any other kind.—1, H. B. B. Alley, London; 2, T. J. Spettigue, London.

RABBITS. *Lop-eared.*—1, F. W. Fearman, Hamilton; 2, Joseph Lamb, London. *Common*—1, A. Hebblethwaite, London; 2, W. & J. Peters, London.

EXTRA ENTRIES. *Brahma Chickens.*—F. W. Fearman, Hamilton. *Black Squirrels.*—J. Elson. *African Geese.*—J. Lamb. *Guinea Pigs.*—P. Wyckoff. Highly commended.

OUR LETTER-BOX.

EGG-EATING HENS.—(*J. E. D., Belleville*), asks: "What cure is there for egg-eating hens? I have several very much addicted to this practice, and who evidently watch each other when laying, determined on having a share of the new-laid egg, thus depriving me of any benefit from them." We know of no cure or mode of curing such propensity in hens. It is very annoying, we admit, to have one's fresh eggs devoured immediately after being laid, and can only be exceeded by a hiped who appropriates them to his own use without having obtained permission of the rightful owner. There is, however, a preventive, which we would strongly recommend our correspondent to make use of. Go to the nearest wood-turner's establishment and get a dozen or so of nest-eggs, neatly turned and finished, and of the shape and size of ordinary eggs, and place one or two in each of the nests where your hens usually lay. Watch when the hens go on, and so soon as they have laid take away the egg, leaving the wooden nest-egg still behind. The hen will soon tire of pecking at the wooden egg, and gradually she may be broken of the habit, although it will be some time before it is accomplished. Yet, we never knew of a perfect cure. Wooden nest-eggs are preferable to china ones, as they are not so liable to cause breakage of new-laid eggs. When they get discolored from age or any other cause, they may be painted over with a solution of whitewash or paint, such as farmers use for fences or outhouses.

BLACK AND WHITE BANTAMS. (*Exhib-*

itor late Provincial Show).—You are quite right. Clean-legged birds ought to take a prize before feather-legged. The following are the points given in the "Standard of Excellence":

GENERAL SHAPE—THE COCK.

Comb—Double, square in front, close and straight on the head, the top covered with small points, with a peak behind, turning slightly upwards. *Head*—Small, round, and carried well back towards the tail. *Beak*—Short, slightly curved. *Eye*—Prominent. *Deaf-ear*—Flat and even on the surface. *Wattles*—Broad and thin, rounded on the lower edge. *Neck*—Very taper, curving well back, so as to bring the back of the head towards the tail; hackle full and long, flowing well over the shoulders. *Breast*—Round, and carried prominently forward. *Back*—Very short, saddle feathers long. *Wings*—Ample, the points drooping so as nearly to touch the ground, the secondaries slightly expanded. *Tail*—Full, expanded, well adorned with long curving sickle feathers, carried well up towards the back of the head. *Thighs*—Short. *Legs*—Short, clean and taper. *Carriage*—Very upright, proud and strutting.

THE HEN.

Comb—Same shape as that of cock, but very much smaller. *Head*—Small, round and neat. *Beak*—Small. *Eye*—Full and quick. *Deaf-ear*—Flat and even on the surface. *Wattles*—Small. *Neck*—Short and taper, carried well back. *Breast*—Round and prominent. *Back*—Short. *Wings*—Ample, points drooping. *Tail*—Full, expanded, carried rather upright. *Thighs*—Short. *Legs*—Short, clean, and taper. *Carriage*—Upright and strutting.

COMMENCING POULTRY-KEEPING.—Frequently, verbally and by letter, have we been asked is it desirable to keep poultry for their eggs? Do they pay? What are the best kinds to keep? We extract from the *Journal of Horticulture*, the following general answer: "Ought you to keep poultry? Entirely a matter of taste. If you like poultry—Yes. If you like eggs—No. Our belief is, half the world does not know what it likes. Such a one says he could not do without poultry, because he can not breakfast without a new-laid egg. Another loves a broiled chicken, and can fancy only those he breeds and feeds himself. Moonshine all! 'my merry masters.' Neither cares for poultry. One eats an unquestionable egg, the other a faultless chicken. Provided both are good no questions are asked. To be fond of poultry is to keep cocks and hens; to multiply surface, to overcome desiderata, to supply that which is wanting, to concentrate on a