

### *Diseases of Canaries.*

*Continued from Page 148.*

The cause of birds moulting the second time, is that they are kept in too warm a situation. Birds are very often kept in a kitchen, where there is a great deal of steam and foul air, which is injurious to their health, and generally brings on a second moulting sickness. Hang your birds as low down as possible, as all foul air and steam ascends up, and this is very unhealthy. Insects though not a disease are often the cause of some. The most annoying of these minute parasites, are the red mites, a kind of bug, as great a torment to birds as the bed bug is to human beings. If once suffered to get into a cage they can seldom, if ever, be driven out again—as the most minute hole and corner suffices for them to harbour and breed in. Like their namesakes, they make their attack in the night; it is then that they come forth and seize on their victims, piercing their tender skin, and sucking their blood, so as to harass and annoy them very seriously. As darkness approaches, the birds may be observed to become restless and uneasy, and to peck frequently at their bodies, at which time if minutely examined, some of their tormentors may be found lurking close to their skin. One way to dislodge these pests is to sprinkle a good pinch of Scotch snuff under the wings and about the legs of your bird; but a more effectual way is to wash over those parts with a solution of white precipitate, care fully drying the bird by the fire or sun. It will also be necessary to well fumigate, or change its habitation, in fact it may as well be burned, for a cage once infested with the red mites, can

rarely, if ever be thoroughly ridden of them. For this reason it is we recommend hard-wood cages, or all wire cages preferable, as they are not so often infested with either the red mites, or the yellow lice, another insect tormentor, for extirpating which the same means as previously prescribed, may be applied generally with success.

Plain and practical directions for breeding and rearing Canaries will be (continued.) W. BARBER, Ottawa.

### *On the Breeding & Management of Fancy Pigeons.*

*Continued from page 153.*

Along the top of partition is nailed a strip of wood three inches wide, to furnish a perch or landing, between the boxes. The two compartments will be used in the following way: when the first pair of young ones are able to be left to the care of the male bird, the hen will go over into the other, in which the owner should have provided another nest pan, and lay her eggs there. She will then sit quite undisturbed, while the cock feeds the young ones, and these latter, not being able to see the mother, on account of the partition, will remain in their own nest quite contented, until they are able to get upon the partition, by which time, as it is eight inches high, they will be able to manage for themselves. For all highly bred pigeons, I prefer these nests being upon the floor, for this reason, when a highly bred hen is on the point of laying, she will citen be unable to fly up to it, and the cock in his anxiety to drive her to nest, will pick at her until she lays on the floor, unless the fancier should happen to see her and lift her up to the nest. Again