

of the fanciers by the brilliant results which they have shown. They form now in Belgium the main of the lofts of the fanciers, and to such an extent that it would be difficult to find at this time a type of the pure Smerle or Cumulet.

We have seen and heard of the good side of the crossing, but we find yet adversaries, deceptions have often been multiplied; how often has not an intelligent breed by its crossings with the English Carrier given stupid products; bred under the best conditions, perfect pictures in feathers, strength and health, arising in their owners the best of hopes, the products have been lost in their first voyage of training.

"However, on the other side of the disasters, there have been successes; other fanciers have done better, and those that have failed in their first trials have tried new experiments. In the nature of things the unintelligent products have been lost while training. Those that have succeeded have returned to their lofts and have formed good stock, the selection has been made of itself."

See what Mr. La Perre De Roo says: "We can cross without inconvenience, the Smerle with the large and strong Antwerp, with the prospects of gaining birds of larger size; but I cannot enough disapprove the crossing of foreign breeds, not Homers, (*non voyageures*) because, I really don't know what merits the Belgian Homers could derive from pigeons which have not the least degree of orientation, meaning, those that have not the least faculty of finding their way home from any middling far distance. I have been told that fanciers frequently buy English Carriers with a view of breeding Homers from them, instead of going ahead this is going backwards, and I am certain that the fanciers who have tried the experiment will not persevere in a way of which the results have been absol-

utely negative, as I will try and demonstrate:

"The Belgian Homer has not been created in a day, by a single crossing with an English or Persian Carrier (*Columba tuber culose*), but is the result of multiplied crossings where hazard and the unknown have played an important role, and of which the products have been tried with severity without mercy by lady voyage (*dame voyage*), because the Belgians since more than half a century, make their birds travel without interruption, and it is, I think, superfluous to add that the mediocre subjects are always lost while traveling, and that the good birds only, return to their lofts.

"The result then of those annual trials is that the Belgian fanciers have at the end of the year in their lofts none but the best birds."

When Mr. Brooks speaks about the Smerle I don't think that he means the pure breed, but those that show by their short beak that they are the most related to it.

Of the numerous birds which I have received from Verviers, the noted home of the original Smerle, as Antwerp is the natural home of the Cumulet, I have received but a very few, which I consider almost pure Smerle, all the rest were crossed between the Cumulet, with a small percentage of English Carrier blood in them, and I always recommend and do myself cross the smaller with the larger birds and those that show no Carrier at all.

My theory is that the English Carrier being an unintelligent bird as far as flying qualities are concerned, we should keep it out of our homers as much as possible, only keeping so much in as is required to give strength to make a good homing bird.

(to be continued.)

WHITBY POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

An enthusiastic meeting of local fanciers was held in Mr. Pringle's office Whitby, on Friday afternoon March 2nd, at which a poultry association was formed, to be known as the Whitby Poultry Association. The new association starts with a membership of nearly twenty, all of whom are known as thorough-going fanciers who will do their utmost to make the association in every respect a decided success. The following officers were elected, viz.—Mr. THOS. RICE, Whitby, President, & Mr. FRANK C. HARE, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Rice and Mr. T. Hawes of Whitby were appointed delegates to the Industrial exhibition. It was decided to hold the next meeting on Saturday, March 10th, at two p. m. It is hoped that the society inaugurated under such favorable auspices may grow in strength and influence.

FRANK C. HARE,
Secretary.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

TO MEET THE WANTS OF ADVERTISERS WHO ARE CONTINUALLY USING THIS COLUMN AND WHO FIND IT A GREAT TROUBLE TO BE CONSTANTLY REMITTING SMALL AMOUNTS, WE HAVE ADOPTED THE PLAN OF ISSUING COUPONS (AS ABOVE) GOOD FOR 30 WORDS EACH, 4 FOR \$1.00. ANY ONE BUYING THESE COUPONS CAN USE THEM AT ANY TIME, IN LIEU OF MONEY, WHEN SENDING IN AN ADVERTISEMENT. NOT LESS THAN FOUR COUPONS SOLD.

For Sale.—Brown Leghorn Cockerels, Rose or Single Comb; or will exchange for one of each variety. Stahlschmidt and Croft strains. Write quick. R. ELLIOTT, Wingham, Ont.

Pigeons for Sale.—A few first-class Rollers and performing Tumblers. W. E. MACKAY, 520 Queen St. West, Toronto.

Wyandotte Fanciers.—I will sell ten Fattets and two Cockerels, At breeding stock for \$15.00, less number at same rate. Speak quick. P. G. KEYES, Ottawa, Ont.

Grand Pen of Japanese Bantams for sale, Cock and three Pullets for \$20.00, Cock and one Pullet winning two 1sts at Industrial. THOMSON & SON, 75 King East, Toronto.

A Chance.—A gentleman who is tired of fowls asked me to try and sell his stock, which consists of 2 trios each of silver and Golden Polands, 3 Pekin Bantam Cocks and Japanese Bantam Hen. Will be sold at a bargain, McNeil's stock. Address W. G. M. BYERS, Gananoque, Ont.