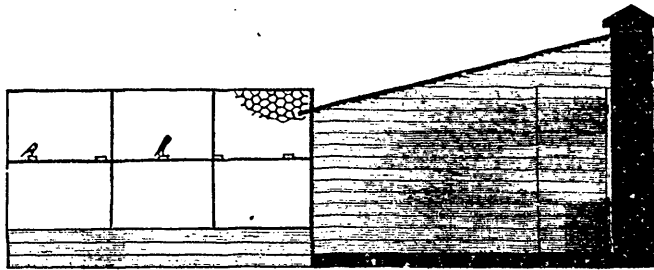vided in the outer flight for the birds to bathe in. This should be always kept filled, except in frosty weather. Both baths and fountains should be cleaned out and water renewed *daily*. The droppings should be removed and the floor scraped and swept *every morning* before the birds are fed, and once a week each pen and shelf should be carefully brushed out, taking care to remove all accumulations of dust and dirt from corners and behind nests of sitting birds ; where there are squabs the

Scale 1-8in. to the foot.

Fig. 1.—Design for Breeding Loft. End Elevation.

pen should be cleaned out daily. Some, I have no doubt, will think I am entering too much into details and enjoining unnecessary trouble, but I am

Fig. 2.—Front Elevation of two compartments, the outer flight showing window lowered and door partly open.

convinced by painful experience, that the pigeon-loft is no exception to the old saying, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness." There are so many differences of opinion as to what constitutes cleanliness; one considers that he is doing all that is needed if the loft is cursorily scraped every other day. Some think once a week a superfluity, and how often do we not find the scrapings accumulating for days in a corner of the loft, with very likely a defunct squab or a few bad eggs. Such fanciers are the majority of those who weekly write to the journals asking why it is so many of their birds die from roup
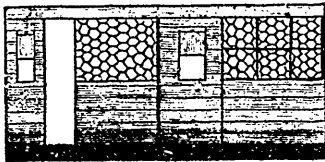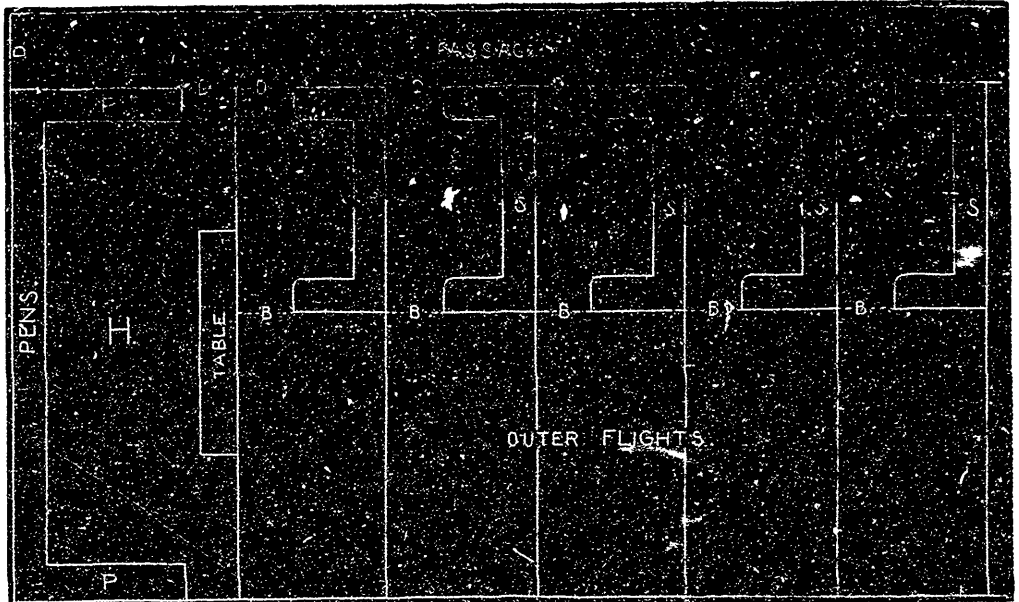

Fig. 3.—Plan. B. Door, with stage and landing board. D D D, Doors. S S S, Shelves.

canker, etc., etc. Ye gods ! is it not surprising so many survive it, to say nothing of the insect vermin which make the nests almost untenable for the old birds, and suck the life-blood of the squabs. This is an extreme picture, but not overdrawn, and many more lofts come "within a measurable distance" of such a state. Given a dry loft, well ventilated, kept scrupulously clean, and plenty of clean food and water, and the death rate will be very small indeed. For scraping the loft an ordi-