

We have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with General Hassard, his time of residence here being of course prior to our arrival in the country, but his fame as a breeder especially of white Carriers has been known to us for many years. We feel sure General Hassard will pardon the liberty we take of printing one short extract from a letter of late date to us showing as it does the kindly interest he still takes in matters Columbarian. We had purchased two pairs of white Carriers from General Hassard, and the extract is from his letter advising us of their despatch. He says "I made the case myself and it is constructed on sound principles." It was indeed, as the birds arrived in most excellent health and condition, in fact, they came out in better form than any, of some fifty or sixty we received this past spring. Few men of General Hassard's position and age would have gone to the trouble to provide the many little details, so small in themselves but so necessary to the well being of the passengers.

PIGEON NOTES FROM PORT HOPE.

BY C. M.

FROM what we can learn the season just closing has been rather unsatisfactory in rearing young birds, although a few breeders report having had good success. Quite a few of the early youngsters died from the cold wet weather in the early spring. This seems to be invariably the case year after year, so that it appears almost useless to mate up the birds till May, for some pairs after losing the first nest or two never seem to do well throughout the whole season.

How many young birds are lost being pulled out of the nest by the old birds when flying off, but this can be remedied. Instead of using sawdust or loose straw in the nest boxes, procure some lung dried grass, and twist it around in the form of a birds nest, and it is surprising how the little fellows will hold on to this with their feet. We are using the dried grass entirely for the nests now, and find it most satisfactory. Of course sawdust is also used, after the young are several weeks old, the nests being then cleaned about three or four times a week.

Draft the young birds off to a coop by themselves for a week or two after the old ones have quit feeding them, and before they are turned out into a loft with the

others. It helps them learn to feed, for they are slow to pick at first, and are not able to hold their own with the older ones.

Dr. Spankie and Mr. W. H. Reid, of Kingston, were in town last month and spent several hours looking over the birds. They expressed themselves as exceedingly well pleased with quality of the stock seen. We hope to see pigeons take a boom in Kingston after this.

Mr. Walter Boug, London, was also in town and paid a visit to our lofts. Mr. Boug is a very enthusiastic "fancier" but unfortunately has not much time to devote to his birds, being "on the road" the greater part of the year.

Mr. G. H. Parish, Ottawa, writes us that he is again in "the fancy" after a retirement of about five years. We are pleased to know that he is back in the ranks again and hope to hear from him quite often *re* Pigeon notes from this city.

Mr. W. L. Glidden has had poor luck with his Pouters this season, having only about a dozen on the floor, some of them promise to be extra in quality, especially the yellows.

Mr. Baulch has raised any quantity of young Trumpeters, although from his imported whites he has not had an egg. It is very discouraging to pay big prices for birds of this kind and find that they are useless as breeders.

Mr. Geo. H. Buckle has fitted up a nice loft with wire netting flight, and intends keeping a few good pigeons. We noticed in his loft several pairs of real good Jacobins, and white and blue pied Pouters, the blue pied cock being especially fine in size and markings. He intends importing some Pouters in the near future.

The interest is still increasing in our town, and we hope to see, at our next winter show the largest and finest exhibit of high class pigeons, ever brought together in this country. We also trust that the Pigeon Department of the REVIEW will be ably supported by the fanciers at large, thus making it second to none on the continent.

The entry of pigeons at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition promises to be larger and better than ever before, but we were surprised to learn that but 107 were entered at Montreal. We fear our eastern breeders are not dealing fairly with the Montreal Exposition Company in this, the list is a complete one though the money offered is small.