

but showed him his loft, where, however, the stranger's conduct aroused suspicion. The loft is approached by a plank over a deep and muddy ditch. This plank the owner towards evening cut nearly in two and then replaced it. During the night he was aroused by the noise, and going out found two gendarmes fishing his visitor of yesterday out of the ditch to consign him to the lock-up.

A correspondent of *L'Esperier* gives an account of a novel kind of pigeon race which has been organized at Nice, for the entertainment of visitors. The birds are each decorated with ribbons of a different color and carried out some distance to sea, and then liberated. The one which first returns to its loft being the winner. The whole race can be followed with a good glass, and bets made as on horse races &c., a fact which would not be among its least attractions with some. It is not stated whether the birds all belong to the same loft or not.

Some time ago we referred to the action of the Belgian Commission of Fetes for 1880, in refusing to make any appropriation for a grand national pigeon competition, while for horse racing, boating, &c., ample inducements are held out. The pigeon societies of Belgium set on foot a petition to the government on the subject which eventually has received between nine and ten thousand signatures. It was favorably received by the Minister of the Interior, and has had the desired effect, as *L'Esperier* announces that the Society "Le Coq d'Or," of Brussels, has been commissioned by the government to make arrangements for a national meeting in July next.

The Pigeons at Show of O. P. A.

Editor Review,

DEAR SIR,—Having been called upon by the directors of the Ontario Poultry Association to act as a judge on the pigeon exhibit, which was held at Guelph from the 6th to 9th of February, if you will allow me a small space in your valuable journal, I will give your numerous readers a few words in regard to the pigeons that I had the pleasure of looking over.

All the varieties were well represented, and it was, without exception, the best pigeon exhibit I have seen in Canada. Some of the birds would favorably compare with the best at the Philadelphia exhibition, and I must say our American friends will have to be alive or the Canadian birds will surprise them in every respect.

Among the principal exhibitors I noticed Mr. James O. Weldon, of London, who showed a very fine black carrier cock, an imported bird, which bids fair, with age, to excel in points any at the

exhibition; the yellow Barb hen, also an imported bird, and the only one on exhibition, was a fine specimen; his almond tumblers, blue pied pouters and black Barbs held their own with all comers. Mr. Weldon did not have a very large exhibit, but it is his intention to import next season a few of the most prominent varieties in the fancy, and I hope next season to see our young friend on the war-path with even better birds than he has at present.

Mr. John James, of Toronto, had the largest exhibit in the hall. It was composed of the choicest varieties of high-class fancy pigeons: carriers, pouters, and tumblers. The most worthy of mention, his carriers, are good, without a doubt, showing very fair measurements; blue and white Fans are well represented, one pair of blues being the best I have seen in some time. I must not pass over his blue and silver dun Antwerps, also the almond tumbler cock and dun hen, and pair yellow trumpeters, all of which showed to good advantage, and will compare with any I have seen at either Buffalo or Detroit.

The next on the list was Mr. H. G. Charlesworth, of Yorkville, who showed a pair of white pouters, the cock a good bird, having the desired length of feather and style; the hen not up to the standard. There was also exhibited by the same gentleman a very good pair of silver pouters, the cock being the longest bird on exhibition. His blue and black pied pouters are worthy of mention, and will hold their own at any poultry exhibition.

Master J. S. Anderson, of Guelph, showed a good collection of both white and blue Fans; his Calcutta cock is a very good bird, also his black Fan cock. Mr. A. is a young fancier, but look out for him, he has the right idea of importing birds to this country, and will be along with the best of them in time.

A. F. Tyson, of Guelph, shows a very nice pair of yellow Jacobins, black Barbs, and black Fans. Mr. T. is also a young and promising exhibitor.

I noticed a large and beautiful three-story cage, containing ten pairs of Homing Antwerps, shown by Mr. James Fullerton, of Strathroy. As exhibition birds they are not quite up to the standard, but as flyers I have not the slightest doubt but they will be able to hold their own in any contest, having all the points indicating great staying powers and strength of flight. I noticed in particular in the collection a very fine blue cock, showing good points as to color, breadth of wing, and length of flights. Three pairs of these birds, I understand, were imported from noted Belgian lofts last season.

The exhibit of song birds was not very large, there being more for sale than otherwise. There were two pairs of canaries, one of which was very good, both in color, size, style and breeding. I