

PIGEON DEPARTMENT.

Until further notice, communications, news items, and correspondence upon pigeon matters should be addressed to Mrs. E. S. Starr, 3 Park Row, New York City.

Louis Offerman expects to show 30 pairs of Homers at the Red Star exhibition.

Dan'l Newhall, Philadelphia, Pa., lately purchased the entire stock of Grist homers.

Geo. E. Peer, Rochester, N. Y. has purchased the best red Jacobins of Geo. Woolley, Waltham, Mass.

Jno. Van Opstal, New York City, purchased by cable, January 1st, 1881, an entire loft of Homers said to be one of the best owned in the city of Antwerp.

The Red Star Club, Philadelphia, announces a second exhibition, of homing birds only, to be held January 27, 28, 1881. All are invited to be present.

The Eastern fancier keeps his pigeons in a "loft"; in New York City and vicinity they are found in "coops"; but the Philadelphia fancier will invite you to look at his "box."

The pigeon exhibitors at Battleboro', Vt., lately will give a wide berth to any society employing I. K. Felch as judge of its pigeon department. A visitor speaks of the judging as a farce and the awards a shame; disqualified birds receiving prizes and birds that had won first in the best company passed over without mention.

There are three classes of people keep pigeons: pigeon fanciers, pigeon breeders, and people who suffer a few mongrels to fly about their premises and in a great measure get their own living. Pigeon fanciers are those who from pure love of the birds themselves, cherish them for their beauty and keep the differ nt varieties in various shades of perfection.—Eaton.

The Pigeon Show of the season will, in all probability, be that of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Pigeon and Poultry Club, opening Sunday, February 6, and holding three days. The National Columbarian Society purposed holding an exhibition the latter part of this month, but finding the progress made by the Brooklyn club towards an exhibition, concluded to show with it instead of dividing the interest. It is expected that the Scheld loft will

be well represented, that the excellent Jacobins and African Owls of H. V. Crawford will be shown, and there will probably be a surprise for New York fanciers from the loft of one of their number. Bunting Haukins, of Gberdctown, N. J., is the only fancier that can, for variety, dispute the collection prize with I. Coliell. If these two enter for it there will be a show worth going far to see.

The exhibition is gotten up upon principles wholly original. It will open Sunday. The birds must be in the coops Saturday evening, when every body except the manager is to be excluded, and the judges admitted. No one except the committee appointed knowers who is to judge the show. This committee holds itself responsible for the judging. No names to be allowed on the coops, but when the hall is open to the public lists of entries will be distributed, free to all. The premiums will be awarded February 6, and, according to the rules, will be forwarded to the lucky winners on Thursday evening, March 10th, 1881, at Exhibition Hall. The delivery of the Prizes to winners will be accompanied by a ball, celebrating the first anniversary of Brooklyn Pigeon and Poultry Club."

The Fantail.

A few months ago the Review contained an excellent article upon the Fantail, written by one of the best of the English fanciers of the variety. As a conclusion to the subject, and to show by what law American birds are judged, we will add the Standard for the variety as adopted by the National Columbarian Society,—the American Association of pigeon fanciers.

The Standard for this bird opens with the requirements for each color, thus:

Blue.—Clear, pure and uniform; with two jet black bars across primary coverts; and bars of black near extremity of tail; beak dark; eyes orange color.

Silver.—Pale creamy gray; dark bars, and band of same shade near extremity of tail; beak pale; eyes orange.

Black.—Intense; beak black; eyes orange.

White.—Pure and spotless; eyes dark hazel.

Yellow.—Clear and uniform throughout; eyes orange; beak light.

Red.—Pure deep chestnut throughout; eyes orange; beak light.

Saddle-backs.—All white except a well defined saddle across the shoulders; eyes hazel; beak flesh-colored.

*Silkie*s.—Pure white, silky feathers throughout; eyes hazel; beak flesh-colored.

Frizzled.—White or colored feathers, long and well inverted or curled upwards; eyes hazel; beak flesh-colored.