

pigeon breeders or others some suggestions through your columns as to how this state of things may be remedied. For the persistent grave public exposure must be resorted to in some form. But as a great deal of the trouble comes from misunderstandings I beg to make suggestions.

1. It is at present, in the absence of an American or separately published standard of any kind, difficult to describe or give the score of pigeons. "A bird first-class in every particular" has proved a failure because people differ so much as to what this means. I suggest as a remedy, in the meantime, that with a definite number of marks for each point, the total to be 100, the owner endeavour to score his birds. Thus in a Jacobin, let the head, hood, main, chain, etc., each be scored with reference to an absolute value, say, for the sake of illustration, 10 each. The result might be stated in the form of a fraction, thus, hood 7/10, 10 being perfect. An experienced poultry breeder can get within a few points, why not a pigeon breeder?

2. Much heart-burning would be avoided if valuable birds, at all events, and all if desired, were sent *on approbation* on receipt of the cash price.

The inexperienced might then secure the advice of others, and the seller could not be blamed.

But certainly if bickerings and bitterness is to be avoided something must be done.

3. The form of certain advertisements is misleading. It is unfair for a dealer to represent his stock as being cleared off in such a way as to lead to the impression that he is not going to keep any more of it, and repeat a similar advertisement several times each year. The inexperienced are deceived and an honest man will no sooner mislead the ignorant than the wary.

4. One course is clear, it seems to be the plain duty of every society devoted to the interests of poultry, pigeons, etc., to have a clause in their

constitution providing for the expulsion of any member guilty of a dishonest transaction and to execute it rigidly. The fanciers and breeders of Canada may be few and weak, as compared with those of the United States or Britain, but they can be strong in integrity.

5. There is much complaint that culls are frequently sent to Canada, both in poultry and pigeons, when the price of first-rate stock is demanded and paid to British dealers, who seem to take advantage of our distant position to defraud us. Canadians thus treated should expose such men in British and Canadian journals.

The show season is at hand. Let us hope that names off coops, and ownership otherwise concealed, may be the rule at all exhibitions, till after the awards are made. If errors in the prize lists (winners) were corrected in the REVIEW through the secretaries concerned and not by the persons interested directly, and in the fewest words possible, without any comparisons or unpleasant allusions, it would conduce to good feeling and reserve the space of your valuable journal, and the editor's and readers feelings, for who has any interest in, or gets any good from personal bickerings?

In conclusion, I express the hope that this letter will lead to useful discussion, and I am sure nothing would delight you more, Mr. Editor, than to feel that you represented a profession or fraternity of men generally honest and aiming to improve the breed they fancy, for the love of it rather than for lucre, and with generous feelings towards each other. With thanks for the space kindly afforded me, I remain,

Yours truly,

FAIRDEALER.

Make all tight for winter, and give a thorough cleaning up now in preference to the spring, when your birds are anxious to go to nest, and do not like to be disturbed.



## BUFFALO INTERNATIONAL FAIR.

We paid a flying visit to Buffalo on the 6th September to get paralyzed by the extent and quality of the great International never was the like before exhibition. We weren't paralyzed. We arrived in Bisonville at 9 p.m. on Wednesday night, and after paying half a dollar for the privilege of lying (not sleeping) on a cot in a draughty corridor, and another half dollar for a 15 cent breakfast, we wended our way *a la* street car to the exhibition grounds, which are at a considerable distance from the centre of the city. The street cars run right to the gate.

Arriving at the poultry hall, a nice building, but with entirely too narrow passages, we had the pleasure of meeting an old friend, Mr. J. Y. BICKNELL, who kindly introduced us to Mr. A. F. PIERCE, Mr. B. N. PIERCE (Judge), Mr. A. S. STILLMAN (Superintendent), and others, with whom we spent a very pleasant time. The pens were supplied by Spratt's Patent, (Limited) which were the first of the kind we had seen in America, and were a very great improvement on the old slat-fronted boxes generally in vogue.

The number of birds were considerably less than we expected to see, in fact outside of light Brahmas, P. Rocks, Wyandottes, Leghorns and Minorcas, the specialties of our Yankee cousins, the classes were very poorly filled, in some instances there not being enough birds to take the prize money offered. The Game and Game Bantam classes contained some really fine specimens, a little Pyle Bantam cock, good in station, color, and head, and well up on his pins, especially striking our eye. We particularly missed the grand classes of Games, Polish, Hamburgs, Dorkings &c., which we are accustomed to see on this side of the line, not-