

disordered. On dissection the liver presents an enlarged appearance, and is usually of a light unhealthy color.

The immediate cause of rickets is generally considered owing to the want of a due absorption of phosphate of lime or bone earth. But the primary cause in most instances is a disordered state of the digestive organs, brought about by over and injudicious feeding, and also the want of sufficient liberty and gentle exercise.

The best treatment is open air, regular, gentle, and especially passive exercise; bathing the limbs in seawater and playing on the sands being highly beneficial; small quantities of nourishing food, phosphates and other preparations of iron and lime (the powder of reduced iron may be tried with advantage), keeping the bowels open with castor-oil, and free from worms with vermifuges.

Although I have written this for Mastiff breeders, fanciers of Great Danes, St. Bernards, and other large dogs will do wisely to consider these facts, as quite recently I have heard complaints of several cases of deformity and rickets in Great Danes and St. Bernards.—*Alcmaon, in English Stock Keeper.*

Sheriff McKee says that the intelligence or the nose of the dog referred to in yesterday's *Press* does not amount to anything compared to the nose of a dog a friend of his owned. He thinks that any dog with a half way decent nose ought to be able to smell out a flock of woodcock even if the birds are concealed in the stomach of a pickerel. The Sheriff says he had a friend who had a wonderful good dog for coons. If there was a coon within a mile of the dog the coon's doom was sealed, for the dog would certainly smell him out. One day the dog was out with his master after coons. They stopped at a small railroad station just as the train drew up. The dog came to a dead point on the train. The owner of the dog insisted that there must be a coon on board the train or that the train had run over a coon. His dog could not be mistaken. The train was searched, but there was no coon and no gore on the wheels. The man's faith in the dog did not waver for an instant. "Are you sure that there is no coon on board this train?" he inquired of the brakeman. "I am sure there is not. The nearest thing to a coon is the conductor, and his name is Coon." "That settles it," said the owner of the dog; "I knew there was a coon on this train."—*Paterson Press.*

A very second rate actor, Emmett by name, tried hard while in England to buy Plinlimmon, but having failed to do so, he has characteristically resorted to abuse of the dog since his return to America, and says his own dog Rector is better. It is the old story of the sour grapes. Now that sour tempered, ugly beast is dead, he is "sorry he spoke."—*Kenel Review.*

Pigeon and Pet Stock Department,

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H. B. Donovan's Pigeon House.

This house is built on cedar posts raised one foot from the ground, thus avoiding any trouble from rats. It faces the south, the entire length being 50 feet by 12 feet in width, 6 feet 6 inches in front and 9 feet 6 inches at back (inside measurement). It is built of rough lumber on 4x6 sills, the studs are lined on the outside with tarred felt and boarded outside that, lined inside with tarred felt and again boarded, thus forming an air chamber. It is well battened all round with 2-inch battens, the floor is of inch boards, planed and matched; the roof is of No. 2 shingles laid on boards.

The house is divided into 9 pens, each about 9x5 feet, boarded two feet high and then lathed to the top. Along the back runs a passage 2 feet 6 inches, with doors opening into each pen, the partition between the pens and passage is made entirely of work. In each pen, facing the south, is a sash 2x2 feet, made to slide up.

At one end is a stand of pens 5 feet long, 2 feet 6 inches wide and 2 feet high, used for wintering pheasants and odd birds. These pens are all easily reached for cleaning, etc., from the passage.

The doors are all hung on iron hinges, with iron buttons for fastenings. The floors of the pens are kept thickly strewn with sawdust, which is clean and dry.

The crocks for water are placed outside the pens in the passage close to the lath-work, so that the birds have to drink through the partition and are thus kept from bathing in or soiling the drinking water. Water for bathing is frequently supplied in a proper bath dish outside the pens. This is an important point, as bathing birds in the pens is sure to make the floor in a mess, and a wet, dirty floor, with all its attendant evils of roup, canker, etc., is the bane of a successful pigeon fancier.

The nest-boxes and shelves are all made loose so that they can be removed at the end of the breeding season and thoroughly cleaned and washed.

The arrangement of perches is not yet complete, as we can find no plan entirely satisfactory.

It is intended to run an outside flight along the entire front, next season, made of wire netting, the width to be nine feet and divided off in the same manner as the house (minus the passage way) thus giving each pen an outside flight or enclosure of about 9x5 feet.