

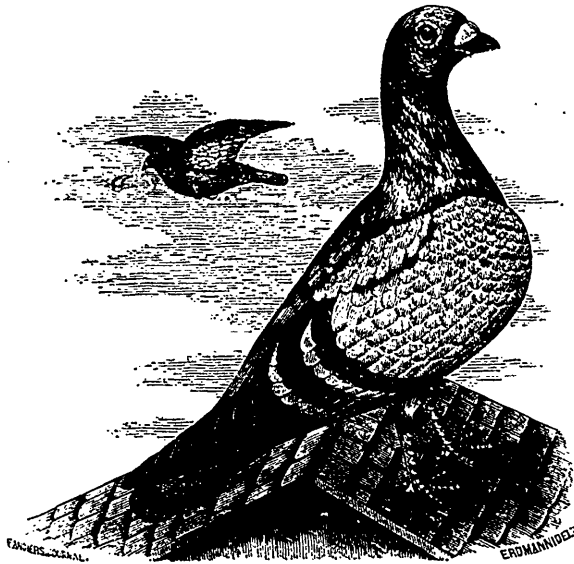
# Canadian Poultry Review.

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THE HOMING ANTWERP.

(The publisher and staff of no journal on this continent have worked so faithfully, with both pen and purse, to promote and encourage the pigeon fancy, particularly that of the Homing Antwerp, as those of *Familiar Science and Forciers' Journal*. In our efforts in this direction we have received valuable assistance from the editor, Mr. Wade, and manager, Mr. Starr, for which we tender our thanks. We are indebted to them for the above engraving.)

Of late years a taste for Homing pigeons has been growing among pigeon fanciers. The fact that they were employed so successfully during the Franco-Prussian war to carry dispatches from the seat of war to Paris, when every other mode of communication was closed, brought them more prominently before the world than they ever had been, and showed that they were not only birds of beauty but of great usefulness, when properly trained, in extreme circumstances. The brilliant services they rendered France in her time of need, gave a grand exhibition of their merits, and won

for them fame which shall last so long as birds of this kind live. But apart from this, Homers have been well known for a long time, and highly valued in various parts of the world, for their flying characteristics. In Belgium, we are informed, the number of Homing pigeons exceeds that of the population of the State, which is about 5,000,000 inhabitants. The province of Antwerp, especially, has long been noted for its superior Homers, and for the amusement it derives from pigeon flying. And now, and far more extensively than ever, France is interesting herself in the propagation of birds that may either be used in times of national danger or flown for amusement in times of peace and prosperity. Nor is America behind her sister nations in this matter. Thousands of lofts exist over her immense continent, in which nothing but the best bred Homers are found. Canada is the last we shall refer to, and perhaps she is the least in her show of interest for the production of this useful and beautiful bird. But we shall not re-pine, for the event that awakened fanciers else-