

I used to keep a little book and kept a regular debit and credit account. Whenever Tudils would add to stock in trade by an egg I put down day and date. I can't say now how the account balanced, but I fear, like all boy speculations, the debit side was the heaviest. I have owned many pets since, but I can safely say none ever gave the same amount of pleasure as my first little Banty.

—+ ROADS.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Editor of Canadian Poultry Review,

DEAR SIR:—

Hoping you will allow me a small space in your valuable columns, I will endeavor to say a few words to your numerous readers on the Poultry and Pigeon fancy as it is in Arkansas.

Before leaving Canada, I learned from my esteemed friend, Col. T. B. Mills, of Little Rock, that there was to be a State Fair, held in the above place, open to the world. I was requested by him to purchase the finest and best poultry to be had in Canada. I spared neither pains nor expense in doing so, for I was very anxious to take some good specimens to this new State. I purchased for Col. Mills some twenty pairs of poultry, the balance was made up of my own stock of bantams, &c. As for the pigeons, I did not have to go very far for them, as I removed my entire stock with the poultry above mentioned. After getting everything ready, I started for Little Rock, Arkansas, with a car load of live stock, made up of Poultry, Pigeons, Suffolk and Berkshire Pigs, Collie and Newfoundland Dogs; making in all 35 pairs of Poultry, 50 pairs of Pigeons, 5 hogs, and the balance of my car was occupied with farming implements for Mr. Mills. The hogs I speak of were purchased by Col. Mills from Messrs. Edmondson and McLaren. They are the best that he could get, and I think would find a good place at any exhibition. After travelling one week, I arrived in Little Rock with my large family all well, save one of the Houdan hens, and one of my best Trumpeter pigeons; both of which died. On arriving at my destination, I at once had the stock conveyed to the exhibition grounds, about two miles from the station. After getting them in their proper places, and fit to be examined, (for I can assure you they did look hard after such a long journey) I found but one competitor, and he showed but one pair of Light Brahmas, these were not quite up to our Canadian ideas of what they should be. However, take it all in all, I never in my life saw birds show so well after being on the road so long. The White-crested Black Polands attracted the most attention; the Hamburgs and Houdans had

their share of praise. I was compelled to show the birds in their own baskets, there being no provision made for them by the managers; in fact the people were very much surprised to see such a fine show of poultry coming from Canada—the stock being far ahead of anything they had ever before seen.

The pigeons were admired by every visitor, especially the ladies. They would come to me and say in this way "O, how nice! what beautiful little things they are. I'm glad I came to see them,"—and several such remarks too numerous to mention. I was also compelled to exhibit the pigeons in their own cages. Among the pigeons I found the Fantails and my imported dun Carriers had the preference over all others for showing purposes. I had also on exhibition my medals and diplomas, that were awarded me at the Centennial exhibition. They attracted a great deal of attention. I neglected to mention our Bantams. They were admired by all, and showed to the best advantage.

It is needless to say that Col. Mills carried off the red ribbon for poultry, and for hogs. The latter had quite a close competition, there being about twenty-five others showing against his. The pigeons did their part. I was awarded a diploma, gotten up in an elegant frame, for the best display of fancy pigeons.

It was my intention, on coming here, to go into chicken-farming on a large scale—raising eggs and poultry for the St. Louis market, but upon inquiry I find the present prices of feed is such as would not allow me to embark in the enterprise. This climate is very pleasant for fowls; they all seem to be doing well under it; still I find among the common fowls slight traces of that dreaded disease that we were so much subjected to in Canada, called "chicken cholera." I find they will lay all the year round, and chicks can be hatched in January without the least danger of them being frozen. As for artificial mothers and incubators, they were never heard of here. In fact before I came into this state the fancy was at a stand-still, the people not taking the slightest interest in it, but now the few fanciers there are here seem to be about to take hold and try their luck at raising fancy poultry and pigeons, for I have received more orders for eggs and chicks than I can possibly fill.

On close examination I find that the Plymouth Rocks do better in this climate than any other breed that are now here.

Buckwheat is not grown to any extent in this State, for the farmers have not yet found out its value; I find it is a feed that is greatly needed.

My pigeons are doing first-class: all are breeding nicely. I find this climate agrees with them. I have already received a large number of orders for young birds.