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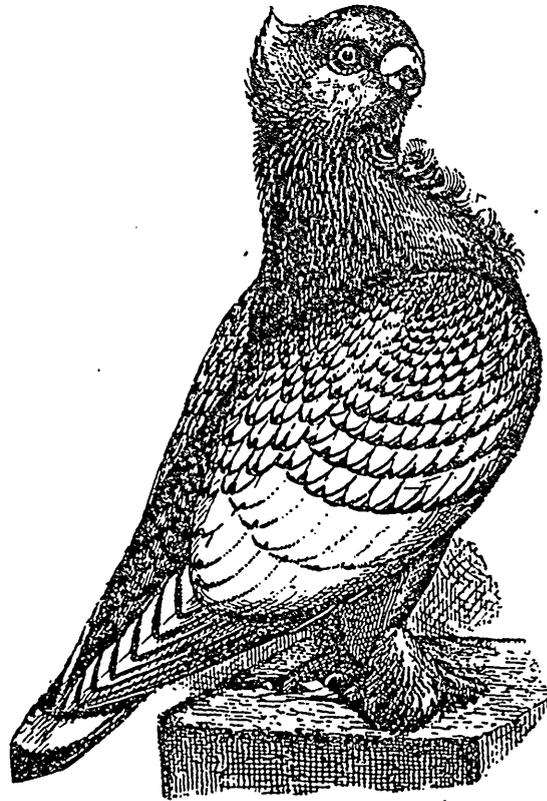
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**BLUE LACED BLONDINETTE COCK.**

Winner of 1st Crystal Palace, Liverpool, &c., &c.

*The Pigeon Fancier, Toronto, December, 1894.*

# THE PIGEON FANCIER.

VOL. XVII.

124 VICTORIA STREET, TORONTO, DEC., 1894.

No. 12.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

**W**ING to pigeon fanciers not giving us their support by advertising through our columns the Fancier Publishing Company find it impossible to issue the PIGEON FANCIER any longer. We thank our patrons for past favors, and especially our largest advertisers who so kindly gave us their help. Had others done the same the PIGEON FANCIER would now be booming. Unless we have a very liberal response by the 15th of January, 1895, we will not issue another number of the PIGEON FANCIER.

CHARLES WAGNER, *Editor.*

## OUR FRONTISPIECE.

**W**E have the pleasure of presenting our readers this month with the cut of a blue laced Blondinette cock, first at Crystal Palace, Liverpool, etc., etc, reproduced from *Scottish Fancier.*

## NEWS OF THE MONTH.

**M**R. G. A. FICK, Baltimore, Md., Secretary of American Magpie Club, wishes to hear from every member as to where the Association will hold its annual meeting this show season. He has heard from eight who prefer New York as the place of meeting. We hope it will meet with the approval of all.

We hear from Mr. A. M. Ingram, Quincy, Mass., that he has raised some exceptionally fine Magpies the past season. He is in hopes that Canadian fanciers will make a full display at Boston. We can assure you, boys, all will have a fair shake where Mr. Ingram is to judge.

Mr. H. I. Hayden, Plymouth, Mass, is about to change his place of business. He is going to New York, and therefore is offering all his Orientals for sale.

We are in receipt of a Boston Pigeon Show prize list.

Any one wishing a copy will receive one by writing to Mr. C. E. Twombly, 199 Devonshire Street, Boston, Mass. The list is a pretty full one taken as a whole, there being 10 classes for Carriers, 10 for Pouters, 4 for Pigmy Pouters, 10 for Barbs, 6 for S. F. Tumblers, 24 for L. F. Tumblers, 2 for Inside Tumblers, 10 for Jacobins, 6 for English Owls, 6 for African Owls, 4 for Chinese Owls, 2 for Dark Tail Owls, 4 for Trumpeters, 25 for Fantails, 12 for Orientals, 16 for Turbits, 12 for Magpies, 12 for Swallows, 4 for Priests, 4 for Nuns, 12 for Dragoons, 2 for Antwerps, 4 for Runts, 2 for Show Homers, 2 for Flying Homers, etc., 217 classes in all, with \$2 for first premium and \$1 for second. We notice numerous cash specials besides. This liberal classification should induce many to exhibit. Mr. Twombly will take the best of care of any specimens addressed to him.

Mr. C. M. Sweenie, of Detroit, Mich., has been doing a large business in fancy pigeons, as will be seen by the "Transfers of Stock."

The entry form of the Poultry Association of Ontario is at hand. The Pigeon list has 28 sections for cocks and the same for hens; entrance fee, 25c. for each bird, and \$1.50 for first premium and \$1 for second. Mr. I. B. Johnson will officiate as usual. The show takes place Jan. 1st to 5th, 1895, in New Hamburg, Ont.

We regret to hear Mr. J. H. Baulch has had bad luck with his Trumpeters, he having lost some valuable birds.

Mr. W. H. Reid, of Kingston, gave us a call last week. He reports pigeons to be doing well down east. He has still a strong love for the feathered beauties.

We are in receipt of sample leg bands for the year 1895. Mr. Webb has improved his ring since last spring. He now offers fine nickel bands with year and loft number stamped on same in raised figures at 55c. per doz.

We hope Mr. Webb will see his way clear in the near

future to produce enamel bands in three different colors, so as to prevent the largest size band being used on a medium sized bird. As it is, we know of a Dragoon 3 years old wearing an 1894 band which was intended for a Pouter or Trumpeter. The color on the band could be used to denote the variety which it was intended for.

The Mid-Continental Poultry and Pet Stock Association prize list came to hand the other day. The show is to be held in Kansas City, Mo., and opens on 18th Dec. and closes on 26th. The classification is good and covers nearly every variety of pigeons; \$1 for first and 50c. for second. It looks very encouraging to breeders generally until they read the clause averting first prize money and awarding second to the first winner in case there were not more than three entries in a class. This clause spoils many a good show; it prevents many exhibitors from clearing their expenses. If poultry and pigeon associations cannot afford to pay the prize money in full, why don't they make fewer classes and make it worth while for breeders at a distance to show their stock?

The *American Fancier* has just issued a revised and extended edition of Mr. F. M. Gilbert's handy little work, "Pigeon Keeping, Hints to beginners." As the price is but 50 cents no one need be without it.

Dr. Wesley Mills, Montreal, was asked to judge pigeons at Ottawa, but has been obliged to decline doing so.

Mr. I. B. Johnson, Toronto, will judge pigeons at Port Hope at their show in January.

Mr. John H. Kuhn is certainly the Santa Claus of the pigeon fancy in the United States. From a copy of the Boston list kindly sent us by the Secretary we find that he offers no less than \$250 in cash as specials, divided over the principal varieties.

The English fanciers decided recently through the Marking Conference to use numbered rings instead of those bear-used the year, only as heretofore. These rings will be made in different sizes and colors, and as well as the year will be numbered in lots of from 1 to 144.

#### MASSACHUSETTS COLUMBARIAN ASSOCIATION.

*Editor Pigeon Fancier* :—

THE first semi-monthly meeting of the above association was held at Union Hall, 133 Blackstone Street, Boston, Friday evening, Oct. 26, with president Gavin in the chair. This being first show night brought together a large attendance, some 37 members being present. About 20 Tumblers were exhibited by Messrs. Connors, Whitely, Horsman, Willets and Vanwart. Among them were some very good specimens, notably Mr. Connors' red badge hen, about as perfect as can be got, and a young silver the property of Mr. Willets. Mr. Whitely also showed a nicely badged blue, but a little off on the wing butts.

Mr. A. T. Davis made the following awards in the Badge classes: 1 black cock, 1 black hen, 1 blue cock, 1 blue hen, T. Willets; 2 black cock, C. E. Vanwart; 2 blue cock, 2 blue hen, F. W. Whitely; 1 red cock, 1 red hen, T. Connors, (also 1 on red hen '94 hatch); 2 Horsman.

Mr. John C. Billings made the following awards on solid muffed Tumblers:

First blue hen, Horseman; 1 silver cock, 1 silver hen, '94 hatch, T. Willets.

The classification as laid down by Mr. Harris for Homers was accepted. Mr. Middleton's arrangement of dates for the different varieties to be shown was also accepted.

The question as to what shall be printed on the prize cards, etc., was left entirely in the hands of the printing committee.

On behalf of the association and through President Gavin, I have to thank Mr. Geo. Ewald, Secretary of the Cincinnati show, for a communication received wherein he extends a cordial invitation to all members of our club, and also other New England fanciers, to send exhibits and in that way help support the show. It is a well-known fact Bro. Ewald is a genuine hustler and it is hoped the fanciers in this section will give Mr. Ewald and the Cincinnati management the encouragement they so richly deserve. I am given to understand the birds will be given the very best of care and will be promptly returned at the close of the show.

Have also to thank Mr. Ehinger, president of the American Magpie Club for receipt of two very neat and attractively gotten up standards for the above club. They contain a very appropriate letter from Mr. C. Burton Barnes, England. A list of members and officers etc. The centre of the card contains a cut of the Magpie as adopted as a

standard to breed up to, the whole being a credit to the above club.

There is also a very neat sample of what I presume is one of their prize cards, which to my mind, might be made a trifle smaller to advantage. This also contains the same cut in the centre with spaces to the left denoting the amount of premium, number of class, band No., year, at what exhibition, where held and date, places for signatures of president, superintendent, judge, secretary and treasurer; the whole thing being a great credit to the members of this lively club. A long life and lasting prosperity to the Magpie Club are the wishes of the members of the Massachusetts Columbarian Association.

The next meeting will be held Friday evening, Nov. 9, the varieties to be exhibited are black and blue-pied Pouter cocks, same in hens; black, red, yellow and white English Owl cocks, same in hens; blue and silver English Owls same in hens; almond Tumblers, kite and agate cocks, same in hens and same in young birds. Members please take notice.

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the above association was held at the usual place, 133 Blackstone street, Boston, on Friday evening, Nov. 9, President Gavin in the chair, calling the meeting to order at 8.15; and although a very stormy and disagreeable night, some 35 members were in attendance.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and accepted. Mr. Albee's report on behalf of the printing committee re prize cards, index sheets and an official seal was also accepted.

Mr. Geo. Pendexter, of Waltham and Mr. Geo. Carpenter of Everett were balloted for and unanimously accepted as members of the association.

Over 20 English Owls were exhibited by Messrs. Stowell, Albee and Feather, and some very good birds were among them. Mr. A. T. Davis made the following awards in both old and young birds:

First blue cock and hen, silver cock and hen, 1 Feather; silver cock and hen, yellow hen '94 hatch, 1 Feather; black cock and hen, white cock and hen, red cock and hen, yellow cock, 1 and blue cock 2 Stowell; white cock and hen, black hen 1, and silver cock '94 hatch 2, Stowell; white cock and hen 2, Albee.

The next meeting takes place Friday evening, Nov. 23, the varieties to be exhibited are blue, long and medium faced baldhead Tumblers, cocks and hens; black and red Swallows, cocks and hens; white Fantails, smooth headed,

booted cocks and hens; Nuns any color except black, cocks and hens; and all the above in young birds '94 hatch. Motion to adjourn at 10.30 p.m.

GEORGE FEATHER, Sec'y.

## DISAPPOINTMENTS AND SURPRISES IN PIGEON BREEDING.

(Continued from page 60.)

Editor Pigeon Fancier:—

I have a pair of Rollers which have bred together for five consecutive seasons. I paired them together at first to get me good flying and rolling qualities, I had no thought of any head marking whatever. Both are bald headed with white face, cheek and throat. They bred some good birds the first year of breeding. On this account I paired them together the second season. Though I have noticed a cheek marking in one or two of their young, it was not till I bred a grandchild, nearly a red saddle with head and cheek marking so conspicuous that I was attracted; I began to be interested in these markings. Though I had noticed a similar marking on the great grandfather's head it was merely a passing notice. A further research resulted that the cock of the fourth generation had the same head and cheek markings. The third season together gave me a muffled hen as near to my ideal as possible of this class of badge marking for long rollers. There is no attempt on my part to lay claim to these badge markings as superior to the Tumbler standard now in vogue. I merely make my ideal my property and to perfect this ideal on my own lines, others are at liberty to accept or reject my ideal. If I breed a superior strain of Rollers for flying and rolling in addition to marking, color and formation, well of course, this is a matter of consideration for Roller fanciers. But if I am left alone to my hobby, let it be so, for I have no particular right to complain.

In addition to this hen which I sold to Mr. Gill, of Baltimore, I bred a bona fide type of a long face Roller in this season. This is not the medium face type, with a short face's head that Mr. Walton has outlined, but a genuine long face with a body formation compactly strong for the work he is able to do. Broad and robust in front with an honest face, and great wing power, and a backward formation of strength without being clumsy.

The fourth season they bred two with head markings which unfortunately went too high when young and got lost. I lost four of this season's birds by them taking to

the clouds when too young. Mr. Caperson bought two of them and I am sure if they were no good he would soon have told me. In fact he and Mr. Thompson have the strain and if any westerners want to know if they are any good they may find out by writing to Neenah, Wis. This I have no doubt they will gladly inform them.

This season the first nest gave me a bird whose head is the exact counterpart of the head of the hen I sold Mr. Gill. But the present youngster is going to be a splash. The second nest has given me the greatest surprise of all. The youngster has feathers on his legs two inches long, and I am puzzled to know where he got them. The father is very slightly muffed, and the grandfather on the father's side was lightly muffed, and the mother on the mother's side was nicely muffed, but all the rest of her ancestors for four generations back were and are clean legged. In addition to this only one of her antecedents as far back as I can trace had pearl eyes, all the rest had and have black eyes, except his mother and she's odd eyed, but this youngster has both pearl eyes. Again, I can trace no antecedents, but evidently there is blue in the strain. The mother shows it and some of her young have shown it, but this youngster shows it more conspicuously by his blue breast. He is a pure red badge with a light blue breast, white leg feathers, flight and tail.

Coming with the surprise is the conundrum, whence this breeding? How many generations back did the blue enter in? What kind of progenitor was it that brought this feathering into the family? Was it a Trumpeter do you think Mr. Editor. W. STEVENS.

#### QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

*Editor Pigeon Fancier.*

**M**AY I molest you with a request re English Carriers? Kindly answer the following questions: Is there a sure cure for canker in the mouth? if so, what is it and how treated? Kindly explain how spouts are taken from the eyes and how to treat the eyes after the operation is done? What would be the proper food for the Carrier for a week, if a change during that time: when? Please explain the best way to ship these birds to different shows by express, how to pack, etc., in wooden boxes or part canvas, dimensions, etc.?

PEA CARRIER.

[By looking through the back numbers of the PIGEON FANCIER you will find all the information you are seeking. Ed.]

#### STOCK TRANSFERS.

From the loft of Thos. W. Davis, Peoria, Ill., to E. L. May, Indiana, Ills, two pair blue black barred Swallows; two pair black barless Swallows; one pair red barless Swallows; one pair yellow barless Swallows; one red and one yellow barless cock and one pair black Magpies.

From the loft of C. F. Wagner to Robt. Burroughes, Toronto, his entire stud of Jacobins, including prize winners.

To C. Massie, Port Hope, one fine white Jacobin cock which has never been beaten in this country.

From the loft of C. M. Sweeney, Detroit, Mich., to G. S. Boller, Cherry Creek, N.Y., one imported dun Carrier hen, "Lady Leah," 1890 hatch, "Ludlow" strain, one black Carrier cock, "Chauncey M.," 1893 hatch, price \$75 for the pair; one black Barb cock and one dun barb hen (both many times first prize winners); one black Carrier cock and one dun Carrier hen, both '93 hatch.

To H. H. Ellerbrake, St. Louis, Mo., one pair blue Carriers.

To J. H. Baulch, Port Hope, Ont., one silver dun Carrier hen.

To George Quinton, St. Joseph, Mo., one pair silver dun Carriers.

To L. Schmidt, Quincy, Ill., one pair red barbs and one pair Homers.

To F. R. Phillips, Chicago, Ill., seventeen pairs Homers.

To H. J. Nielson, Chicago, Ill., one pair Homers.

To F. F. Bock, Battle Creek, Mich., eight pairs Homers.

To C. W. Clark, Gloversville, N. Y., nine pairs Homers.

To G. H. Kinzel, Winchester, Va., three pairs Homers.

To Alfred Geddes, Ottawa, Ont., two pairs Homers.

To J. D. Hopkins, Springfield, Ill., one pair Homers.

To R. L. Davis, Battle Creek, Mich, three pairs Homers.

#### SHE HATED THE FEATHERED TRIBE.

"Tom, you ask me to be your wife, to give you my heart, my all. Think well of what you say, and then tell me if you will grant me one small favor?"

"Anything you ask, my love."

"Then promise me that you will never keep another chicken as long as you live."

"I promise, dear."

"And doesn't it cost you a pang?"

"Not a pang. I'd rather keep pigeons any day."

## BARB AND CARRIER CLUB.

*Editor Pigeon Fancier.*

**T**HE members of the Barb and Carrier Club have voted to hold their next annual meeting in New York at the time of the Poultry and Pigeon Show in Madison Square Garden. Six members voted for New York, two for Cincinnati, one for Boston, and one for Reading. Three members did not vote.

Now that the place of meeting is decided on, it is to be hoped that each member of the Club will arrange to attend, and also to send to the show as large a string of birds as he can. Although wishing and doing for Cincinnati, Boston and Reading whatever we can to make those shows a success, let us make every effort to make the exhibition of Barbs and Carriers at New York the largest and best ever seen on this side of the Atlantic.

J. S. RITTENHOUSE, Secretary.

Reading, Pa., Oct. 30, '94.

## MASSACHUSETTS NOTES.

BY WREN.

**I**T is with pleasure I read of a great exclusive Pigeon show to be held in the city of Boston from Dec. 12th to the 14th. May the show be blessed with an unrivalled entry, which it so richly deserves. I can assure you it is no pleasant task to organize and get into commission a first annual show, one not familiar with such an undertaking can have no conception of its hardships! There are two kinds of fanciers attending such an exhibition, those who play the fiddle and those who do not. Let those whose burdensome lot it is to play not despair. If those who do not play respect, admire and encourage those who do, that perhaps is sufficient, for it requires an unlimited supply of patience, perseverance and prudence to accomplish a successful termination. No one will hereafter know the meaning of these three P's better than my friend the genial Secretary, C. E. Twombly, who's only desire is the determination to do well the thing to which he has put his hand. He will bestow his keenest attention, as his fondest hopes are for the success of the undertaking. No better fancier could have been chosen to fill the position; although not an old fancier he has learned more since he became absorbed in this innocent pursuit than most fanciers do in a life time. A share of any show's patronage depends a great deal upon who are the judges. I heartily co-operate with what it says in their premium list that all judges of this show

are known to be honest and competent gentlemen. Some of them I know personally, others only by reputation. First comes that king of pigeondom, John H. Kuhn, who perhaps is better known among fanciers than any man in America. He will judge the Carriers, Pouters, Pigmy Pouters, S. F. Tumblers, S. F. Bald Heads, English Owls, African Owls, Chinese Owls, Dark Tail Owls, Fantails, Archangels, Bremer Pouters, Ice Pigeons and the various class. I hardly think a more competent judge could be found for all these classes together—he will I am sure bestow honest admiration on all deserving victors. Next we have that keen fancier, clever breeder, and successful exhibitor, John Glasgow, who will award the prizes in the Barb class alone. He seems to be profoundly intimate with the habits, requirements and all pertaining to fancy pigeons. I only know of him through his writings, but think if he could have been induced, there are other classes he would have judged with credit. Then we have Mr. T. Willelle, who judges the long faced clean-legged Tumblers, inside Tumblers, muffed-leg Tumblers and the Oriental Frills. I am not personally acquainted with him but hear from friends that he will perform his duties affectionately, faithfully and honestly. Then there is my most ostentatious friend, Mr. A. M. Ingram, who will judge the Jacobins, Trumpeters, Turbits, Magpies and Swallows. Here again the faculty, if I may call them such, made a grand selection. Proverbially he is a long-headed fellow; the fancy has well agreed with him; his habits are conducive to longevity; he is an enthusiast, and enthusiasm has been the secret of his success. He will inspire awe and respect from all who come in contact with him. In his modest way he will bring peace and harmony to the society. Mr. T. Latimer, who will judge Priests, Antwerps, Runts and Show Homers, is a judge of no mean ability. With his keen, dark bown eyes he can size up the points of a bird very quickly; no one will prove more faithful to his vows. Mr. Fred. Hurtz, who will judge the Nuns, I have never had the pleasure of meeting, but hear he is a man of quiet, contemplative mind, and well knows the birds he is to pass judgment upon. Mr. Henry Wagner, who will do the Homers full justice, I am also unacquainted with, also Mr. Thomas Wright, who will judge the Hen pigeons, but without doubt they are artists in the fancy and will do credit both to themselves and the show.

Mr. Editor, God did intend man to be made happy, for since he created these fellows he has put them in paradise which is to them this garden of pleasure, they are a highly susceptible race of mortals, and may gentle thoughts, generous deeds and kind treatment be their reward.

## SEASONABLE HINTS.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 131.)

NEW beginners in particular often keep birds with the hope that what is not present at the moment of examination may be acquired by growth, but this is a vain hope, and if they are able to judge at all, they should reject birds in which there is no indication of the points which are requisite.

Next let us refer to the Pouter. Specimens of this beautiful pigeon can neither win nor breed successfully if they are very imperfect in form. After looking over any first-class pigeon book the fancier will see that he has to rely on length of limb, smallness of girth and general shape putting aside other qualifications, such as color, marking and feather. An imperfectly marked bird may be of some use in breeding, if he is of fine type and very stylish; but we believe there is no breeder of standing who would use a badly built bird for any purpose, however well marked and highly colored he might be.

Undoubtedly the first thing noticed in a Pouter is style and symmetry. We therefore advise that birds possessing these characteristics be retained, even though they be mis-marked and deficient in the feather of the legs. We have yet to see a specimen in which all points required are found.

In the Barb it is most difficult to judge a young bird. Barb breeders of experience can usually tell what a young bird will make, but this is not always easy unless they know the strain from which it is bred. As a general rule, however, it may be taken for granted that a young Barb is not worth keeping if the skull be narrow in the front, or wedge-shaped, if the beak be long and thin, if the eye ceres are small and crisp, or if the eyes themselves are of any color but pearl. Young Barbbs with short faces, thin beaks, pretty eye ceres, and small pretty heads, say at the age of six months, as a rule never develop into a good old bird. Those with the long, well-filled face and clean, stout beaks, with plenty of space between the eyes and beak, usually mature into grand old birds.

Barbs of inferior color may be used for breeding with success, if the heads and beaks are of good quality, but it is practically impossible to win with, or breed successfully from, specimens which are inferior in head and beak.

Let us take the Jacobin as a good example of high-class toys. In this breed there are several properties all of which are of high importance. The first of these is the length and closeness of hood and chain, as well as the mane, which should be long and well filled up and forming a curved line from hood down to back.

Jacobin breeders should get rid of all culis at the first opportunity. Those which are short and loose in feather are very little use for breeding stock. A Jacobin may be ever so badly mismarked and yet have good length of feather, well put on. Another may be poor in color, short in hood, and yet have a grand mane and chain, and he may have also a good shaped head. These would be good to breed from provided they are properly mated. Always discard birds with both eyes dark or bull.

Jacobin breeders look for length and tightness of feather on a small body, rich in color, and they are willing to overlook minor faults if they can obtain some of these great excellences.

A few hints may be given on Owls and Turbits. These must be of the right type, and of great excellence, too, if they are to sell well and be able to win. All fanciers look more to head properties than color and marking. They want breadth, thickness, and depth of skull, short, thick beaks, down faced, full gullets.

Owls and Turbits with thin beaks, those with beaks at right angles to the forehead, or in other words not down-faced, should be disposed of. Color, markings, and frill being a secondary matter.

In our experience, judges will prefer to find color imperfect, frills partially absent, marking deficient, to heads which are not of the requisite shape. The breeder who can produce head, beak and gullet to please them is almost sure to win, and to sell his specimens at high prices. It is useless, therefore, to keep young Owls or Turbits in which these points are not what they ought to be. Kill off all solid colored Turbits, or Tail Turbits as some are called, they are only mongrels.

Short-faced Antwerps are very attractive, and are very difficult to breed to perfection. The best method we know of to produce large-headed birds is to cross a long-faced Antwerp with a short-faced one.

An Antwerp does not look anything with a head like an Owl. They should have an immense circular skull of good breadth, thickness and depth, with a very thick black beak. The body should be large and broad across the back.

A young Antwerp with a good space between the eye and beak-wattle, with a thick black beak, will usually turn out to be a good large-headed bird when at maturity. It is very interesting to watch these birds as they develop. Get rid of all specimens with long thin beaks and any which have their beaks sticking straight out. An Antwerp's skull should be well filled up behind the beak-wattle.

The Magpie is well worthy of being called a high-class bird. They are bred with long lean heads, free from Tumbler form, and thin necks free from throatiness; color and marking being a secondary consideration. Discard all young stock with black beaks and high foreheads, as these will never do to breed from. Never allow a Magpie with a crest to live; they are practically useless.

Swallows are bred very near perfection. A common fault is found in the head and back markings. When a bird is heavily booted the hocks will in many cases be found to be foul. Kill off all birds with small or twisted crests, clean legs, etc.

Fantails require a constant culling out. It is very easy to breed birds with long, straight backs, scoop tails and pot lids. The former, as a rule, are useless for anything but eating. A scoop tail, if short in the back, with plenty of action, is often used to cross with a pot-lid bird, there is one which carries its tail flat on the back and head

poking through. Don't breed from birds which have their tails split in the centre, if it can be avoided. Eat all birds with wry tails. Never kill a pigeon on account of color alone; many poor-colored ones have other good points which prove very useful in breeding.

Blondinettes and Satinets are most deceiving pigeons to breed. One is never sure which to keep in young birds. We have seen some which we thought to be the worst of culls turn out most beautiful in plumage after moulting, and again we have seen very fine specimens with perfect tail spots moult in a solid bar on one or two centre tail feathers, and after casting the feathers again we have seen these tail feathers come out with the white spot as before. The surest guide we know of is to watch the flight feathers. The elongated white spots in these seldom change after the first moult. When a two-year-old Blondinette is deficient in this quality it always suggests that there is foreign blood in the bird.

A SWALLOW FANCIER.

The prisoner was before the bar of justice for having been before some other bar too long.

"What were you doing drunk on the street?" said the judge.

"Was I drunk, judge?" was the reply in a tone of surprised innocence.

"The arresting officer says you were."

"Perhaps he's right, Judge, but I was just going along with my bird-cage under my arm."

The judge had a large jug set before the prisoner. "Do you call that a bird-cage?" he enquired. "That's what you were carrying along in your hand."

The prisoner picked it up carefully, removed the lid, took a smell and

turned it upside down. It was as dry as he was.

"Well, Judge," he murmured slowly, "it ain't a bird-cage now, since them officers has had a whack at it."

"Probably you are sober now and see things differently."

"That ain't it, Judge. It was a birdcage when I had it last."

"Possibly you can explain what you mean by a birdcage," suggested the puzzled court.

"Easy enough, Judge," smiled the prisoner; "It had ten swallows in it when they got it," and the lucidity of the explanation and the possibilities of what had happened to it affected the Judge so powerfully that he dismissed the case.

The Pigeon Fancier.

C. F. WAGNER, Editor.

IS PUBLISHED AT

Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

BY THE FANCIER PUBLISHING CO.

Terms—\$1.00 per Year, Payable in Advance.

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