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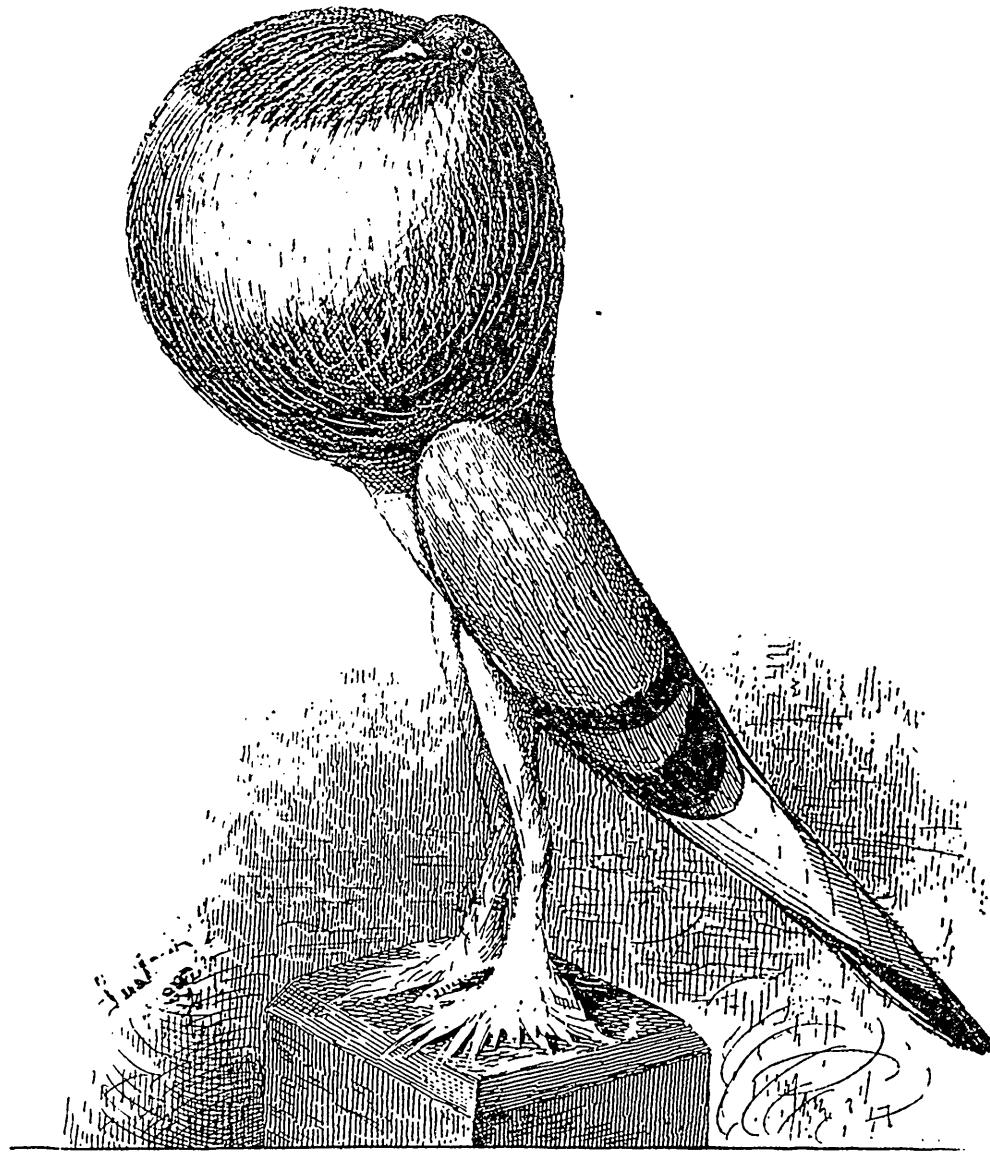
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BLUE-PIED POUTER COCK.

A Great English Winner.

THE PIGEON FANCIER, Toronto, Oct., 1894.

THE PIGEON FANCIER.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, OCT., 1894.

No. 10.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE business of the PIGEON FANCIER having grown to such proportions that my entire leisure time must be devoted to it, it became necessary for me to see what measures could be taken to increase the value of this journal without impairing its usefulness in any way. After giving the matter mature thought I concluded to purchase a certain number of pages each month in the *Canadian Poultry Review*, a journal now in its eighteenth year, with an immense circulation distributed all over Canada and the United States and with many readers in England and the European Continent, and even a few in far off Australia and New Zealand. The PIGEON FANCIER of course remains under my control, and will, as in the past, be kept right up to date, bright, newsy, instructive and honest. The efforts put forth in this way I hope will be appreciated by a large increase in subscribers as well as advertisers. Owing to the change of date of publication (now the first of the month) all matter should reach us by the 20th at latest.

C. F. WAGNER, *Editor.*

OUR ILLUSTRATION.

UR frontispiece this month is taken from the English *Fancier's Gazette*. It will be remembered we illustrated a pair of Pigmy Pouters in last issue, and this time we present our readers with the cut of an English Pouter, which we trust will meet with approval, having written so much on breeding Pouters.

NEWS OF THE MONTH.

IT is pleasant to receive so many congratulations on our improved paper. It having the largest circulation of any paper of its kind is enjoyed by many new subscribers. It is acknowledged to be the best dollar's worth put in print. Some of our readers wish to pay \$2 per year

if we would accept, but all we wish our genial friends to do is to tell their neighbors where they can get the most value for a dollar.

Mr. Twonby is the only one who thinks we have taken a step backwards in purchasing the space we have for the PIGEON FANCIER in the *Poultry Review*. It having a paid up subscription list of about 5,000, it looks like it doesn't it? We hope he did not draw his conclusion from the combination of the paper he is editor of.

Two of Canada's greatest exhibitions have passed and gone, the Toronto Industrial Exhibition and the London Fair, both were a great success and add two more to the list.

We had much pleasure in meeting Dr. E. S. Hayward, of Rochester, N.Y., Mr. P. G. Keyes, of Ottawa, Ont., Mr. Chas. Massie, of Port Hope, Mr. Geo. Duffield, of Norwood, Prof. Wesley Mills, Montreal, and many others to numerous to mention.

There were some 300 pigeons on exhibition at Toronto Industrial. Among the winners were some very fine Carriers, tall racy looking fellows with immense beak wattles and large circular eye-wattles and lengthy necks.

Among Pouters were some excellent specimens and a good lass it was. Fantails were not so numerous but good in quality. We thought the first prize bird might have given away to the second winner and one in the same class not noticed might have had second place, however, we do not wish to find fault with the decision of the judge, who handled the birds, but we are entitled to have a say. Jacobins were a small class, all of the birds being in bad moult they did not do themselves justice. Among the Owls we noticed some rare specimens especially a black-chequer cock. He having an immense round skull and short thick bull-finck beak and very full gullet made him very attractive. He has yet to be beaten on this side of the fish pond. We also noticed some very fine blues and silvers and one or two good

blacks well worthy of mention. Magpies turned out in good number and were much admired. It was a feast to see some of the reds and blacks and a few very fine yellows. The long thin heads and necks of these birds made them look very snaky and the color and marking of the plumage was just about perfection. Turbits were few, but very pretty little birds, will good skulls filled the cages. Dragoons were a good class, the winners nearly all having the damson eye-cere. We noticed some youngsters among the winners we thought were not developed sufficiently for the show pen and might have made room for some older ones. There were some very fine specimens in this class about two or three years old which had good wedge-shaped skulls thick black beaks and hard wattle and inky eye-ceres. Shortness and tightness of feather adds very much to this variety.

Mr. Massie, of Port Hope, has kindly consented to write full particulars of the winners which we publish in another column.

The Western Fair, London, Ont., had its Poultry Building beautiful decorated as usual with evergreens, flowers, flags and bunting. The pigeons were about 100 in number among which were some good specimens, nearly every variety being represented. Mr. Jack Saunders was the Superintendent, and Mr. Allan Bogue officiated as judge.

We hear the Peoria Show is a sure go and we trust it will prove a success. Send us a full report and we will be pleased to publish it.

Mr. J. B. Jones, mourns the loss of one of his Owls which escaped out of a coop and through a window in the Pigeon Building at Industrial Exhibition grounds.

Mr. Joseph Grimm, of Buffalo, N.Y., made quite an exhibit at the Industrial in white barred Swallows, black, red and yellow Nuns. He succeeded in capturing some of the prizes.

Mr. A. J. Groves, who acted as Superintendent of the Pigeon Department at our great show performed his duty well, never before have the pigeons been so well cared for. He has an eye like a hawk and the arm of a giant.

With deep regret we learn of the death of a dear friend Mr. Wm. Whitehead, of Brampton, Ont., who succumbed to a severe cold last month which settled on his lungs a year ago, his old age made his chance of recovery very slim. He

was an ardent lover of Pouters, of which he had some fine ones. He leaves a widow in a good old age well provided for.

It was just as we said in our last issue some exhibitors of Magpies would be disappointed on account of putting too much stress on color and marking. Form always takes precedence to the former. Live and learn.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Editor Pigeon Fancier:—

What do you think of the cut of the Magpie which appeared in the *American Stock-Keeper* as an ideal Mag. Do you not think a little improvement could be made, say for instance on the beak and neck ?

MAGPIE.

[Yes, we think the beak and wattle are too coarse and the neck too thick. ED.]

Editor Pigeon Fancier:—

Will you be good enough to tell me through your columns how to get my Nuns in perfect feather, they are so badly mismarked.

BEGINNER.

[Some fanciers pluck the foul feathers out, but our advice is to kill them first and then pull the feathers out. ED.]

Editor Pigeon Fancier:—

Please tell me why fanciers do not answer my post cards. I am very anxious to buy some nice pigeons and I have written a card to every fancier I could think of, but they don't reply.

R. F.

[The only reason we can see why you don't receive a reply is simply that they don't write to you. Don't expect an answer if you do not enclose a stamp. Don't write over a printed post card. Don't expect a thousand questions answered about a pair of pigeons you want to expend the large amount of \$1.00 on. ED.]

WHISPERS IN THE SHOW ROOM.

A Gentleman who was looking at the Pouters was heard to remark, "Vell, vell, vell, dis vas too much, dese pitchons haf vings on der feet."

A Lady, while looking at Fantails full of action remarked, "Do those pigeons always go like that? they look silly."

Another Lady, "I don't care much about pigeons."

A youngster looking at the Trumpeters, "See mamma, those pigeons have their hair parted in the middle."

PIGEONS AT THE INDUSTRIAL TORONTO.

BY C. MASSIE.

THE pigeons numbered some 300 birds and on the whole were a very good lot. Some of the classes were not as well filled as they might have been, and of course at this time of year, many of the birds were in deep moult.

CARRIERS.—A small class but contained several birds of extra quality, notably the winning dun and black hens. Black cock, 1st a fine large heavily wattled fellow, a little off in condition of eye cere; 2nd good upstanding bird, nice even eye and beak wattle. Black hen 1st quite a youngster, very even wattle, narrow skull, will make a grand one, 2nd an older bird, not as nice eye wattle, fair beak. Dun cock, 1st fair, poor eyes pinciced in front, heavy beak wattle. Dun hens, 1st grand young bird, fine eye wattle, long slender neck and narrow skull, 2nd also a youngster of great promise, beautiful eye ceres, will make hard ones to beat when fully developed. Any other color cock, 1st a nice white, 2nd a splash. Hens, 1st and 2nd both good quality whites.

POUTERS.—A fair lot, but we do not see such grand birds exhibited now, as we used to eight or ten years, when the Messrs. Weldon, Charlesworth, Simpson and others were in it. Blue-pied cock, 1st sound color fair crop, very slight wing marking, nice stocking-booted limbs, slightly foul thighs, 2nd poor color and marking, might have given way to an unnoticed bird. Hens, 1st a large rough limbed hen, gay marking, and snipped, 2nd fair color and markings, nicely booted limbs. Black-pied cock 1st a good black well marked, nice limbs. An old winner. Hen, 1st and 2nd both fair in limbs and marking, not extra large. Red or yellow-pied cock, 1st a fine red, good limbs, crop and wing, wins well, 2nd a large heavy booted yellow rather thick in girth. An unnoticed red in this class was the best of the lot, great length of limb, but very poor color. Hen, 1st nice color, fair legs and marking, not much length of feather; 2nd a fair yellow too much hock feather. White cock, 1st not as long in feather as several others in this class, but better limbs under him, rather heavily booted; 2nd only fair, not much length. Hens, 1st a nice one, wins easy; 2nd fair, short in limb and feather.

BARBS.—Black cock, 1st a grand wide skulled fellow, good eye, short stout beak; 2nd not as good, fair eye-wattle, tride long beak. Hen, 1st a nice even bird, good color. Red or yellow cock, 1st a grand red, but getting rough in

eyes; 2nd a nice yellow. Hen 1st a red; 2nd a yellow; both extra good quality. Any other standard color, cock, 1st a grand white with immense width of skull; 2nd also a white, will make a good one, with age. Hen 1st a white good skull and wattle for a hen; 2nd a good quality dun with clean beak.

TUMBLERS.—Short face almond cock, 1st and 2nd birds of good quality, but both slightly stained beaks. Hen 1st a little beauty, grand head and eyes, and beautiful clean beak; free from stain, which adds so much to the appearance of an almond Tumbler. Any other standard color cock 1st and 2nd, both splashes with good heads and clean beaks. Hen 1st a good kite: 2nd a dun with almost flesh colored beak. Any other variety bald or beard, cock, 1st a silver dun bald, pleasant faced; 2nd a blue bald, nicely cut. Hen 1st a silver dun, fair quality; 2nd a blue, rather better in marking than 1st. Any other variety, any other standard color cock, 1st a long faced sound colored red; 2nd a blue roller. Hen, 1st and 2nd, both rich colored reds

FANTAILS.—Blue or silver cock, 1st a good blue, nice style, very flat tail but badly split in centre; 2nd not so good in color or spread of tail, but better filled in centre. Hen, 1st and 2nd both good blues, thicktails, 1st especially so in centre and very evenly spread. White cock, 1st a long feathered bird, even in centre, fair style and carriage; 2nd fair tail not much motion. Hen, 1st a good hen, nice carriage and very thick, heavy tail; 2nd very light tail but full of style. Any other standard color cock, 1st and 2nd both excellent blacks with large even spread of tail and great length of tail feather. Hen, 1st a good black large spread; 2nd fair, not much length of feather, but has more action.

JACOBINS.—Red or yellow cock, 1st a red only fair, good flights, but poor under color and too much white under the beak; 2nd, red, slightly better markings, but loose feathered. Hen, 1st a red not very heavy in chain, good color and flights; 2nd a poor colored yellow, fair quality; an unnoticed red close in feather should have won here. White cock, a large long feathered bird, very close for a white, poor hood, but the best Jack in the show. Any other standard color cock, 1st a grand black, rather slaty underneath, good eyes and plenty of feather; 2nd better color but not as long feathered and moulting badly. Hen 1st a nice black good flights and marking, and well colored underneath: 2nd only fair in hood and color, but well carried back, a little short in flights.

TRUMPETERS.—Any standard color cock, 1st a fine black with beautiful even rose, fair crest, good foot feather; 2nd a good black mottle. Hen, 1st a fair black not very long in

feather; 2nd a mottle dun of good quality.

TURBITS.—Red or yellow cock, 1st a grand red, a little light in color, good head and beak, 2nd a yellow, fine head and gullet, poor crest. Hen 1st and 2nd both nice even birds, not much choice between them. Black or dun cock, 1st and 2nd both blacks of good quality, nice color and clean marking, 2nd might be better in crest. Hens 1st and 2nd very good blacks, not much choice between them. Any other standard color cock, 1st a blue of good color, fine wing bars, extra nice crest, a trifle long in beak. 2nd fairly good, all round bird. Hen, 1st and 2nd, both blues of fair color and quality and moulting badly.

DRAGOONS.—Blue or silver cock, 1st good sound color, stout beak, good shaped wattle, fair eye cere, a little light in color. 2nd sound blue, black beak, good wattle, wedge-shaped skull, thick neck, damson cere, might have changed place with one awarded first. Hen, 1st fine color, thick, beak, a little down faced, good eye cere, somewhat light in color. Any other standard color cock, 1st blue chequer well chiselled skull, damson cere, very thick short neck, tight feathered and rather inclined to a cauliflower wattle, 2nd a black chequer, good skull, thick black beak, good wedge-shaped wattle, good eye cere and fiery eye. Hen 1st and 2nd both young chequers, should be heard from later on.

ANTWERPS.—Short face blue or silver dun. Cock, 1st a grand silver dun, good head and beak, wins easy; 2nd another good one but is getting the worse of age. Hen, 1st and 2nd very fine silver duns, and awards well placed. Any other standard color, cock, 1st a great red checquer, grand skull and beak; 2nd another red checquer, has been a good one, but is getting up in years, and out of show shape. Hen, 1st a red checquer, a little off in head and beak; 2nd poor, too young and moulting badly. Long or medium face blue or silver, cock 1st and 2nd both grand silver duns, massive heads and excellent beaks, awards well placed. Hen 1st and 2nd two more extra good silver duns. Any other standard color, cock, 1st a good red checquer; 2nd a medium black checquer. Hen, two good colored red chequers, fair heads; 2nd off in beak.

ENGLISH OWLS.—Blue or silver cock, 1st a wonderful skulled blue, thick massive head, good frill and gullet; 2nd another fine blue, good profile and gullet, awards rightly placed. Hen, 1st a silver, fine profile, slightly off in beak, good frill and gullet; 2nd a powdered silver, slightly foul over eyes and flat on skull, good gullet, thick beak. Any other standard color, cock, 1st blue checquer, best Owl in the show, good round skull, wonderful beak and gullet; 2nd a black, good profile, nice frill and gullet. Hen, 1st and

2nd both nice blacks, not much choice between them. **African Owls.**—White or black, cock, 1st very small, well filled profile, very down faced; 2nd thin in beak, not in it with 1st. Hen, 1st nice, neat bird but moulting badly; and do. Any other standard color, cock, 1st a smutty silver, with good skull and beak; 2nd a silver checquer, nice bird, but looks as though it might be a hen. Hen 1st a good blue, round skull, fair beak and gullet; 2nd a powdered silver, lacks in gullet.

NUNS.—Black cock, 1st and 2nd good ones, clean flights, good in bib and crest. Hen, 1st good flights, nice crest, a little irregular on lower part of bib; 2nd a fine bird, but shown in poor condition, extra nice crest, even bib, but hardly extends low enough. Any other standard color cock, 1st a good red, fine color, crest and bib, a little foul on wing butts; 2nd a poor colored red, in deep moult. Hen, 1st a fair yellow; 2nd also a yellow, and no doubt would have been placed higher but for moulting.

ARCHANGELS.—Cock, 1st and 2nd good birds, fair color, very nice beaks, might be improved in lustre. Hen a fairly good one.

MAGPIES.—Red or yellow cocks, 1st a beautifully colored yellow, in fine condition, slightly uneven in wings. 2nd a good clean marked red, pushes first very hard. Hen 1st a sound red, snakey head, clean marked, 2nd a rich yellow, but moulting badly. Any other standard color, cock, 1st a good marked black. 2nd another black, not as even in marking, clean beak. Hen 1st slightly stained beak, good snakey head, nice color, and well cut markings. 2nd a poor color black, fairly marked, stained beak.

SWALLOWS.—Red or yellow cock, 1st an excellent red, well marked, fair crest, rather lightly booted. 2nd, also a red of good quality, fails in head marking. Hen 1st grand sound red, nicely marked and booted, slightly stained beak. 2nd also a red of fair quality, moulting. Any other standard color cock, 1st and 2nd nice even blacks, of extra quality, not much choice for place, 2nd not quite as good color, but better foot feather. Hen, 1st and 2nd two excellent blacks sound color, extra marking, good boots.

BLONDINETES.—Cocks, 1st and 2nd both grand specimens in good feather. Hens, both crested; 2nd has a few solid white feathers in frill.

ORNAMENTAL FRILLS.—Any other variety, cock, 1st and 2nd both Satinettes of good quality. Hen, do., same, very pretty.

ANY OTHER VARIETY NOT SPECIFIED ON LIST. This class had some 14 entries consisting of show Homers, pigmy Poulers, Norwich Croppers, Suabians, Starlings, and one Fairy Swallow, the latter being the choice of the lot.

PRIZE LIST.

Pouters, blue pied, cocks 1 and 2 C F Wagner, hens 1 N H Redwin Guelph, 2 Wagner; black pied, cock 1 Wagner, hens 1 and 2 Wagner; red or yellow pied, cocks 1 Wagner, 2 Geo A Axell, London, hens 1 Wagner, 2 Axell; whites, cocks 1 Wagner, 2 Axell, hens 1 Geo Duffield, Norwood, 2 Wagner. Carriers, black, cocks 1 and 2 H B Donovan, Toronto, hens 1 and 2 Donovan. Dun, cocks 1 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other standard color, cock 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan. Dragoons, blue or silver, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan. Barbs, black, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 Donovan; red or yellow, cock 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 Donovan, 2 J B Jones, Toronto. Tumblers, short faced almond, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other variety bald or bearded, cocks 1 Wm Fox, 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other variety, any other standard color, color, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 Donovan, 2 T Littleton, Toronto. Fantails, blue or silver, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 and 2 Wagner; white, cocks 1 Wagner, 2 Duffield, hens 1 and 2 Wagner; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 and 2 Wagner. Jacobins, red or yellow cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Donovan, 2 Wagner; white, cock 1 Wagner; any other standard color, cocks 1 Jones, 2 Donovan, hens 1 Jones, 2 Wagner. Antwerp, short faced, blue or silver dun, cocks 1 Jones, 2 and 3 Wagner, hens 1 and 2 Wagner; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Jones, 2 Wagner; long or medium faced blue or silver dun, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 and 2 Wagner; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner. Trumpeters, any standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 and 2 Wagner. Turbits, red or yellow, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan, 3 Redwin; black or dun, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan. Blondinettes, cock 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Wagner, 2 Jones. Oriental Frills, any other variety, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Wagner, 2 Jones. Swallows, red or yellow, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Jones, 2 Wagner; any other standard color, cocks 1 Redwin, 2 Jones, hens 1 and 2 Wagner. Nuns, black, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Wagner, 1 Joseph Grimm, Buffalo; any other standard color, cocks 1 Grimm, 2 Wagner, hens 1 Grimm, 2 Wagner. Magpies, red or yellow, cocks 1 P G Keyes, Ottawa, 2 Donovan, hens 1 Keyes, 2 Donovan; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan. Archangels, cock 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Wagner. Owls, English blue or silver, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 Donovan, 2 Jones; any other standard color, cocks 1 Donovan, 2 Jones, hens 1 and 2 Donovan. African, white or black, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other standard color, cocks 1 and 2 Donovan, hens 1 and 2 Donovan; any other variety not specified in this list, cocks 1 and 2 Wagner, hens 1 Donovan, 2 Wagner.

HE MEANT HOMING PIGEONS.

A man rushing in to the pigeon building, asked "Where are those Carrier pigeons?" Attendant, pointing to the English Carriers, "There they are." - Man, "What! those nasty things? What is that lump on their beaks?" Attendant, "Oh, that's a message." Man, "I'll buy a pair of them to go messages for me."

THESE ARE RICH.

THE following are two letters we received for Fancy Pigeons. We publish them for the benefit of our readers though we do not wish to publish the names.

Milwaukie, Aug. 10th '94.

Mr. Chas. Wagner :

SIR:—Having seen your "ad" in the PIGEON FANCIER, and seeing you have quite a variety of pigeons I thought I would write to you for some prices on your breeding stock. What have you to offer in Pouters, any color, in Carriers, would like black, or in short-faced Tumblers, almonds if you have any. Have you any bar-less Swallows? stock to be all good breeders. Please quote lowest prices for breeding an exhibition stock. Would like to stock my lot with none but good birds. Please reply and oblige. Yours.

T.R.

I replied to this thinking I might make a sale of all my Pouters, after which I received the following:

Milwaukie, Aug. 25th '94

Mr. Chas. Wagner,

DEAR SIR:—Received your letter of the 21st inst. Would like to ask you are there any good stock birds among the Pouters you offer me, if so how many pairs and how many pairs show birds. How many are prize-winners? What sort of prizes did they win? If I buy the flock would you send the prizes with them. Could you find out what it would cost to send the birds here. How many pairs young do you raise from each pair? do they raise their own young or do they require feeders? Would you give me the name of the Secretary of the fair you are going to exhibit your birds. I would very much like to buy those Pouters if I knew they would be satisfactory. Please give description of them.

Yours truly, T. R.

P.S. Have you a picture or any likeness of some of your Pouters.

I replied to him the best I could but have not heard from him since.—C.F.W.

THE SEAMLESS BAND QUESTION.

THERE has been much controversy over the future seamless bands to be used by fanciers generally in America. It seems to us the only way to success is to have rings manufactured in three different sizes and of three different colors, each color to denote different varieties of pigeons, every band to have the year on it, and perhaps the

lost number also if desired. Some people naturally object to the latter, on the ground that it makes a mark of distinction in the show pen, which it certainly does if the judge feels disposed to use it as such ; but we think the day has come when the awards will be honestly and ably adjudicated. It must not be forgotten that an expert does not easily forget an extra good specimen of any variety when once he sees it and no matter whether it has a mark of distinction or not he will know it no matter where he sees it, therefore there cannot be so much objection to lost numbers being on the same band. The initials could not be but on a conference band without much confusion to the secretary of the club.

Mr. Webb's idea to have a certain color to represent a certain year would not answer as it would be difficult to remember the age of a bird by the color of the band after a few years had passed and besides it would not benefit the beginner as he would be in darkness as to the age of the birds he had purchased or was about to buy, unless he took the trouble to write the secretary of the club to find out what year a certain color represented. As for having bangles attached with the initials or lost numbers on them, this would be additional expense and trouble to fanciers for nothing.

CARING FOR CARRIERS AND BARBS.

THE wattles and eye-ceres of such varieties as the Carrier and Barb require much attention at this season of the year, fanciers frequently allow dirt to accumulate in the folds and crevices, of both to such an extent as to become a fruitful source of trouble.

The wattles want looking to, especially at the end of the breeding season, when every wrinkle and corner will often be found charged with a mixture of dirt and soft food. This should be thoroughly washed out. In the case of the eye-cere, a small piece of sponge is perhaps the most convenient to apply a little soap, which should not be allowed to find its way into the eyes. If the washing is neglected when required, the dirt will form into hard dry scabs between the folds of the skin and a yellow cankery looking substance will be found. The former very often occurs immediately under the eye, where they become troublesome and sometimes cause the spouts by pressing the cere out of shape. Wattles in Carriers should *not* be washed within a few days of a bird being sent to a show, as they require some time to recover their natural bloom. Barbs just the reverse should have their eye-wattles washed *well* just before being put in-

to the show pen, this we know to be one of the best methods of producing that beautiful red color which is so desirable. The beak and jew wattle should be left untouched so far as washing is concerned. We have known of cases where fanciers used chalk to whiten the beak and jew wattle. The latter of course is not allowable if detected.

DISAPPOINTMENTS AND SURPRISES IN PIGEON BREEDING.

(Continued.)

Editor Pigeon Fancier.

If course one "yellow rose-wing" beauty for the season is a great compensation for the season's labor and anxiety. Well, as I have, I am only one of the ordinary mortals, I must no longer dream over the higher or aristocratic classes of the pigeon family. In fact the waning of my ambition seems to weaken at times what love I may have for these higher classes of show beauties. It may be that sometimes I feel rest-and-be thankful that I am out of the trouble and disappointment of getting tares where I expected wheat, or at least getting a "plughugly" now and again where I have been looking for a thing of beauty and a joy for ever.

Long faces of the right kind are good enough for me. Be they Badges or be they Saddles, if they do their work well in the air I am satisfied. Of course I don't object to the perfect formation of the saddle and the equally nice markings on the head. Even if their coloring be a lustrous black or a rich red or yellow, I will not say nay to such qualities. The Boots I am *quiet* on. The tumbling in the loft is a superfluity I don't care for. But some good birds which have not flown for a length of time are liable to this weakness. It is not an indication that all such are good on the wing. I have had them addicted to this fondness of tumbling in the pen, and when let out would tumble every ten feet or so just over the house-tops. Such were termed "too good" for flying, and just good enough for the pot. Not that I would have Mr. Walton consign his red rose-wing to such a cruel place. Mr. Walton, and perhaps Mr. Gill, may enjoy this tumbling to the "Queen's taste." Of course these gentlemen are better able to afford it than I am. I feel inclined to think that the Queen can well afford to pay for her own Tumblers, and therefore I have no desire for any of my birds to tumble into the Queen's to be made into a savory pie for her own especial eat-

ing. No, no, gentlemen, I want my birds to tumble to my own taste.

Where have I been Mr. Editor? I have been digressing have I not? It was my intention when starting out to dwell somewhat upon common Tumblers or Rollers. I was about saying, when Mr. Walton drew away my attention, that in reading Fulton's work a few years ago, I was interested in what the writer of the Tumbler department of this work said about common Tumblers. A friend of mine asked to be recommended some pigeons that would I suppose give a picturesque effect to the lawn. The writer advised his friend to get some common Tumblers. A year or two after this, when the writer visited his friend, he was surprised to see the multiplicity of colors and markings, etc., of the flock which were bred from these birds. It is so long since I read this work that I have forgotten whether the flock were bred from a single pair. I think they were.

Why I refer to this, is to ask attention to the somewhat erratic, and I may say unexpected, surprises which arise in the breeding with this branch of the Tumbler family. My experience leads me to say that one is not sure of the markings, and even the coloring, that any given pair may breed. There has been such a mixing up among flying Tumblers and Rollers that one is as likely to breed nice looking birds from common looking parents, and vice versa, nice looking parents may breed you unbecoming looking youngsters. Notwithstanding unpleasant looking youngsters may be bred from good birds, I don't believe in destroying them for the pot before they have time to show indications of what they will be in other working qualifications. It seems to me to kill the young of working Tumblers or Rollers because their mottles or color are not to our liking that there is an evidence of preferment of the showy qualification. Four seasons ago I bred a dirty solid blue hen from a pair from which I expected a different looking bird. I did not kill her when young because of her looks. I let her live to see what she was made of. Well, that hen became my pet and I greatly regretted parting with her, but a customer wanted her and I had to let her go. Ask Mr. Casperson what her young are like. For quite a youngster to fly five hours is what I call good work, and especially when it is considered that this youngster is of long Roller breeding. I may say here that it is a mistake that short Rollers can outfly long Rollers. It may appear so from the difference in their rolling work. I have, and have had, long Rollers when in for a flying spell, fly four hours and over, and I have reason to be-

here that one of my long Rollers flew near twelve hours. Of course such flying requires the birds to be in the proper working condition and having their regular flies.

I am not surprised at Mr. Leinhard being disappointed in getting certain head markings from his birds from which he expected different results. To kill five out of seven through faults not expected, is an evidence of the breeding from his class. It does not matter which of the so-called long faced variety, outside of the solid colors, you are not certain of the marking of your birds. I will not say that in-and-in breeding will defeat entirely your calculations. But I will say that there is an happy-go-lucky sort of pairing sometimes that may save you years of anxious labor, and that will give you unexpected results. For I have experienced in the past five years results of which at first I never expected, but seemingly, years are required yet to perfect the ideal.

(To be Continued.)

HE GOT IT.

Mr. Smith a large pigeon speculator of British Columbia, whose account with a friendly fancier, Mr. Foxy, had been temporarily overdrawn, wanted to borrow \$200 once for a certain deal.

Foxy suggested that he should draw upon some party not too near B. C.

Smith said he did not know whom to draw upon.

"Oh, anyone," said Foxy, "as long as the party is far enough away, that will give you time to turn around."

Smith drew at sight for \$200 on the American Magpie Club. The draft was duly forwarded by Smith to Mr. Coons, who forwarded it to the Secretary of the American Magpie Club.

"Who is this John Smith?" asked the President of the A. M. C.

"Don't know" replied the Secretary.

"Do we owe him anything?"

"No," replied the other.

"Then we'll not pay it," replied the President.

"One moment, if I might advise," said the astute Secretary. "This draft comes through Coons with whom we are seeking a thousand dollar loan for our next show. Would it be safe, under the circumstances to dishonor it?"

"Pay it," said the President.

And it was paid, and no one was more astonished than John Smith and Mr. Foxy, of British Columbia.

THE PIGEON FANCIER.

The Pigeon Fancier.

C. F. WAGNER, Editor.

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