

PIGEONS.

From Correspondence.

It is with gratified pleasure that I hasten to announce the safe hatching of Lord and Lady Byron, de L. 1 and 2, progeny of Prince and Princess de Lara. I reserve the names of Lord and Lady Bulwer Lytton for the young of the next year. At the 23d nest. All my birds are doing splendidly and I fully anticipate having some grand sport this summer if I don't lose all my birds, as I intend to deal with them very extensively, in the latter part of the season.

Nearly two years ago our photographs were solicited by Mr. T. F. Goldman, Brooklyn, to make up a group that was to represent the homing pigeon fanciers of America, and we were promised an equivalent a copy of the photographs that we had taken. It was a purely business arrangement on both sides. Some of us were at considerable expense in performing our part, losing days of time before we could secure a satisfactory list, and it was not until the winter of 1887 that we could have a group which would show us the faces of those we know so well by name. It is now over a year since the group was completed and framed and hung in "my dining room," and since we were told it is well worth a visit to my house to see. Have any of the promised copies been made or sent out? We have written to Mr. Goldman, but without satisfactory reply.—S. T., Baltimore.

We are told that the copies are about ready for distribution. Report says, Paterson, N.J., subscribers are to receive their copies to-day; that the Messrs. Goldman, Von Moers and Macquire will distribute them in New York. The objects of the group are to be presented in their presentation, the actual bringing of the right-ones fanciers of Paterson into ways they will respect of. They go as missionaries carrying propitiatory gifts.—Ed.]

Loft Notes.

The coop of Mr. H. A. McCoy, Baltimore, is in a shed in the rear of his residence. It is 9ft. long, 8ft. wide, 5ft. high. The birds leave the loft by way of an opening in the roof, this being covered in such a way that the weather cannot affect the interior. The birds in leaving the loft enter a wire-in area 8ft. long, 8ft. wide and 4ft. high. The exit from this is a door 6ft. long and 16in. wide, which is never fast within. The trap, containing the bob wire and electric alarm, rests upon a platform adjoining the door of the cage. The coop faces the south, with the windows each 2x3, giving the birds plenty of sunshine during the winter when they are kept within the loft. The furniture of the loft is a Fulton hopper, wooden tubs for drinking water and bathing, a lump of rock salt and plenty of gravel and old mortar. The nest boxes will accommodate eighteen pairs, giving two compartments each. During the winter the birds are separated, the hens being transferred to the Goedeke loft, and the Goedeke cocks having place in the McCoy coop.

Mr. J. G. Ouzar, in the delight of the fanciers of Brooklyn, has purchased a residence near Prospect Park, and will build a loft in connection with it. The Volunteer Association, Brooklyn, has adopted as its colors those under which the Volunteers sailed to victory. The pennant is not only to be flown from each loft of the Association, but is pictured upon all its stationery and will make up the body of its seal. Other clubs should adopt the idea.

Foreign News.

The West Bromwich (Eng.) Flying Club has these officers for 1888:—President, R. Collett; treasurer, W. Baggett; secretary, Joe. Clemson. The races for young birds are to be from Oxford, about 55 miles, July 2d; from Reading, about 55 miles, Aug. 8. The conditions for both are:—Weekly fee of one shilling per member for three-five weeks, the sum total to be divided in three prizes, for which each member can enter four birds. Each member's birds will be started separately, with an interval of ten minutes between each lot. The returns are to be shown at the club room. The first race has twenty-five entries, the second twenty-one.

The West Bromwich Homing Society, during the past four years has flown twenty-four races, with 215 fanciers engaged. The greatest distance covered is 202 miles, the least 62 miles, and the aggregate 22,708 miles.

Mr. W. H. Cottrell, Forest Hill, Eng., of the London Columbian Society, posts his records:—In 1884 he won 7th prize from 143 miles and 1st from each 242 and 348 miles. In 1885, six prizes from 143 miles, his best (9th prize) 1,323 yards; from 172 miles, best speed (3d prize) 1,432 yards; two from 242 miles, best from 348 miles, the speed 1,059 yards. In 1886, one prize from 143 miles, speed (3d prize) 1,341 yards; three from 172 miles, five from 242 miles, six from 348 miles. In 1887, six from 143 miles, one from 214 miles, two from 298 miles. The average speed in the forty-three races in which his birds were engaged is 1,104 yards.

Club Notes.

The Providence, R. I., Club has been reorganized and opens the season for 1888 with fourteen members. The new officers are:—President, Joseph Makin; vice president, Charles Greyson; secretary, John Compton; treasurer, Jeremiah Cassey.

The Bedford Club, Brooklyn, names its dates and stations for the old bird races:—May 12, Beverly, N. J., 68 miles; 19th, Havre de Grace, Md., 138 miles; 26th, Washington, D. C., 226 miles; June 2, Orange, O. H. Va., 275 miles; 9th, Liberty, Va., 380 miles; 23d, Morgantown, N. C., 320 miles. All journeys to be for proven record. At the meeting held last Tuesday Mr. G. B. Edwards was admitted to membership. The entry for the first race now stands:—Edwards, 35 to 40; Platt, 30 to 35; Reed, 8 to 15; Nasson, 2 to 6; Aten, 0 to 80.

The Patapsco Club, Baltimore, has adopted the southwest course for its old bird journey and has selected stations 100, 200, 300 and 510 miles from home. The entry will be from the lofts of Frank Goedeke, H. A. McCoy and John Treschman.

The Poultry Exchange Cup.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the New York Poultry Exchange held in New York City the 10th inst., the Messrs. Colgate, Brownson, Scudder, Reynolds and L. N. Clarke were elected trustees. These gentlemen extended their faith in the Exchange, and it is said will advance the funds to keep it running through another season at least.

At the first meeting of the trustees the arrangements for the Exchange cup races will be made. The conditions as published last December were:—Let the journey or journeys to be under the rules of the Federation of the American Fanciers of Pigeon Flying. 2d. The competition to be open to all entries in any department of the show held at Madison Square Garden in 1887.

Transfers of Stock.

To Frank Devlin, Philadelphia. 1—From Charles Smith, Philadelphia. 2—From J. C. Mc 125, brother to Mc Gahan's Lexington; s. h. H 814, daughter of Hayes' Garfield; r. c. c. X 105, son of Krouss's 600-miles bird; Black Boss and Blue. 2—From R. L. Hayes, b. c. h. H 814, daughter of White Smolder. 3—From J. Kasper, Washington, D. C., s. h. X 167, "Aurora"; s. h. X 168, "Pearl Eye."

To G. H. Hat, Philadelphia. From Charles Smith, Philadelphia, H 29 r. c. c. son of "Whizzer," X 169 r. c. c. X 170 b. c. h. left from "Three," 540 miles stock. To the loft of F. H. Platt, New York, from C. O. Barrett, Boston, eleven birds, 1888 hatch, from the old brood; fifteen birds, 1888 hatch, from birds bred and flown in 1887.

Names Claimed.

[With the issue of April 1, the charge for names claimed will be one cent per word, initial or number. All race lists should be named, and the name instead of register number used in reporting by telegram, thus saving expense in telegraphing.]

By George de Lara, New York City, Fly-by Night of April from the loft of H. F. Keatinge, Lord and Lady Byron de L. 1, 2, from the nest of Prince and Princess de Lara.

By H. A. Lippincott, Philadelphia. Bookhook for L 345, r. c. c. brother to Moorestown; Lillie for L 39, daughter of K 107.

"Caught or Shot."

P 261 was caught by life-saver Charles Lamb, Station 13, opposite Centro Moriches, L. I.

The bird bird was registered to James Paterson, 202 Seventh ave., New York City.

A stranger marked "M. Dousse, rear of 214," is at the loft of John McFadden, 1804 Soybert St., Philadelphia. May be seen after 5 P. M.

FOOT BALL.

The fifteenth Association foot ball match between Oxford and Cambridge was played on Feb. 22, Oxford winning by three goals to two. Here is the record:—1873-74, Oxford won by three goals to none; 1874-75, Cambridge won by two goals to none; 1875-76, Oxford won by five goals to one; 1876-77, Oxford won by one goal to none; 1877-78, Cambridge won by five goals to one; 1878-79, Cambridge won by one goal to none; 1879-80, Cambridge won by three goals to none; 1880-81, Cambridge won by two goals to one; 1881-82, Oxford won by three goals to one; 1882-83, Cambridge won by two goals to one; 1883-84, Cambridge won by two goals to none; 1884-85, Cambridge won by one goal to none; 1885-86, Cambridge won by five goals to none; 1886-87, Cambridge won by three goals to one; and in 1887-88 Oxford won by three goals to two. Oxford thus has won five of the fifteen matches and Cambridge ten. The match here chronicled is the first Oxford has won for six years.

The Rugby foot ball team, which was to have left England for New Zealand and Australia on Thursday last, will consist of twenty-one players, representatives of each of the principal clubs in England, and although the claims of business and the length of the tour precludes several very clever exponents undertaking the trip, the team will be very powerful. The Northern Division will meet at Nottingham the day before sailing from London, and a banquet of the metropolis is "on the carpet." A lengthy programme has been arranged in New Zealand and Australia, but nothing is yet definitely known as to Shrewsbury's intentions. Red, white and blue will probably be the colors of the travelers.

The annual foot ball match between Ireland and Wales, under Rugby Union rules, was played in the presence of 5,000 spectators, on March 6th, and resulted in a victory for the Welsh by two goals, one try and 6 minutes, to two nil.

The Toronto Foot Ball Club last week elected these new officers:—Hon. president, A. B. Creelman; president, W. A. Huston; vice president, J. B. Starr; captain, W. W. Wood; treasurer, H. B. O'Hara; secretary, A. W. Bell.

Frank Dowd defeated J. Black in an exhibition match at the skating rink in St. John, N. B., March 17, by a 10-0 foot.

A. G. SPALDING & BROS.

RULES FOR 1888.

Our BASE BALL GUIDE for this year will be issued on April 2d, and we hope by that time that the snow will be off all of the diamonds and that spring will really be here in good shape, as our Base Ball Guide beats robins all to death as a harbinger of spring. If another blizzard should come, however, buy a copy of the Guide and you may be sure of many hours of pleasant reading by the cosy fireside, or snow-blocked in your suburban train, as the writer was for three days week before last. Seriously, however, the Guide this year will be, if possible, better than any of its predecessors, complete in every detail, with averages that are safe to bet on, and full description of the new rules and changes. We have spared no money in publishing this little hand book, as we are exceedingly proud of the position it occupies in the Base Ball world. But enough about the Guide. It will be out shortly and it will speak for itself far better than we can speak for it.

Now a word about KANGAROO SHOES:—We started out the beginning of this year to make an absolutely perfect Base Ball Shoe, using in the same only the very finest imported Kangaroo skin, and taking pains to see that same was absolutely perfect. We did not start out with the idea of making a cheap shoe. We left that to our "cheap John" competitors whose only ability to take orders seems to be the making of a low price. Our motto has always been, perfect quality and reasonable price. We have spared no expense on them, and if it was possible to better the quality 10 per cent. by adding 20 per cent. to the cost of the same we would have done so, and if we could make a better shoe, even if we had to charge \$1.00 more for them, we would have done it, but if we charged \$10.00 we could not furnish a better article. Of course the minute Spalding advertises an article somebody tries to follow in his wake with a would-be imitation and lower price. We heard from this last week in rather a funny way. One of the directors of the Portland Base Ball Club wrote us in regard to our Kangaroo Shoe and claimed that he could buy a Kangaroo shoe made by—well, we leave that to the imagination of the reader—at a less price. We replied by sending a sample pair of our shoes for comparison. We received his order by return mail with the information that our shoes were the best he ever saw, and exceeded Messrs. — in every way, so that comparison was perfectly ridiculous. And so it goes. We are running our shoe shop to its utmost capacity and yet are not able to turn them out fast enough. Remember that on every pair of our Kangaroo shoes we put on a pair of our best hand-forged shoe plates. These are hand-made and cost twice as much as any plate ever put on the market. Now that we have started on the shoe question, our thoughts nicely run to the rest of the uniform. In connection with our orders on same last year there is one thing that particularly pleases us; we do not know of one Club that ordered a uniform of us last year who has not re-ordered of us again this year, and in most cases without even asking any other dealer for a price. We have some very handsome designs of flannel for this year which are made exclusively for us and shall be most pleased to send them to any Manager in the country who desires to see same.

In the past two weeks we have secured the control of an article which promises to make almost a furore in its particular line, and that is a linen sole stocking, a patented article, a great thing not only for Base Ball players, but also for bicycle riders and every person interested in Athletic Sports, in which the wearing of knee pants is customary. Every Base Ball player knows what it is to wear a heavy worsted stocking with the thermometer ranging from 90° to 100° on a hot afternoon. This year we will supply you with a new linen sole stocking and have your feet as comfortable as though you were down at Coney Island dangling them from the Iron Pier, and not only that but the stocking above will be of the very strongest kind and the best made. It is a Yankee's invention, of course. Who else but a Yankee would have had the ingenuity to invent such an article, and sense enough to put it in our hands to distribute.

Just one word in closing, there is nothing we like better than to receive communications from our friends and customers. Catalogues are only too glad to send without money and without price. If there is anything you want, or think you want in our line, just drop us a postal card and look at our catalogue. It is interesting as a picture book if nothing else. Let us hear from you.

A. G. Spalding & Bros., 108 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill. 241 Broadway, New York.

"THE KING OF THE DIAMOND" "P-L-A-Y B-A-L-L" —BY— MIKE KELLY, OF THE BOSTON BASE BALL CLUB. Full of Stories and Reminiscences. Order of Your Newsdealer. ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO M. J. KELLY, CLARENDON HOTEL, BOSTON, MASS.

The Billiard Room Noise Subducer. JOHN CREAHAN has invented an improvement in billiard cues for preventing noise. Nearly all billiard players, and certainly all room-keepers, are aware of the intolerable noise that very many billiard and nearly every pool player makes from time to time while engaged in a friendly contest. To such an extent is this carried on at times that it not only becomes a great annoyance to those who may wish to play undisturbed, but many patrons of a room leave it simply on this account, while the room-keeper from time to time is obliged to perform one of the most disagreeable of all duties—that of prohibiting men from patronizing his establishment for making this very noise in their enthusiasm at an imaginary line shot, or, if it should turn out to be a mere scratch, the noise becomes half maddening. Heretofore the only remedy for such business was for the room-keeper to do exactly what we have stated. In all well-regulated establishments the noise is, of course, prevented as much as possible, but never to such an extent as it should be, simply because it is an utter impossibility to entirely prevent it. There are some rooms, it is true, where players can make all the noise they choose, without receiving any attention or warning from the owner. It is not long, however, until the players find out that the only one listening to them is the proprietor, and when they once make this discovery, the proprietor soon learns that even though they do all his customers away by their eccentricity and little variations in the shape of noise, no longer frequent his place of business, or rather his place without any business, for they prefer to be ruled in a room where there is plenty of life and business to running in one where there is neither one nor the other. Billiard rooms are like any other business establishment, they must be managed on a business basis. 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