HOMING PIGEONS.

PROGRESS MADE IN BREEDING AND TRAINING THESE BIRDS.

The Great Service They Rendered During the Siege of Paris-The Prices Paid For aquariums, and they are very apt at Them In England Range From \$5 to \$300.

Carrier pigeons must not be confused with homing pigeons. The former is a fancy pigeon, especially prized for the largeness of its eye and wattles, but quite useless as a messenger. Both are cousins of the dragon, but the fancier, in the case of the carrier, has bred purely for points, color, shape, etc., while the homing pigeon fancier cares nothing for these things. With him it has been "handsome is as handsome does," and stamina with intelligence has been his aim.

The homing instinct goes back to the fountain head of all the varieties, the blue rock itself. The bird, in fact, has been made and is the product purely of that game of extermination known as "the survival of the fittest." The one thing which gave the fillip to the sport was undoubtedly the siege of Paris. The French fought and lost one great battle after another till they were driven within the iron walls of Paris. Then it was that the city, entirely surrounded by the allied forces, found herself cut off from all communication with the onter world. A few patriotic fanciers offered their birds to the government, and so was organized the pigeon post, by which means the government was kept alive to the doings of the besiegers, and the besieged could receive communications from their friends outside. The modus operandi was this: A balloon left Paris, taking with it a pannier of pigeons, and, once clear of the Prussian outposts, the balloonist made his way for some recognized center.

water.

interesting.

The messages to be sent to Paris were then, by means of photography, reduced so that a page of The Times could appear on a small piece of paper or film two inches by an inch or so. In this way a single pigeon was the bearer of upward of 300 messages, the aggregate cost of which to the senders was concover their natural activity. siderably over £100. The first three pigeons carried in this way over 1,000 dispatches. Upward of 115,000 official and private messages were brought into so that they may be more easily cap- puny now." Paris by the pigeous, and the records of the pigeon and balloon service of the siege of Paris certainly read more like a romance of the Jules Verne type than simple historical facts. The services rendered during the memorable siege set all the world a-wondering, with the result that nearly all the governments of Europe (our own being the great exception) at ouce established military lofts, which have been extended on every hand and are being perfected. While the governments thus recognized the value of the homing pigeon for military purposes a few stalwart fanciers in this country discovered a new medium of sport, with the result that J. W. Logan, M. P., and other recognized "fathers of the fancy" imported the best hirds that Belgium had to offer, and it is from these birds and those imported since that the racing pigeon in this country has been produced. I have little hesitation in saying that upward of £20,000 per annum has been spent during the last 25 years in purchasing the Lest birds, and that at prices from, say, 20 shillings for a squeaker up to £50 for a proved racer or stud bird. The first public long distance races in this country seem to have been organized about 1870, and from that day to the present the homing pigeon has been gradually clearing its character of being a public house plaything, fit only for mile to three mile sweeps, until now towns innumerable and villages throughout the country have their flying clubs, with a programme of races starting generally at about 70 and extending in many inthe water. stances up to 500 miles. Wherever, too, the Britisher has gone, there also has he taken his terrier and homing pigeon, and we now hear of the bird as a recognized institution in America, India, South Africa and Australia. So rapidly has the sport extended in the last few years that it would seem the next 50 may see the racing of homing pigeons recognized as the world's great sport. The great ambition of the northern fancier is to fly 500 miles in the day. This, up to the present, has not been accomplished, although birds have been home well before breakfast the morning after liberation, having flown upward of 550 miles. The performance can, however, readily be done on a favorable day, and many fanciers in and about London accomplished the route from Thurso, N. B., the winning bird flying 501 miles, with an average velocity of 1,454 yards per minute for the entire its tail. distance. These 500 mile performances in the day are quite common in Belgium, and the distance has also been covered in America. You may search the whole annals of athletic performances or feats of strength, and, as far as it is possible to contrast two distinct things, the homing pigeon will go one better than the best of them. Take this as an everyday example: Birds are liberated at, say. Ventnor, to fly 200 miles into the north | followed the tertiary and includes the of England, and the wind is blowing present time. Archaeologically it is diat the rate of upward of a mile a minnte dead against them, and yet domens of the birds will be in their lofts under postglacial ages, all characterized by a 400 minutes. The day may be cold, and a sleet storm or two may have to be encountered, but the result will be the same. If the day is such that the birds cannot see their way, but have to feel it, and the wind bloweth from the quarter that is neither good for man nor divisions and sets forth with his usual beast, then comes "the winter of our clearness the typical products and the discontent;" we shall find the winning bird's velocity reduced to about 700. yards per minute and have a bare 5 per cent of the liberated birds home the same day. These are the races to be won, and these are "the good 'uns to breed from" and to perpetuate the wonderful pluck and stamina of the homing pigeon.-Badminton Magazine. ----The Discovery Saved His Life-Mr. G. Caillouette, Druggist, Beaversville Ill., says: "To Dr. King's New Discovery I owe my life. Was taken with la grippe and tried all the physicians for miles about, but of no avail and was given up and told I could not live. Having Dr. King's New Discovery | ca, says that among the 200,000,000 of in my store I sent for a buttle and be- people in the dark continent 50,000,000 gan its use and from the first dose beare slaves. gan to get better, and after using three bottles was up and about again. It is worth its weight in gold. We wont keep store or house without it." Get a free it's only one that gets it.-London Fi-tonic. Try it. Sold for 50c or \$1.00 per trial at A. F. Steitz'sdrug store. 2 garo.

FEEDING IN AQUARIUMS.

cery for a clabroom in the evening and Some Curious Methods Employed For the on stormy days had just been discussing Greater Comfort of the Fishes. a fox hunt about which one of their All fishes, including even the dullest number had read aloud, when the conand commenest, are likely to be shy versation naturally took a reminiscent

when first brought into captivity, as in turn "Nothing cuter or more counting in first to refuse food. Sometimes fish rethe world than a fox." said Goggs by fuse persistently week after week, tak- way of introduction. "I remember one ing none at all and growing thinner and night when I was a boy that we heard thinner and weaker, until finally they a great fuss among the dogs that were die. Usually, however, the fishes, with chained up. It took us about half an proper care, come to feed, though many hour to get dressed and armed to sally of them may need to be pampered and forth for the purpose of investigating. nursed along at first. Finally many of Not discovering anything, we loosened the fishes, as they become accustomed the dogs, and they darted off on a trail, to captivity, get very tame, so that they yelping as they went. We didn't know will take food from the hand Some of whether it was man or varmint, but the fishes that will do this are fishes after a long run the dogs brought up at that might not be thought of as feeding the hen house and tried to tear it down. Well, sir, an old fox had deliberately in this manner. The codfish, for instance, will come to the surface after it showed himself to the dogs so as to exhas become used to captivity and take a cite them, made that run while were strip of fish held down to it in the fin- were getting ready for trouble, and, cirgers, at the same time gulping in with cling around, was robbing the roost it noisily a great mouthful of air and while the dogs were off the premises."

Changed the Subject.

"I waked up one moonlight night," While there is at first necessary for volunteered the man on the wood box, "and seen a fox under an apple tree their welfare not only the greatest care, but such food only as they have been where a fat pullet was roosting. I knew accustomed to in nature or as they like the thief couldn't climb, so I just stood best, it is in most cases possible later to at the window laughing. The fox barkswitch the fishes off to other things, ed to wake the chicken and then began with occasional return to their natural circling around the tree, slow at first, food. Some fishes, however, will eat but going faster and faster. Of course only live food, and this must always be the terrified pullet followed him with provided for them. Not infrequently the her eyes and got so dizzy that she fell food, whatever it may be, must be fed out of the tree." "I see somethin like that once," said in some special way to meet the requirements of individual fishes, and some of the lank individual on a paint keg,

"enly that the chicken I was watchin the methods employed are curious and wrung its own neck 'cause the fox was Fishes in captivity have fewer op- goin so durned fast." Then, by common consent, the crowd portunities, oftener they have none

whatever, of lying in ambush for their took up the subject of floods -Detroit on the bill of fare. It is served quickly prey, and they have far less room for Free Press.

The Wily Photographer.

There is a photographer on the North larger fishes evade pursuit if they can and seek the edges of the water, by the Side who not only furnishes waists and walls or the surface, whither they are wigs for his sitters, but ideas as well. less likely to be followed. Killies will A woman went to his studio the other live for days out of water in properly day with a thin, scrawny baby and dampened moss or seaweed. When first wanted it photographed. put back into the water, they are slug- "A dozen cabinet pictures, in your

gish in movement, but they soon re- best style," she said. The photographer looked at the baby In feeding live killies it is not unusu- and shook his head.

al to keep them out of water for a time, "Wait until he gets well. He's too tured by the fishes they are to be fed to, "But I want to send them home to

which might otherwise be unable to the old country, and I must have them

ONLY ONE WORD.

The men who utilize the corner gro-Only one word, dear, to say to you Before the throng tarusts us apart; Only one moment to pray to you, Goddess enshrined in my heart.

the city.

Only one life, dear, to live for you. Will you spurn it? It lies at your feet. Only one heart's love to give for yon. Will you reign in that herrt, my sweet! **PURE LAKE ICE**

I am again in position to supply

the people of North Platte with a

Only one song, dear, to sing with you, Singer and song of you hiest. Only one treasure to bring with you-Your heart. What matters the rest?

Only one word to implore of you-Word that is! Couldn't you guess? Only one whisper-no more-of you. Say-shall that whisper be-"Yes!" -J. L. Heaton in "The Quilting Bee."

FAITH IN HUMAN NATURE.

A New York Cafe That Reposes Implicit Confidence In Its Customers.



D. M. HOGSETT,

+ Contractor and Builder, +

THE STANDARD BRED

- "SUNLIGHT"

.....TROTTING STALLION

capture them at all, or which might at once. My friends there are expecting get them only at the risk of doing in- them." jury to themselves by running into the "Have they ever seen the child?" walls of the tank. Sometimes among asked the photographer. the fishes brought to an aquarium there "Never. That's why I want to send may be one that has lost an eye. Such them before he's too old." a fish is particularly liable to injury in "Are they ever likely to see him?" pursuit by running into walls on its continued the man. blind side, and to such fishes there are "'No, they aint. But I don't see what always fed slow killies, and they are that has got to do with his sitting for put into the water on the side on which his picture.' the fish can see.

sweep and action in pursuit. Killies

placed in a pool or tank as food for

There is at the aquarium a hawkshill as he regarded the child with a critical turtle from the Yowl islands, off the eye. "Here's a doz:n cabinets of a beaucoast of New Guinea. The hawkshill tiful, plump taby, just what yours will eats clams cut up into pieces that it can be later on, and if you are willing you handle. It likes killies, but it could not can have them at the same price and begin to catch a live killie in the quar- nobody will ever know the difference. ters which it occupies, and at first it They will be a credit to me as well as was difficult for it to pick up dead ones. to you."

the floor. The greater weight of the any difference.-Chicago Tribune. fish is toward the head. That end nat-

urally reaches the floor first. The fish is most sensitive at the nose. The shock killed the killie, and the freshly killed food was then conveyed to the hawksbill's month by aid of the pointed stick, which was withdrawn when the turtle had set its beak in the food. Now the hawkshill has become more accustomed to its quarters, and it eats well and is able to pick up the killed killies out of

Sometimes fish are cut into strips, which, floating down through the water, may be mistaken for live fish. Sometimes such strips are carried down into a tank upon the tip of a rod and moved about in the water to attract slow feeding fish by their semblance to live small fish. There are many fishes that can swallow a fish as big or nearly as big as themselves. The sculpin and the sea raven are such fishes. They have very large heads and proportionately large months. When they are feeling well, they will, like many other fishes, rise to the top to get the food as soon as it is dropped into the water. If one sees a sea raven or a sculpin rising straight up through the water in this manner, with its hig mouth wide open, he can begin to understand how it could swallow a fish as big as itself, for it seems as if one could see inside of it clear to eggs produced .- New York Sun.

There are some fishes that have a particular fancy for worms. For these, if there is not a supply at hand, fresh beef New York Sun.

The Antiquity of Man.

Our geologists rarely use the term 'quaternary." By European writers it is understood to mean the period which vided into two epochs, the older includhe met a friend. ing the preglacial, the glacial and the chipped stone industry, the latter be- are you going all dressed up at this ginning with the peolithic culture and time in the morning?" continuing till now. Professor Gabriel de Mortillet, in Le Revue Mensuelle of the Paris School of Anthropology, succinctly explains these on the way?" fauna which characterize them. He has found no reason materially to modify the opinious he advanced in his earlier works and still maintains that a careful study of the geological data bearing on the question of the antiquity of man does not allow us to assign it a more re- got a card right here in my pocket, and cent date than 230,000 years ago.-Sciznce. Miss Ante-It's funny about our old cat. We can't keep her away from the poker table. Mr. Age - Nothing strange about

"I've got a scheme," said the artist, young man about town.

So the killies were fed to it on the point The mother was delighted, for as the of a stick. It is doubtful whether fishes photographer urged, "one baby is a suffer pain from any injury, but it good deal like another," and a picture would have seemed like cruelty to im- of ideal beauty was substituted-as it pale a live killie, and so the killies had often been before-for the plain were killed by the very simple but ef- original, and it is by no means likely fective method of throwing them upon that the distant friends will ever know

Duck Eggs.

half of 1 per cent of the total egg pro- engagement. This chiefly because it demonths, from March 1 to May 1, and hero of her heart.

that handle duck eggs largely. About two-thirds of the duck eggs friend may drop to mere acquaintance. Humphreys' Med. Co., 111 William St., N. T. brought to this market come from the The same is often the case with the shores of Chesapcake bay, the rest main- man's friends, and it is a well known

Duck eggs sold in the west come more gaged man shun him entirely. Why this largely from the south. Baltimore eggs, should be so is past all comprehension. which include eggs from along the -London Answers. Chesapeake bay, are the best. Such eggs bring at wholesale 5 to 8 cents a dozen more than eggs from farther south.

At retail duck eggs sell for about twice as much as hens' eggs. Weight voy at Paris, to write something in his for weight they sell for about the same, the duck eggs being so much larger. write contained the autographs of Gui-They are used for the same purposes as got and Thiers. The former had writpeople of foreign birth.

Carrying Out Instructions. There was a young man whose social

is cut into strips resembling worms -- | education had been somewhat neglected, | have learned to forget much and to ask and it chanced that he received an invi- to be forgiven much."-True Flag. tation to a church wedding. The morning of the ceremony found

him quite excited, and he started for the church some time before, as he would have said, "the show was billed to come as mercury will surely destroy the sense

Under his arm he carried a small whole system when entering it through

experience with a man line that is al most enough to 'renew ene's confidence in human nature .- New York Letter in Pittsburg Dispatch.

No Sentimentalism In It.

"A bonneing beauty from the North Side came in to see me the other day," said a local photographer, "and wanted to know if I could photograph a document so that the writing would be legible in the reproduction. I told her that I thought it could be done without any to be photographed. The missives were love letters of the most caloric sort and bore the signature of a well known

ed the negatives at her request, I remarked that I supposed she was afraid No. 1 Cures Fever. she might lose the originals and wanted No. 2 " Worms. the photographs to look at occasionally. No. 3 "Nonsense," she said with an em-phatic snap, "I'm through with all such moonshine. The ink is fading out, and No. 8 the trump card in a breach of promise No. 10 ". suit."-Chicago Times-Herald.

Friends Lost Through Engagements.

course of the season a great many thou- great degree-often, indeed, entirely- No. 20

misunderstanding, and the relation of OF DISEASES MAILED FREE.

Count Enzenberg, formerly Hessian entwo rules of prudence. The first is to liveries. There is a market for all the duck forgive much; the second is never to forget." Under this Thiers had said, from the sincerity of the forgiveness." Prince Bismarck added, "As for me, I Beware of Gintments for Catarrh that

of smell and completely derange the

bundle, and before he had proceeded far the muscous surfaces. Such articles

Order by telephone from Newton's Book Store.



that. Naturally she's looking after the "kitty."-Twinkles. Heli Chatelain, the traveler in Afri-

It takes two to make a bargain, but

"Hello," said the friend, "and where "Wedding," answered the young man good you can possibly derive from them. briefly and proudly. "Indeed? Going to do some errands F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O, contains "Certainly not." "But you're not going to a wedding with a bundle under your arm?" "Of course I am. That's my present. "Present! But you don't take your Testimonials free. preseal with you, man. You send it beforehand. "That's all you know about it. I've the card says, 'Present at the church.'" -Boston Sudget. Something to Know. It may be worth something to know that the very best medicine for restoring tired out nervous system to a healthy vigor is Electric Bitters. This medicine is purely vegetables, acts by giving tone to the nerve centres in the stomach gently stimulates the liver and kidneys. and aids these organs in throwing off impurities in the blood. Electric Bitters improves the apetite, aids digestion, and Wanted-An Idea who can think is pronounced by those who have tried it Wanted-An Idea thing to patent? tonic. Try it. Sold for 50c or \$1.00 per bottle at A. F. Streitz's drug store. 2