

HOMING PIGEONS.

POINTS FROM FANCERS ON THESE INTELLIGENT BIRDS.

General Observers Decide That the Birds Fly by Sight.—The 1st Prize in Homing Pigeons Which Fanciers Consider of Utmost Importance.

The peculiar gift is which enables the pigeon to return to its home from great distances is a matter upon which authorities disagree. The most general opinion among those who know anything of the subject is that the birds fly by sight alone. This theory would seem to be borne out by the fact that the best and most highly bred of racing birds have frequently been lost in the London fog. The fact that instinct is master and that the homing pigeon is not frequently err, but exhibits at times great indecision as to the correct course for him to pursue, seems to preclude the idea that he is governed solely by instinct. The theory which is most generally accepted is that the bird is gifted with remarkable eyesight and also with a memory for landmarks which is superior to a simian faculty in any other animal. That the bird possesses a high order of intelligence is shown from the fact that homies which have become lost in a race will frequently return to the rooms in which they have been kept at the starting point of their speed test.

In selecting homing pigeons for racing purposes even the best fanciers often pick out birds as most like racers that cannot fly 50 miles without becoming fat. The meek, most straggly looking bird, without a single good point, sometimes leaves its handsome competitor, who is, to all appearance, perfect in physical proportions, far in the rear. Still, fanciers look with interest at four points in a homing pigeon which are considered of prime importance. The first of these is, strange as the fact may appear in a movie in the art, the eye. Mr. Starr, one of the foremost and most successful of American fanciers, has this to say of the eye:

"The white eye may mean the curse of, and, if so, indicates that the bird will fly high, great endurance and wing power. If the eye is dark, the head small and the beak short and close fitting, there will be a preponderance of the owl type, and the results will be that the bird will fly later at night than any other type. But, whatever the character of the color, the tail must extend beyond the line of the head and no glances that the bird should have a view of what is behind as well as before it. When a bird returns from a journey over much new territory, this protrusion of the cecum is greatly increased, showing to what a great strain the powers of vision have been subjected."

While Mr. Starr, in common with other successful American fanciers, pays little or no attention either to the size or shape of the head, this point is the second at which European fanciers look with interest. It is generally conceded that the shape makes but little difference. The skull may be flat, long and narrow, or high, short and wide, but it must have room for the brain, and for a large brain at that, or else the bird is not considered a likely candidate for racing honors. Great stress is laid on the organ by all Belgian and Holland fanciers, but in this country the feature is almost entirely overlooked.

The chest should be broad and is of as great importance as the wing. A narrow-chested bird can fly no great distance without exerting the muscles which give fullness to the breast beyond their endurance. The wings and tail should both be exceptionally long, as the tail acts as a rudder, and the short wings require much added exertion for the same amount of flying.

The color of a pigeon has no significance, but the rule in breeding is to cross the colors when practical. Even the best breed of the homies requires most careful and intelligent training before they are entered in races. While the physique of the bird is well developed at the age of 10 weeks, it is thought best to give a considerably longer time for the brain to develop before the bird is trained for the work which lies ahead of him. At the age of 6 months the first trial trips may be made, and he is then flown from distances of between 2 and 90 miles at intervals of two or three days apart. Many birds are lost in these trial trips, and those which return safely from the longer trial trips may be considered fit to enter in the young bird races. The shortest of these is 100 miles in length, and birds are not supposed to be flown more than 60 miles before taking part in the speed trials.

For the young birds the system of training is supposed to accomplish two widely different results. In the first place they teach the young bird to return to his loft, and in the second they develop the muscles and prepare them for the hard work which the races will require of them. Training trips for older birds are made with the sole view of getting their muscles limbered up again and toughened for the longer races.—Chicago Chronicle.

Mark Twain on Interviewing.

Mark Twain does not like to be interviewed. His opinion of the literary ability of the average interviewer is not at all flattering to the latter either. In a talk with Rudyard Kipling, Mark Twain once said: "I think the poorest article I ever wrote and destroyed was better worth reading than any interview with me that ever was published. I would like just once to interview myself, so as to show the possibilities of the interview."—Philadelphia Ledger.

The forgetfulness has two or three emblematic meanings. One is suggested by the name; the other was probably originated by its color. Blue among flowers is generally associated with the tender passion.

In 18 days' time the distance between New York and St. Petersburg may be covered.

HAPPINESS FOR THOUSANDS.

The Remarkable Offer of a Great Newspaper to Everybody, Old and Young.

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Assignees Sale

—OF—

Valuable Real Estate.

By virtue of a second Pluris Order of Court, I will expose to public vendue, or outcry, at the hotel of D. G. Myers, in Ashville borough, Cambria county, Pa., on Thursday, February 26, 1897, at one o'clock p. m., the following described real estate:

No. 1. All the right, title and interest of D. G. Myers to that certain piece, or parcel of land situate in Clearfield township, Cambria county, Pa., bounded and described as follows: On the north by lands of John M. Jordan, deceased; on the east by lands of John M. Jordan, deceased; and on the west by lands of D. M. Crotcher, the same containing twenty-five acres.

No. 2. The one-half interest in that piece, or parcel of land lying in Dean twp., Cambria county, Pa., adjoining lands of Schricker heirs, Griffith heirs and Irwin Brothers, the same containing fifty-six acres and having thereunder valuable coal and fire clay.

No. 3. That certain piece, or parcel of land situate in Dean twp., Cambria county, Pa., adjoining the lands of Schricker heirs, Griffith heirs and Irwin Brothers, the same containing thirty-six acres and having thereunder valuable coal and fire clay.

No. 4. The undivided one-half interest in that certain piece, or parcel of land in Gallatin township, Cambria county, Pa., bounded by lands of D. M. Crotcher on the north; Dry Gap Road on the south, and John Trexler on the east, the same containing one hundred and twenty-two acres, all being underlaid with valuable coal and fire clay; coal or fire clay will be sold separately or together, as desired by the purchaser. Both coal and fire clay have been prospected, found in abundant qualities and lie convenient for shipment.

No. 5. The undivided one-half interest in that certain mineral rights in, under and upon that certain piece, or parcel of land situate in Dean twp., Cambria county, and in Ashville borough, Pa., bounded by lands of John Trexler on the east, the same containing one hundred and twenty-two acres, all being underlaid with valuable coal and fire clay; coal or fire clay will be sold separately or together, as desired by the purchaser. Both coal and fire clay have been prospected, found in abundant qualities and lie convenient for shipment.

No. 6. Four lots of ground in Ashville borough, having theron erected a three and one-half story frame dwelling house, completely finished through.

No. 7. The following lots known and numbered on the general plan of Ashville borough as Nos. 28, 29, 45, 46, 47, 55, 57, 58, 62, 63, 69, 70, 76, 81, 94, 100, 101, 102, 103, 111, 112, 113, 118, 119, 120, 121, 123, 133, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 145, 161, 166, 170, 172, 175, 176, 177, 178, 181, 182, 185, 190, 192, 194, 171.

No. 8. The undivided one-half interest in the surface of that piece, or parcel of land situate in Dean twp., Cambria county, Pa., known as the Robinson Farm, the same containing 68 acres.

TERMS OF SALE.

One-third of purchase money to be paid in cash when the property is sold, and the balance in two payments at six and twelve months, to be secured by bond and mortgage of purchaser.

THOMAS H. MYERS,
Assignee of D. G. Myers.

H. SOMERVILLE, Attorney.

NOTICE OF DISPOSITION.

Notice is hereby given to the public that the partnership heretofore existing between G. C. and F. C. Yeager in the butcher and meat market business in Patton borough, has been dissolved by mutual consent, G. C. Yeager retiring, and the business will hereafter be conducted by F. C. Yeager at the old place of business. All accounts will be settled by F. C. Yeager. All parties knowing themselves indebted to said firm are requested to call and settle.

G. C. YEAGER.
F. C. YEAGER.

FEB. 1, 1897.—10:30

Special Bargains!

We can give you as many goods for 25 cents as you usually pay \$1 for.

What is the use of wasting a dollar when you can save it?

Bags suspenders.

China lamp and shade, decorated.

Table knives and fork set.

New low washing machine.

Wood frame clothes wringer.

egg Coffe pot.

Gingham per yard.

Whist and toy brooms.

Mens laundry per cal shirts.

Mens silk bows...

Large house use.

Gold large rolling pin.

Brooms 5¢.

Watches and spring rollers.

Candy box writing paper.

Candy case mirror and match safe all for

25 cents.

Who can tell the waste of money when you buy goods of houses that buy and sell on long time. It is easier to save a dollar these times than it is to earn one. To go to

THE BAZAAR.

And save your money.

Office corner of Fifth and Magee Ave.

G. O. Brady, Prop'r, Patton, Pa.

A weed in the garden can be easily destroyed when it starts. Consumption can be nipped in the bud by One Minute Cough cure. C. W. Hodgkins, Patton Pharmacy.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Shoe Repairing

All shoes made to order. All work neatly done. You will find me in the Robinson block across the iron bridge.

THOS. WAPLE

CHAS. F. LEHMAN,

Hair Cutting and Shaving Parlor, Good Building at Main Entrance.

AIRY AND ELEGANT ROOM.

Give him a call.

PATTON STEAM LAUNDRY,

H. E. Schuer, Prop'r.

TOZER, THE PATTON JEWELER.

TOZER, THE PATTON JEWELER.

YOUR WATCH may need

Repairing. Let us look at it. No charge for examination. If it needs attention we'll tell you, and you would have to put me to work to do it with a regular charge that you won't object to.

TOZER, THE PATTON JEWELER.

IT'S NOBODY'S FOOL

That buys something to eat when you are hungry or you are hungry and want something fancy in the meat line, just step into our meat department.

we can please you and almost know it.

P. F. YOUNG & BRO.

MILLINERY,

And up-to-date novelties for women. Anything special will be ordered upon short notice. Prices moderate.

ALICE A. ASHCROFT,

Opposite Commercial Hotel, Patton.

J. VAN WILSON,

Surgeon Dentist.

Graduate Philadelphia Dental College.

Special attention given to the preservation of the natural teeth. Artificial teeth a specialty. Good Building, Patton, Pa.

DR. V. A. MURRAY,

PHYSICIAN & SURGEON.

Offer in Arlington block, next to Post Office, Patton, Pa. All night calls responded to promptly. Disease of the ear, nose and throat given special attention.

OFFICE HOURS.—7 a. m. and 12 to 2 p. m.

DR. S. W. WORRELL,