

is to be stocked. New breeders will need a stock to start with and wealthy gentlemen will have their own preserves to stock.

We are informed that ex-President Cleveland has purchased 85 acres, which he intends for a game preserve, and which he will stock with English and Mongolian pheasants.

William Hendrie, one of our Canadian millionaires, intends to stock with pheasants several hundred acres of land lying five miles west of this city (Hamilton, Ont.), and no doubt there are many more gentlemen of wealth who will catch the contagion and establish private game preserves. This with the demand by gun clubs will make pheasant raising a profitable business for years to come. Mr. Horne, author of "Pheasant Keeping for Amateurs" informs us that pheasants are exposed for sale by the thousands on the markets all over the interior of China, and we look forward to the time when it will be the same in this country.

#### CLIPPING WINGS.

We hope to be pardoned for saying, that if there is a marked stupidity among the fraternity, it is the usual way we find fanciers clipping birds' wings, including poultry. This stupidity is not confined to the novice alone, but we find it in the old poultry fanciers. The old instruction solemnly spoken was, "Clip only one wing, so that the bird cannot balance. If you clip the two it can fly." This advice has gone from mouth to ear for generations given by wiseacres whose information is all founded on antiquated hearsay, and who never investigate for themselves. The average fancier clips the wing while it is closed. In this way one cannot help not only disfiguring the bird, but the heavy warm feathers which grow on the half of the wing next the body, and which Nature intends more as a coverlet to keep the bird warm than to assist in flight, are removed. Right under this warm coverlet of feathers is the lung, and when this part of the wing has been removed, there is nothing to protect the lung, and it may be noticed that there is almost a bare spot so far as body feathers are concerned. The sleet and wet falling on the unprotected lung causes pneumonia, which is followed by a lingering death or a delicate bird.

Experience and experiments prove that birds after a little practice fly higher and farther with only one wing clipped than with two. When only one is clipped they are apt to injure themselves by going with great force against the weakened side.

#### HOW TO CLIP.

Extend the wing fully. Then cut each pinion feather between the shaft and quill from the middle of the wing to the top. Do the same with the other wing, and all is right. The bird cannot fly; he is not disfigured (in fact when walking round you could not tell that the wings were clipped); and his lungs are still protected by Nature's coverlets.

#### HOW TO PINION.

It is generally recommended to pinion pheasants at two months old. We have performed the little operation at all ages, and never had one die from the effect.

The operation requires no skill. It means to take a pair of scissors and clip the wing off by the first joint. The birds never seem to mind it, and in less than a week it is all healed over. This, of course, would not do for birds that were intended to be let loose in a game preserve, as they can never fly again. But for breeding stock to be fenced in fields it is much better than running the risk of watching and clipping their wings when necessary.

Pheasants should either be pinioned or have their wings clipped, even when in aviaries that are covered overhead with wire, as if this is not done they are continually injuring themselves by flying with great force against the wire.

#### FENCING.

Pheasants do best when not kept on the one ground too long. Therefore it is better to have a movable fence made in sections 12 feet long by 7 feet high, and fastened together by hooks and staples. These may be put in any shape, and moved to new ground when the old becomes soiled. The sections should have 12 feet of the common chicken netting wire, which is two yards wide, a foot board on the bottom, and two scantlings 2 inches square and 7 feet long for ends, and one scantling 12 feet long for top. This gives 1 foot of board and 6 feet of wire, making 7 feet high and 12 feet long. This can be duplicated as many times as desired. Four sections will make