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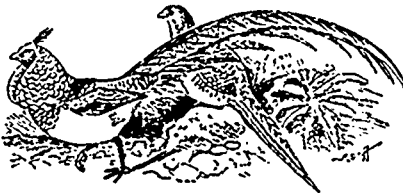
PHEASANT CULTURE—FROM EGG TO EGG.

BY

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(CONTINUED FROM APRIL).

COST OF RAISING BY NEW METHOD.



LET us now compare the new scientific method with the old. The result of the Massachu-

setts Commission experiment reports as follows:—

“Not only is the feeding of the larvæ necessary, but it is much cheaper than the eggs and custard. Six sheeps' plucks a day, costing from 3 to 5 cts. each (according to location) will produce food for 300 chicks until old enough to feed on scalded grain.”

Six plucks will give from six to eight quarts of maggots. We will allow a cost of 25 cts., i.e., to feed 300 pheasants one day. How much will feed them thirty days? \$7.50. That would be on an average of 2½ cts. each for the first thirty days.

By an examination of the books of our own pheasantry (Canadian Pheasantry, Hamilton, Ontario), we learn that it just takes 25 bushels of corn to feed 300 pheasants for four months, when they are out on grass. Allowing the corn to be 40 cts. per bushel—\$10, it costs an average of 3⅓ cts. per each pheasant

for the four months after the change from maggot food.

The pheasants are now five months old and have reached maturity, and not counting the grass and the thousands of insects they have caught for themselves, have cost for actual feed but 5 2-5 cts. per bird.

MARKET FOR PHEASANTS.

From the most reliable sources we have obtained estimates on what it costs to raise pheasants in Europe to stock their preserves. The estimates range from \$1 per bird to \$2.60. This may be accounted for by the unscientific methods of the game keepers, the damp climate, and the diseases peculiar to young pheasants there that are unknown here in America.

Now when we have shown that pheasants can be raised to maturing here for less than ten cents each in unlimited numbers, could not all the preserves of Europe be stocked from America, and that, too, at less than half the cost that the English noblemen now pay? With our fast line of steamers we can see nothing to prevent it, and the trade and profit therefrom will far exceed that of poultry with the Old Country.

Though pheasants can be raised more cheaply than hens, there is no likelihood of the price of the pheasant ever falling so low as that of the common hen. The flesh of the pheasant in delicacy and richness of flavor surpasses all other birds, and will always command a handsome price, as the choicest and most nutritious flesh for invalids.

Pheasant culture in America is only in its infancy, and we cannot see where there can be a reduction in prices to any great extent for years to come. There will be good orders from every state in the Union (except those already stocked) to replace the native game birds which are fast disappearing. Canada also