



THE ABOVE CUT REPRESENTS A PAIR OF CHUKAR PHEASANTS NOW IN THE CANADIAN PHEASANTRY, HAMILTON, ONT.

After the first thirty days, the maggots may be safely withheld, and the wings of the young birds clipped in a way we will later describe, and the birds turned into a field of grass, and fed for a time on scalded grain, then any kind of grain, grass or vegetables, and the danger to life is over. The field should have a fence six or seven feet high—seven feet is better—and care must be taken that no brush or anything else is left so close to it as to enable the birds to jump up, and with a second jump reach the top of the fence, then over.

From preference pheasants roost where they can see the sky above them, and if no provision to prevent this were made, they would willingly and very persistently expose themselves to every rain storm. This can easily be avoided by leaving not a vestige of brush or any place to roost, except under sheds covered over on top only with convenient and tempting roosts.

The birds when they can find no roosts elsewhere will be forced to go under shelter. They may be left in this field all winter, and their feed after the first few weeks is of little importance. They may be fed a little corn, wheat, etc., until the snow comes, but if they are turned into a good fresh orchard or other

field where no pheasants have previously been, they will eat but little grain of any kind until the snow hides the grass from them. Grass is as much the staff of life for the pheasant as bread is for man, and for this reason twelve of them would not eat more grain than one barnyard fowl.

At four months the males and females are better put in separate fields, and if the birds are not pinioned, their wings must be attended to every two weeks until they are four and a half months old, at which age they receive the last of their adult pinion feathers, and if well clipped then, will need no more attention until they moult the next fall.

In order to clip the wings the birds must be caught, which to a novice is no easy task, besides he is apt to pull their feathers out. We use a common dip net, which was made for catching fish in the rapids. The hoop upon which the net is fastened is about two feet across, and the handle eight feet long. We can pick up any bird we want without the slightest difficulty, and as for young ones, we dip up half a dozen at a time. No pheasantry can afford to be without a net of this kind.

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH.)