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THE GROUSE.

The partridge or quail is well known in Canada West, but does not frequent in any abundance, any part east of Kingston, at the lower end of Lake Ontario. The bird is a denizen of the treeless plains or open forests, and as these seldom occur on the rugged ridges of hills, the partridge cannot there support existence, and so it is that this bird is confined almost exclusively to the West.

The bird, which is generally named the partridge in this Province, is really the grouse.

There are two kinds, the ruffed grouse or birch partridge (Tetrao Umbellus), and the Canadian Grouse or spruce partridge (Tetrao Canadensis). The birch partridge is found over a great extent of country stretching from Maryland in the south as far north as the Susquehanna River. The geographical distribution of this bird is, therefore, much more extensive than that of the American partridge (Ortyx Virginiana). Their food consists of seeds & berries of all kinds; and in the winter when the ground is deeply covered with snow in all the northern portion of their territory, the grouse feed principally upon the buds of trees, such as those of the birch and soft maple. They spend the greater portion of their time upon the ground in search of food.

Audubon has observed their habits most closely and describes them thus minutely:—The female makes her nest in May beside a prostrate tree or at the foot of a low bush, on the ground in a spot where a heap of dried leaves has been formed by the wind. The nest is composed of leaves or dried twigs. The female lays from five to twelve eggs, which are of a uniform dull yellowish colour, and are proportionate in size to the bird. She never covers them on leaving the nest and in consequence, the raven or the crow, eats them.

When the female is present however, she generally defends them with great obstinacy, striking the intruder with her wings and feet, in the manner of the common hen.

"The young run about and follow the mother the moment after they leave the shell. They are able to fly for a few yards at a time, when only six or seven days old, and still very small. The mother leads them in search of food, covers them at night with her wings, and evinces the greatest care and affection towards them on the least appearance of danger, trying by every art in her power to draw the attention of her enemies to herself, feigning lameness, tambling and rolling about as if severely wounded, and by this means generally succeeding in saving them.

The little ones squat at the least cluck of alarm from the mother, and lie so close as to suffer one to catch them in the hand, should he chance to discover them, which, however, it is very difficult to do. The males are then beginning to form small parties, and continue separated from the females until the approach of winter, when males, females and young mingle together. During summer these birds are fond of dusting themselves, and resort to the roads for that purpose, as well as to pick up gravel."

In the spring the woods where these birds are common, resound with the drumming of the male which is caused by his beating his sides with his wings in the manner of the domestic cock, but more loudly, and with such rapidity of motion as to cause a tremor in the air not unlike the rumbling of distant thunder; in perfectly calm weather this sound may be heard two hundred yards.

Audubon says that this prevailing notion which exists in almost every district where these birds are numerous, that on firing at the lowest bird perched on a tree, the next above will not fly, and that by continuing to shoot at the lowest in succession, the whole may be killed, is contradicted by his experience, for on every attempt which he has made to shoot several in this manner on the same tree, his efforts have proved unsuccessful, unless during a fall of snow, when he has killed three and sometimes four. The same cause produces the same effect on different birds. It may happen, he says, that in districts covered with deep snow for several weeks, during severe winter, these birds, become so emaciated and weak, may stand a repetition of shots from a person determined to shoot grouse even when they are good for nothing, but not when they are in good order.

The Canada grouse or spruce partridge are much similar in their habits to the ruffed grouse. Along the shores of the Bay of Fundy they are much more abundant than the latter, which become scarcer the further north we proceed, and are unknown in Labrador, where the willow ptarmigan supply their place. The females differ mar-

terially in their coloring in different latitudes, in Maine for instance, they are more richly coloured than in Labrador, I accidentally almost walked upon a female Canada grouse surrounded by her young brood. It was on the 18th July. The affrighted mother, on seeing us, ruffled up all her feathers like a common hen, and advanced close to us as if determined to defend her offspring.

Her distressed condition claimed our forbearance, and we allowed her to remain in safety. The moment we retired, she smoothed down her plumage, and uttered a tender maternal chuck, when the little ones took to their wings, although they were, I can venture to assert, not more than one week old, with so much ease and delight, that I felt highly pleased at having allowed them to escape.

I have frequently heard it said that these birds could be knocked down with sticks, or that a whole covey could be shot while perched on trees, by beginning at the lowest one, but I have never witnessed anything of the kind, and therefore I cannot vouch for the truth of the assertion. The flesh of this grouse is dark, and fit for being eaten only when it is fed on berries.

According to Dr. Richardson, all the thick and swampy black spruce forests between Canada and the Arctic Sea abound with this bird and considerable numbers exist in the severest seasons as high as the 67th parallel.

Our markets every autumn are generally well supplied with both kinds of grouse, so that we may spare our readers any description of these beautiful birds.

The pleasantest and easiest of New Brunswick sport is the "partridge shooting, and in a short time the young birds will be ready, as some are now of good size.

Next to the wild Turkey, the ruffed grouse is considered to surpass, as an article of food, all other land birds of America, while to the sportsman and the student of nature its habits are full of interest.—Guardian.

A married gentleman, every time he met the father of his wife, complained to him of the ugly temper of his daughter. At last, on one occasion, the old gentleman becoming weary of the grubbings of his son-in-law, exclaimed: "You are right, she is an impertinent jade, and if I hear any more complaints of her I will disinherit her." The husband made no more complaints.

HAY-FIELD ANECDOTE.—There is a good story which may have been heard in more than Yankee-fields this summer. We heard it one day, while on a visit in the country. We went out to "pitch."—We had failed, and witted down under a hay stack and lay flushed and fanning the glow and sweat from our features in a comfortable position, when one of the jolly hay-makers related the anecdote of an old man who was always bragging how folks used to work in his young days, and challenged his two sons, together to pitch on a load of hay as fast as he could load it.

The challenge was accepted, and the wagon driven around, and the trial commenced. For some time the old man held his own very creditably calling out tauntingly, "More hay! more hay!"

"Thicker and faster it came, whole cocks at a time, cloud after cloud overwhelming him.

The old man was nearly covered, still he kept crying "More hay! more hay!" until struggling to keep on top of the disordered and ill ranged heap, it began first to roll, and then to slide, and at last of it went from the wagon and the old man with it.

"What are you down here for cried the boys.

"I came down after hay," said the old man stoutly;

Which was the literal fact; he had come down after the wagon load, which had to be pitched on again rather more deliberately.

Ain't it curious, squire, weddin' is never outo' woman's head? They never thing of nothing else A young gal is always thinking of her own. As soon as she is married, she is amatch making for companions; and when she is a grain older, her darter's weddin' is uppermost agin. Oh, it takes a great study to know a woman. How cunning they are? Ask a young gal the news, she will tell you of all the deaths in the place, to make you think she don't trouble herself about marriage. Ask an old woman, she will tell you all the marriages, to make you think she's taking an interest in the world that she ain't. They certainly do beat all, do women.

The World says they have been having a very quiet and peaceable time in New York for a few days. The Mayor has been away. The journal thinks that the citizens might afford to pay the Aldermen a handsome sum to leave the city after their election, and stay away.

BUSINESS CARDS.

STEPHEN K. BRUNDAGE, Commission Merchant, Importer of Flour, Corn Meal, Pork, Tea, TOBACCO, &c. &c. NO. 19, NORTH MARKET WHARF, SAINT JOHN, N. B.

DEMING & SONS, CALAIS, ME. Offer for Sale Low for Cash 30 HIDS Superior Molasses, Duty paid at St. Stephen, 10 lbs. Burning Fluid, Albertine Oil, with a large assortment of Lamp, Chimneys, Wicks, and Shades A large assortment of BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS, 5 boxes heavy sheetings, 2 C sea Heavy Mixed S. tin. ts, 50 cts. yard, India Rubber M. chine Belting and packing, all widths, at Manufacturers prices. A good assortment of Groceries at Wholesale. Calais Mill's Flour & Meal in bbls & bags.

D. K. CHASE, CALAIS, MAINE, DEALER IN HARDWARE, Paints, Oils, Iron and Steel, Blacksmith's Tools, Sporting and Blasting POWDER, Gun and Pistol, Welch and Griffith's Cross Cut and Circular Saws, Railroad Levels, Plots, &c. Agent for W. Adams & Co's Fireproof SAFES, Fairbanks' SCALES, and for Blisbee, Marble & Co's Powder Manufactory

PRINCIPAL Life Assurance Company. FOR GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE Annuities, of Loss of Life at Sea. Office: 1, Leadenhall Street, London Insurance.—10, DRAKE STREET, Liverpool. THOMAS L. EVANS, Agent for New Brunswick; JAMES R. MAUSHANE, Esq. St. John; W. H. SMITHSON, Esq. Fredericton. Medical Examiner for Woodstock, Dr G. A. BROWN Woodstock, January 1, 1860.

JOHN C. WINSLOW, BARRISTER-AT-LAW. In consequence of having taken charge of this Agency of the Central Bank Mr. Winslow will be found in the Bank from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

JOHN MOORE, IMPORTER AND DEALER IN Liquors, Groceries & Provisions OF ALL KINDS, QUEEN STREET, FREDERICTON, N. B. Opposite the Officer's Square.

George F. Campbell offers his services to the public as an Auctioneer and Commission Agent St. Andrews, Jan 12, 1859.

AT WILLIAMS'S Hat, Cap, Fur, Boot, Shoe and RUBBER STORE, CORNER OF UNION AND MAIN STREETS CALAIS, MAINE. CAN always be found the largest and best assortment of STOCK in the City. To the Cash buyers at wholesale of Mossell Hats we will offer such inducements as cannot be beat this side of New York. NO SECOND PRICE! The highest market price paid for ship and manuf. facturing FURS Calais, Dec. 17 1859.

Stason & Rainsford Commission & Forwarding MERCHANTS, IMPORTERS OF Flour, Pork, Beef, Tea, Sugar, TOBACCO, LIQUORS, HARDWARE, &c. HATCH'S WHARF, ST. ANDREWS.

INTERNATIONAL Assurance Society of LONDON. £500,000 Sterling. WOODSTOCK AGENCY. J. C. WINSLOW Agent. Medical Examiner

Ironstone China Dinner Sets, &c. F. CLEMENTSON has received by the Barque Canton—Ironstone China DINNER SETS decorated with Gold and Colors, Wedgwood Jasper PITCHERS, Parisian BUTTER DISHES, White Ironstone READ TRAYS, &c. &c. To which he solicits the attention of purchasers. June 28 29 Dock Street.

NO ONE. Also 2nd No. 1

Selling Off and Clearing Out!

As the above appears to be the order of the day the Subscriber begs to intimate to the purchasers of Dry Goods in Town and Country, that he is NOW and has been for EIGHT YEARS SELLING OFF large quantities of goods annually, but still he has a large assortment of NEW GOODS just received and ready for sale, and as he does not intend CLEARING OUT until they are disposed of, he begs most respectfully to request the attention of buyers to a personal inspection, as it is a well known fact that they can buy as low at his establishment, and be as well suited, as at those places where they are continually "SELLING OFF UNDER COST."

The Stock on hand is large and varied, and suited to the wants of all, viz: Bonnets, Parasols, Ribbons, and Hats; Muslins, Saragoss, Chalks, and other Dress materials; Blouses, Flowers, Lace and Sewed Muslins in great variety; a few dozen real French Kids, in Black and Colors; Grey and White Printed Cottons; Shirting and Sheetings; Linens, Lawns, Mullins; Fowling and Ties; Cambrilles and Silk Hair Nets; and Dresses, Tassels, Girdles, &c. with the usual assortment of FANCY DRY GOODS, Brushes, Combs, Fans, PERFUMERY, &c. &c. &c.

LADIES' & CHILDRENS Boots & Shoes, Men's & Boy's Hats & Caps, Braces, Neck Hdkcs., & Ties, COLLARS, SHIRTS & DRAWERS, &c. &c. &c.

Persons requiring MOURNING GOODS will always find a full assortment to select from, or they will be ordered from St. John at a small advance on cost.

COFFEE MOUNTING, in Black and White, all sizes, with some NEW PATENT Cases, covers, Au L'n. Hat Bands, and every article requisite for Fine Arts. A full stock constantly on hand and lower than can be purchased elsewhere in Town. The above goods, which only comprise part of a very large lot were bought as low as possible, and will be sold either Wholesale or Retail upon as reasonable terms as any in this Town. Call and judge for yourselves, and you will not feel disappointed. G. STRICKLAND. Woodstock, June 19, 1860.

OUR SHANTY!!

THE Subscriber has received from LONDON direct IN BULK. 3 Hds. Old Tom GIN; 3 do. Old Jamaica RUM; 4 do. Alloupe's Fine Strong Pale ALE; 3 do. GENEVA (Large Anchor Brand); 6 do. Barcola's London TOUT; 2 Qr. Cas & Fine Old PORT; 2 do. Golden SHERRY. IN BOTTLE. 12 Cases of 4 doz. London Brown STOUT; 6 " " " Guinness's Dublin TOUT; 12 " " " SODA WATER; 12 " " " LEMONADE; 12 " " " Burton ALE; 6 Cases of 3 " Golden SHERRY; 2 " " " Fine MADEIRA; 6 " " " FINE HAMPSHIRE; 6 " " " FINE OLD PORT; 12 " " " Boots' OLD TOM; 6 " " " FINE SHERRY; 6 " " " Fine old Hennessy's BRANDY. To L. valids! I have imported the PORT WINE expressly for INVALIDS, and it is represented, Money Returned! N. B.—The above importations are of the VERY BEST BRANDS, and warranted PURE and Free from Adulteration. For sale by the Subscriber at his "SHANTY," two hours from the Market House. THOMAS L. EVANS, Importer of Liquors, &c. Woodstock, June 21, 1860.

Flour, Meal, &c. Now landing ex "Syrus" from New York:—BIS Extra State and Superior 150 B FLOUR; 40 do Kid Dried CORN MEAL; 25 Half Chests Conga & Souong TEA; To arrive per Brig Marazet from New York—280 do Extra State FLOUR; 17 boxes TOBACCO, 10's; For sale at low rates. WM. MOORE, 17 North Wharf. June 26

Flour, Tobacco, Sateratus. Now landing ex "Emma" from New York, and ex "Banner" from Boston:—100 BLS Extra State FLOUR, 20 Boxes TOBACCO; 65 Caddies TEA; 20 Boxes Ground SP. GEE. —IN STORE—100 lbs. State FLOUR; 23 Half Chests Souong TEA; For sale low by WM. MOORE, 37 North Wharf. may '62

BARKER HOUSE, QUEEN STREET, Fredericton, N. B. H. FAIRWEATHER, Proprietor. Extensive Livery Stable in connection with above.