

these last two names will not be applied to this bird by an intelligent person.

Sharp-tailed grouse (*Tetrao pedivectes*), sometimes called prairie hen or chicken, and sharp-tailed partridge.

COLIN GENUS.

Colin, or Virginia colin (*Ortyx Virginianus*). Synonyms—Quail, partridge, Virginia quail, Virginia partridge, Maryland quail or partridge, and bob-white.

These synonyms are all inappropriate or belong to other birds, except the last, and should not be applied to this excellent and useful species of game. Bob-white is not inappropriate, and has been used considerably of late by certain enthusiastic name-makers, but we like the name Colin best. It is euphonious, easily spoken and written, and has the merit of age and the claim of priority. Webster defines colin: The American partridge—*Perdix Virginianus* or *Ortyx Virginianus*, and gives Baird as authority. Chambers' Encyclopedia says: Colin—see Virginia quail. On turning to that page we find: Virginia quail or Colin (*Ortyx*) a genus of birds of the family *Tetraonidae*, closely allied to the quails and partridges, but differing from both. * * * The best known species is the Virginia colin (*O. Virginianus*), &c.

Why this old and appropriate name has been dropped is an enigma, but the propriety of reviving its use is clear.

*NOTE.—There is another variety inhabiting the North, viz: the Barren-ground Caribou (*R. Grantlandicus*). It is smaller than the woodland, and may be the true rein-deer of the Lapps. Its range is generally on the plains north of the limit of pines, but an occasional specimen has been shot about one hundred miles north-east of Quebec. I am informed that two well-defined species are found in Newfoundland. The horns of the barren-ground are more typical and lighter than those of the woodland.—ED.

(Concluded.)

OUR FOREST TREES.

We have given, during the first three months of this journal's inception, a reasonable paper on the Game Nomenclature of Canada and the adjacent States. We now change the matter in order to give our readers information regarding our Forest Trees.

WHITE PINE; *Pinus strobus*.—The tallest and most stately tree of the New England forests. Full grown trees vary in height from 100 to 200 feet, and Dr. Dwight mentions one in Lancaster, N. H., which measured 264 feet. A mast was made from a white pine on the Penobscot River in Maine, which after being hewn was 90 feet long, and 3 feet in diameter. The qualities of the wood are lightness, softness, and durability; and for the extent and variety of its uses no other timber approached it. In the construction of a dwelling it may be used with advantage in every part except the floors. It is little known in the Southern and South-western States. The pine forests of Maine, New York and Pennsylvania, once the chief sources of supply of this invaluable timber, are rapidly disappearing, and we are now deriving large supplies from Michigan and Canada.

PITCH PINE; *Pinus rigida*.—A smaller and less attractive tree than the preceding, with rough bark and deep green foliage. It is commonly 40 or 50 feet high, and 1 or 2 feet in diameter at the base. A few trees are still standing in Massachusetts that are 100 feet in height and 3 to 4 feet thick. It is largely used for floors of houses for which purpose it is not inferior to the southern pine. Unlike the white pine, it is very durable in damp situations, and is therefore used for sills, railroad ties and mill timbers. Its resinous nature makes it valuable for fuel.

HEMLOCK SPRUCE; *Abies Canadensis*.—This is the most beautiful of all our evergreens, and in early summer perhaps no tree rivals its rich and varied verdure. It is a favorite tree in ornamental planting, and is well adapted for hedges. It grows to the height of 80 to 100 feet. The wood is used in the Eastern and Middle States for the frames of houses, for rough boards and plastering lath. The bark is much used for tanning leather, and is mixed with oak bark to produce the best results.

(To be continued.)