

Centrocercus urophasianus, or the "bull pheasant of the centre of the continent."

These same naturalists have taken sportsmen repeatedly to task for calling *Ortyx Virginianus* a partridge, when it approaches the European bird of that name nearer than to any other species, and then they turn about and bestow upon it an even greater misnomer, that of "quail," a bird far more distantly related; it is neither the one or the other, but simply a colin.

Then, too, the application of the name "pheasant" to our ruffed grouse is sneered at and described in every way, they telling us there is not a single pheasant form in all the great American continent; yet, with wonderful consistency, these would-be teachers have given us, under scientific appellations, three pheasants, to-wit: the wild turkey as belonging to the family *phasianida*, the "pheasant that builds in the plains" (sharp-tailed grouse), and "bull," or "chief pheasant of the centre of the continent," (sage grouse).

If one is wrong, all are wrong; a misnomer rendered in good or bad Latin and Greek is no better than when rendered in simple Anglo-Saxon. A grouse is simply a grouse and nothing more, and as such should be known; and so, too, a colin is but a colin. All grouse sprang originally from the one germ, and all possess in the same general way, the same general characteristics, habits, modes of life, etc., modified only by differences in surroundings, food, climate, etc. Even the ptarmigan, when removed for a time from the region of snow, fails to renew his white coat with the advent of autumn, and it is nothing strange that the habitation of any one region for any period of time, with difference in food, enemies and in surroundings should work changes appropriate to surroundings and enforce characters adapted to individual wants.

Gentlemen, we believe our game merits better treatment in the future than in the past; and classification and nomenclature in pure

and simple form will aid the people at large to the better study of species, their habits and their wants, and the better to understand the value of laws in their behalf. Let us turn the cold shoulder to weak minded youthful enthusiasm whose sole end is self gratification. Let us call our deer a deer, and our grouse a grouse, whether speaking of them scientifically or vulgarly. The tendency of true science to-day is towards conformity instead of, as in the past, multiplicity, and it is our province to aid and abet this end.

In accordance with these views, we submit the following nomenclature of a few species of our game—reserving the balance for future consideration—and ask its adoption and habitual use by sportsmen.

DEER GENUS.

Elk (*Cervus alces*), commonly called moose. This animal is identical with the elk of the old world, and should be so called, although his native American name, moose, is not a misnomer.

Wapiti (*Cervus Canadensis*), improperly called elk, and grey moose. This is an American form, probably having no representation in any other part of the world. The name elk should never be applied to him, as it belongs to another species.

Deer (*Cervus Virginianus*), also called Virginia deer, Red deer and American deer.

Caribou (*Cervus tarandus*), also called woodland carabou, woodland rein-deer and rein-deer.*

GROUSE GENUS.

Grouse, or pinnated grouse (*Tetrao cupido*), also called prairie chicken or prairie hen.

Ruffed grouse, (*Tetrao umbellus*), improperly called partridge and pheasant. As this fine bird is neither a partridge nor a pheasant, but a grouse, he should be respectfully addressed by his own name.

Spruce grouse (*Tetrao Canadensis*). Synonyms—Canada grouse, spotted grouse, black grouse, and Canada partridge and spruce partridge. As it is not a partridge, of course