

**QUAILOLOGY: THE
DOMESTICATION,
PROPAGATION,
CARE & TREATMENT OF
WILD QUAIL IN CONFINEMENT**

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Quailology: The Domestication, Propagation, Care & Treatment of Wild Quail in Confinement
by Harry Wallas Kerr

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HARRY WALLAS KERR

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(26)

"CALIFORNIA'S GAMIEST BIRD"
California Valley Partridge.

Photo by Walter R. Welch.

QUAILOLOGY.

**The Domestication, Propagation,
Care & Treatment of Wild
Quail in Confinement.**

TOGETHER WITH

**Natural History Notes, Letters from Breeders
& A Digest of Game Laws.**

WRITTEN & COMPILED BY

HARRY WALLAS KERR

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
NATIONAL QUAIL BREEDERS ASSOCIATION.

With Illustrations.

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The dew of dawn upon its crest,
It wakes with morning from its rest
Amid the waving, sparkling grass,
That drips with diamonds where I pass;
And with its downy throbbing breast
Upon the gentle breeze caressed,
It fades at distance from my sight,
But lingers yet its sweet, "BOB WHITE."

—Basil B. Bassett



INTRODUCTION.



In presenting this, the first edition of "QUAILOLOGY," I trust it may meet the long felt want for practical information regarding the quail family and how they may be taken from a wild state, domesticated, and successfully reared and cared for, in confinement.

While I love to see these graceful birds in the full and free enjoyment of their liberty, I cannot but feel that those who denounce their keeping in confinement, look only at one side of the question, and take no account of the miseries and struggles for existence they encounter against winter and rough weather, the vermin and the shot-gun swine. I, however, would cry out against those who try to keep them and take no interest or trouble in making them happy and free from misery. Much misery is caused every day and many birds are lost from the lack of "know how" care, and an improper conception of their natural peculiarities, food and habits. Some who cannot, would if they "only knew how," make their birds happy. It is the purpose of this volume to, as clearly as possible, give the needful instruction to these and any who may wish to take up the culture of these game birds from a fanciers' standpoint.

The culture of the quail is not entirely a new one, but it has not yet attained that public attention which is bound to arise when it becomes known what a pleasure and profit can be derived from it under proper management.

The few who are in the business, or culture, as we prefer to call it, it may suffice to say will not desert it, as it is much more pleasant and far less disagreeable than other ventures of a similar nature.

The quail is easily raised, costs very little to feed, is the healthiest, hardiest, cleanliest, and most prolific bird of the poultry yard, free from contagious diseases and brings a good price on any market.

Once started, the fascination, pleasure and profit in no way relaxes to induce the abandonment of the culture.

There is much in the future for the culture. Not only in its advancement, but the improvement of the Bob-White, not only in markings but in the production of larger and more prolific new species.

That crosses can be made and new varieties produced is yet a matter of doubt with many. It has not been sufficiently experimented upon but to receive limited attention in this volume. Our experience, obtained from rearing these beautiful birds in the past ten years is related here, as well as notes from various breeders throughout the United States, to whom we give due credit. Also to the various Ornithological Reports and Works, on their description, range, nesting and feeding habits and peculiarities in a wild state, and to Dr. Shufeldt and others for photographs and drawings of live birds.

It is not to be deemed a foolish fad, but a profitable, pleasant culture, the outcome of a desire to save from extermination and replace in a domesticated state, and improve, one of the noblest families of game birds.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. W. Kerr". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.