

attended to immediately or all attempts at a cure will prove useless.

Being covered with feathers there are few symptoms to observe. We see a fowl evidently ill—its feathers ruffled, dark and dull comb—refusing food, drowsy and drooping in manner, but this may be the result of many different causes and more special symptoms are hard to discover as we can hardly feel its pulse and the skin is difficult to examine.

There are very likely some of you present this evening who have noticed abortion amongst your fowls. The disease is generally caused by Ergot, a poisonous seed which has been cut with hay or other food. Fortunately this occurrence is very rare and when noticed a little carbolate of soda may be put with advantage in the drinking water.

Apoplexy or paralysis are more or less connected and is very frequent among fowls. This disorder is termed by some epilepsy, megrims, or giddiness.

Many promising chicks are lost by this complaint—without any kind of warning they fall, roll on their backs and struggle for a minute or two when they rise stupid and giddy and slowly return to their food. One fit is followed by another more violent than the first, until the little animal staggers about half unconscious and refusing to eat, and rapidly wasting, soon dies.

In some cases it occurs when the fowl is poor and half starved; but in this case the food has been improper; it has been watery or disposed to fermentation. Diarrhoea has followed and the fits are the consequence of intestinal irritation.

In an attack of this disease the only hope consists in an instant and copious bleeding, by piercing the large vein which will be seen upon lifting the wing. For this purpose a pen knife or the point of a lancet may be used. When consciousness returns the blood may be stopped by pressure on the incision or with burnt alum. If the bird recovers after the operation it should be kept quiet and on light food, placed in a rather dark coop and kept warm.

Paralysis is an inability to move some of the limbs. The legs are generally affected and are totally destitute of power of motion. It is caused by some affection of the spinal cord.

There is no disease from which poultry has suffered more than from roup, catarrh or swelled head.

The change of weather and variations in temperature are the chief causes of the disease.

When the malady becomes confirmed with running at the nostrils and other well known symptoms, they are termed

roupy. The disease affects fowls of all ages and is either acute or chronic.

The most prominent symptoms are difficult and noisy breathing, a cough, discharge from the nostrils of foetid matter like glanders in horses, and has a very peculiar and offensive odor.

There is a discharge in the corner of the eyes, the lids swell and sometimes the eye is entirely closed and stuck together. In this case the fowls being unable to see or feed, suffer from depression and sink very rapidly. The crop is hard to the touch, the feathers look ruffled and staring, and have not the glossy, healthy appearance. The fowl sits moping in corners and seems to be in great pain.

(To be Continued.)

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