

which serves very nicely for thick gravies, hashes, &c. The flavourings should be added when the soup is heated for table.

*Time, 7 hours. Seasonable all the year. Sufficient for 12 persons.*

## Poultry.

### ILLNESS IN FOWLS.

Most illnesses are caused by bad constitution, and this is the result of accidents, the causes of which are unknown; sometimes they come from feeble parents, from lack of care and insufficiency of food during growth, or continued ill treatment. But whatever may be the determining cause of illness in a fowl, it is not less true that if there is a desire to cure it, it will take as much science, as much care, and as much expense as a sick horse. As this is next to impossible, the shortest and simplest of all remedies is to cut the patient's throat; you will thereby get rid of an unproductive animal, capable of only propagating in the poultry-yard the disease with which it is infected. When robust birds become ill, it is always caused by dirty water or houses, or by infection bred in the small spaces wherein they are confined, or by the lack of substance they would find if they were at liberty.

It is, then, by the hygienic cares of every description that are pointed out in this work that we must prevent those attacks, which very often become contagious, causing serious damage on large farms, and irreparable loss to amateurs. Some useful indications may in certain cases help preserve a valuable animal.

The most frequent maladies are nasal catarrh (discharge from the nostrils), canker on the tongue and in the throat, and lastly ophthalmia. These affections are almost always indications of bad or vitiated constitution; they may also be caused by draughts, by infected houses or tainted pens, or by unwholesome food or water; and in delicate breeds, such as the Creve Cœur, Ham-burgh, and Dorking, by a simple change of locality or habits. In the first case it is almost curable, and in the other it is absolutely necessary to isolate the patients or to lot them in pens, twos or threes of small-floored compartments kept very clean and sanded. The nostrils, the eyes, and the interior of the beak should be washed every morning with slightly acidulated water. If canker produces a thick or hard sticky discharge, it should be removed with a sharp wooden spatula; the place should be washed, and, if possible, cauterised with nitrate of silver. Freshening food, such as millet, dough made of rye flour, grass, and very clean water, complete the treatment. As fast as the birds are cured they are let out to regain strength and grow in those places where there is the greatest amount of vegetation.

A barbarous custom, as ridiculous as it is inhumane, consists in tearing off the horny tip

of the tongue in order to cure the malady called the pip, and which is only canker or *aphte*. This substance is as natural to the tongue as the nail is to the finger. I have seen people take a sick hen, examine the beak, then, seeing it was sufficient from canker or *aphte*, take a pin and tear off the end of the unhappy patient's tongue. As a precautionary measure all the birds in the yard were examined. As they all had the horny tip, it was settled all were about to suffer from the canker, and then all hands set to work to mutilate the entire poultry yard. The wound it causes is long in healing, and sometimes incurable. One of the most dangerous maladies, because, in time, and almost imperceptibly, it will invade a whole yard, young and old, is a disease I will call the *white*: or sort of itch, evidently caused by invisible "vegetations," which appear first on the feet, on the combs, on the wattles, on the cheeks, and on the deaf-ears, in the form of small flour covered patches. These patches extend and thicken till they stop the ear, form crusts on the face, make holes in the legs, raise up the scales, and cause them to fall, and at last invade the whole animal. As soon as the appearance of white is ascertained, a remedy is at hand which is a certain specific. It is merely sulphur ointment, the recipe for which is powdered or flowers of sulphur and lard or hog's fat in equal quantities. These two substances thoroughly kneaded together for a long time will form a very thick ointment, which should be abundantly applied. If the white is of old date and very floury, a cutting instrument should be used, and the parts scraped with it to the quick, even in the most difficult places; the ointment should be abundantly applied, and renewed every third day, till a cure is effected.

The ointment should be applied wherever it is necessary, care being taken to raise the feathers in layers, all over. Gout makes a direct appeal to the fatal knife, the same may be said for consumption, chilblains, convulsions and fractures. To conclude with a general rule, every fowl sick of any malady should if a cure is desired, be put by itself, and fed as has been described. I have almost always found this successful without any other treatment.—*From M. Jacque's Work on Poultry.*

### FEEDING HENS IN WINTER.

The following is furnished the *American Agriculturist* by a correspondent:

"I have twenty-eight chickens, large and small, several of them fall chickens. I obtained but a few eggs in the fore part of the winter—not more than one or two a day. The feed was corn and oats. In January I tried the experiment of hot feed once a day, in the morning. As soon as the fire was started in the cook stove, I put a quart or so of small potatoes in an old dripping-pan, and set them in the oven. After breakfast I took a quart or more of wheat and buckwheat bran, mixed, put it in the swill-pail,