

and a little antiseptic placed on the wound, thereby preventing the possibility of infection. Clean pens with repeated renewals of fresh straw are required. If castration takes place when blow-flies are abundant, precautions should be taken to prevent their interference with the wound. This may be done with disinfectant or a little covering of tar. Many shepherds always smear the opening of the scrotum with an ointment of lard and turpentine mixed to the consistency of a soft paste. Any method which will prohibit the ravages of the fly and hasten healing is sufficient.



Cutting off the lower end of the scrotum with a knife.

One of the most common and undoubtedly the oldest form of castration is where one-third of the scrotum is cut off and the testicles drawn out by the teeth of the operator. In this way the operation is performed quickly. Some object to this method, because they deem it filthy, yet many of them undoubtedly relish "lamb's fry." There may be, on the other hand, some grounds for objection through the entrance from the mouth of bacteria into the wound. Removal of the testicles may be effected by drawing them with the finger and thumb, but there is more danger of bursting the testicle in this procedure than where the removal is made with the teeth. A small pair of pincers can also be used for this purpose. It is better to draw out the spermatic cord which is attached to the testicle rather than cut it with a knife.