

sulphate of iron (green vitriol) completes the treatment; about half of a small teaspoonful in a quart of water. Allow the affected birds to drink freely of this. The sick birds must, of course, be kept in a healthy and dry place, and should, if practicable, be kept apart from the other chicks.

**CHALKY DIARRHŒA.**—Is very common among chickens, especially where they are produced on a large scale, and where sanitary conditions are neglected.

*Symptoms.*—The chief characteristic of this disease is that the droppings have a chalk-like appearance, and by hardening they finally obstruct the passage and cause inflammation.

*Treatment.*—The remedy for this disease is rice water to which some sulphate of iron is added, about half a small teaspoonful to a quart of water. Feed also a mash such as is recommended for bilious diarrhœa, viz., hard-boiled eggs, cooked rice and vegetables.

Another remedy recommended is rice, 10 grammes; starch, 20 grammes; laudanum, 20 drops; water, 1 quart. The rice is boiled in water, the liquid is poured off on the starch already mixed with a little cold water, and the laudanum is added.

The obstruction of the anus in chickens may be released with a little brush soaked with lukewarm sweet oil.

**BUMBLE-FOOT.**—This is a swelling caused by a sprain often brought about when alighting from roosts that are too high above the floor.

*Treatment.*—The remedy consists in making with a scalpel, provided matter is formed, a cross-shaped opening under the foot or between the toes, pressing the pus out, washing the wound frequently with warm water so as to keep it thoroughly clean. The sick bird must also be kept on a soft bed in a restricted space without roost until the cure is complete.

**FRACTURE.**—Fractures are detected by the difficulty of movement of the injured limb and pain.

They heal naturally if the bones are properly kept in place.

*Treatment.*—The parts are kept in their place by means of one or two pieces of goose quill split lengthwise or a few splinters of thin cardboard applied on the broken bone and tied securely with thread. The limb will usually be healed in a fortnight. The injured bird should be kept apart in a quiet place.

**SCALY LEGS.**—This is an unsightly condition of the legs and toes of fowls. It is caused by damp and filthy quarters.

*Symptoms.*—The legs and feet are covered with grayish spots, which widen, forming rounded scales; these become raised and bleeding ensues; the birds walk and stand with difficulty.

*Treatment.*—Rubbing with pure coal oil every two or three days.

**WEAK BONES OF YOUNG CHICKENS.**—This affects particularly [chickens raised in captivity; those running at large rarely suffer from it.

Although receiving abundant and easily digested food, the bony frame of chicks raised in captivity does not always develop properly when the food is deficient in phosphates; they make too much flesh in proportion to the bone formed, and these, being too weak, bend under the weight of flesh which they bear.

The general weakness affects not only the feet and legs, it is often seen elsewhere, in humpbacks, curved breastbones, &c.

Such imperfections may be prevented by mixing with the mash for the chicks a small quantity of bones finely ground. Increase the quantity given gradually as the chickens grow.