

a moment stops the flow of blood, and the blood already exposed congeals or clots; in this concrete form it prevents a further flow of blood, or, at least, to any excess. Hence, on account of this coagulation, the fowl does not bleed well. I, therefore, condemn this method, because of its messiness, and because it curtails the bleeding.

2. A second method is to sever the artery behind the ear. This method is effective, but has the same objection as in the former case, to say nothing of the cruelty of bleeding a fowl to death. I condemn this method as ineffective in small fowls, if satisfactory results be required. But in the case of geese it is advisable to adopt this method, because dislocation of the neck, as will later be recommended, is almost an impossibility in the case of geese. This method can be made effective by tying the goose by the feet to a suspended cord at a convenient height, lock the wings by turning one behind the other, then grasping the head with the left hand expose the artery on the side of the neck and sever with a sharp knife just behind the ear. Still hold the bill in the left hand, preventing the turning of the neck so as to close the severed artery. Hold thus for a few moments until the struggles of the goose subside, then take down and pluck. This method is also advisable in the case of large gobblers, the operation being performed in the same way. Some knock the bird unconscious by striking it a sharp blow on the head. When birds are killed in this way their heads should be washed, then carefully wrapped in paper before marketing.

3. A third method is to sever the artery by slitting open the roof of the mouth. This is practically the same as method No. 2. It is advocated because of cleanliness, the blood being washed out of the mouth as soon as the fowl is dressed. There is no merit in this, however, as I do not think the fowl bleeds freely enough.

4. A fourth method is dislocation of the neck. Now, by dislocation I do not mean simply the breaking of the neck. A Chinaman, for instance, will catch a bird by the head, give it a couple of twists in the air and has succeeded in dislocating the neck; but such a method is nothing more than strangulation. The bird is not fit for food, not having bled.

To properly dislocate the neck of a fowl of any kind, catch either the legs or wings in the left hand, and, either sitting or standing, rest the bird on the right knee, catching the head of the bird between the first and second fingers of the right hand, palm of the hand toward the back, then holding the body firmly with the left hand, tip the head of the fowl slightly backward with the right and stretch the neck by a steady pull downwards. The neck will readily separate where the head joins the neck; but this is not all, the neck must be stretched until the artery or jugular vein severs. By this method the fowl is unconscious instantly; the neck is stretched two or three inches, into which cavity every drop of the blood of the fowl flows, and not being exposed it does not coagulate. And, further, the mess caused by other methods is avoided. This method I most heartily recommend as being the most practical.

How to Pluck a Fowl.

An old and very effective method of plucking is to dip the killed bird into scalding water, when the feathers readily rub off. But what is the