

drop can be evaporated from the egg until it is hatched.

To know when the right amount has been evaporated requires careful watching of the results of each hatch. I generally wait until the egg is about one-third occupied by the air space as seen by our egg tester. At the close of the hatch too much moisture cannot be used as it keeps the membrane beneath the shell tender so as to be broken easily by the chick. Never sprinkle the eggs with water, but let the water sit in flat pans and evaporate.

The Horse.

CHAPPED HEELS.

Cracked heels are brought about by chaps, and chaps by washing and sudden changes from cold to heat, and "vice versa," but in some horses there is a tendency to chapped heels, the skin being sensitive alike to summer dust and winter chills; such animals are a frequent source of trouble, and buyers should object to old scars, which are said to have been "caused by getting the leg over the halter"—an accident which may happen, but not more often than these lumpy knees which sellers declare to be the result of knocking the knees against the manger. Clipping the heels is often responsible for cracks, but there are hairy legged horses, whose heels will crack and bleed on a summer day, causing acute lameness after standing awhile, but passing off again with exercise. White heels are more liable to chaps than dark ones, but it should be remembered white legs are more frequently washed than dark ones, and often with soft soap which is not thoroughly rinsed out again and is a source of irritation in itself. It is better to insist on a soap nearly neutral as plain yellow being used, and carefully drying afterwards.

The skin of the heel is provided with glands which secrete an unctuous material sufficient in the ordinary way to keep supple and smooth a part which is perhaps

more than any other alternately stretched and relaxed: and it may be supposed that those horses hereditarily disposed to trouble of the kind we are considering have some defect in the quality or quantity of the lubricant which in the majority is so admirably adapted for the purpose.

Coarse skinned under bred animals with languid circulation, and gunny legs are prone to cracked heels, and this predisposition is not lessened by the perfunctory manner in which the heavy horse with hairy heels is commonly groomed: if washed at all, the dirt is washed "in," and the rapid evaporation which follows, leads to cracks, chaps, and grease. The hind heels are the more frequently affected, but in horses constitutionally disposed, all four heels may be affected at once. Inflammatory swelling or lameness may follow upon an attempt to heal them up at once without administering internally some of those remedies which old fashioned practitioners called derivatives. The early symptoms are only noticed by the careful man, who saves an infinite amount of vexation by the timely use of a little vaseline or lard, when a crack is altogether prevented: the majority of people who have to do with horses do not have the habit of observation sufficiently developed, but work the steed before discovering that he comes out stiff and sore. The crack generally bleeds at first, and by so doing relieves the tension and pain during exercise, only to take on more inflammation as the result of opening the wound to dust or wet and dirt. A poultice and a dose of salts in a mash at this stage may save much time and blemish, as the repeated breaking open necessitates more extensive granulations, and these, if not kept in check by judicious treatment, form hard and rough edges, which remain to permanently disfigure and reduce the value of the animal. Many and various are the poultices preferred by horse doctors; some attributing to turnips a special virtue, while others believe that no better poultice than bran can be used. Linseed crushed without removing the oil, has the adv-