

cock's cohabitation with the hen, each egg receives in its cicatrice, wherein the female liquor is contained, a small portion of the semen of the male. The egg attached to the ovary is in oviparous females, what the glandular substance is in the testicles of viviparous females. The cicatrice of the egg corresponds with the glandular bodies in which the seminal liquor of the female resides ; that of the male penetrates and mixes there with it ; from this mixture, the formation of the embryo instantly results. The first egg which the hen lays after coition is fecundated, and capable of producing a chicken ; those which she lays afterwards were fecundated at the same instant ; but as there is still wanting essential parts to this egg, the production of which is independent of the seed of the male, as the white, membranes, and shell, the young embryo contained in the cicatrice cannot unfold in this imperfect egg, although assisted by the internal heat of the mother. It remains, therefore, in the cicatrice in the state in which it was formed, until the egg has acquired all the parts necessary to the growth and nourishment of the chicken : and it is not till the egg has attained its perfection that the embryo begins to unfold :
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