

overcoat, and next the little flannel jackets and snug blankets, and what they found warmly ensconced inside.

Have the scholars bring home during the early days of April some branches of willow, put them in water, and they will be ready to illustrate what we yet have to say on buds.

[For the REVIEW.]

#### A Need of S. P. C. A. Work in Italy.

Two books there are that I should very much like to see translated and in the possession of everyone. These are "Chapters on Animals," by Philip Gilbert Wammerton, and "Black Beauty—the Autobiography of a Worker," by Anna Sewell. This last mentioned work has indeed been recommended by the Royal S. P. C. A.; and I notice from the volume lying before me that it has already reached its twenty-first edition—so popular has this little work become.

Its authoress, a hopeless invalid for years, never lived to see the good results of her work.

In England and America on every hand one sees the beneficial results that have accrued to all our domestic animals through the enforcement of laws made on their behalf. It was during a winter's residence in Italy that I noticed a contrast to this happy state of things. In this charming land of art and song I could not but notice how much the brute creation had to suffer; they seemed to have no redress whatever from man's cruelty. The one argument an Italian has to offer when remonstrated with is always, "We is no Christian."

Fancy, if you will, a glorious day in early spring on the shores of the Bay of Naples, in the vicinity of Sorrento, where the beauty of the scenery almost baffles description. In the midst of one's enjoyment the heart is saddened, perhaps, by the sight of a poor half-starved horse, drawing a "caleche," containing no less than fourteen people on their way to some religious "jesta"; who, in their mirth, seem all unconscious of the sufferings of the poor sore-covered animal, goaded on, probably, by some half-drunken driver; and this cruel treatment to both horses and dogs might be witnessed daily.

Speaking of the French peasantry Wammerton says: "I have seen a great deal of the life of the French peasantry, but never to this day have I seen a peasant caress his dog otherwise than with a stick or a wooden shoe. There are countries"—he goes on to say—"where the dogs are never fed, where they are left to pick up the vilest refuse, and where they walk like gaunt images of famine, living skeletons, gnawing dry sticks in the wintry moonlight, doing

nature's scavenger work like rats. Yet in every one of these miserable creatures beats the noble canine heart: that heart whose depths of devotion have never yet been sounded to the bottom; that heart which forgets all our cruelty, but not the smallest evidence of our kindness."

But, after all, one cannot wonder very much at the treatment which the lower animals receive in Italy, when even the women are obliged to work like beasts of burden. It is a common sight to see the women toiling up the mountain sides underneath heavy bundles of poles, and huge baskets of manure, which would almost prove too much for an ordinary Canadian laborer. Of course there are liberal-minded Italians who deeply deplore this state of things, and yet at present see no direct road out of it.

One can only hope and trust that the closing years of the nineteenth century may see not only an Italian S. P. C. A. started, but also a Ladies' Auxiliary.

A. W.

[For the REVIEW.]

#### SCHOOL SAVINGS BANKS.

The Dartmouth School Savings Banks were established in December, 1887, under authority of the Town Council. The first bank was opened on December 5th, 1887.

The following is the treasurer's statement:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Total amount deposited from Dec. 5th, 1887, to     |            |
| Dec. 3rd, 1888, .. .. .                            | \$1,407 36 |
| Interest on general account to June 30th, 1888, .. | 2 94       |
|  | <hr/>      |
|  | \$1,410 30 |
|  | <hr/>      |
| Amount transferred to individual accounts of       |            |
| pupils in Post-Office Savings Banks, .. .. .       | \$1,003 00 |
| Amount withdrawn by depositors, from School        |            |
| Banks, .. .. .                                     | 90 68      |
| In Bank on deposit, .. .. .                        | 316 62     |
|  | <hr/>      |
|  | \$1,410 30 |
|  | <hr/>      |

The depositors number about 200, and the transactions several thousand.

All this work has been voluntarily done by the teachers outside of school hours. In fact it would have been impossible to have made them the success they are if the teachers had not displayed the best spirit and given them every attention. Everything is due to their energy and careful attention. The work being entirely new required considerable time at their hands, which was cheerfully given.

The great number of depositors shows that the amount deposited to credit of individuals, is, on the