

all the dogmatism of mature ignorance, declare that "vivisection only panders to curiosity, without doing anything for science"; "that it is a detestable practice not attended with scientific results." I would ask the reader to picture to himself a platform on which Virchow, Pasteur, Humphrey, Foster, Simon, Huxley, and Fraser unite in the statement that the remarkable advance in medical science and art during the past twenty years is due to experiments upon the lower animals, and immediately afterwards a sincere rural dean and a conscientious auctioneer uniting in stating "that experiments on animals led to no useful results."

In the United States resolutions affirming the value of experiments upon animals, and deprecating legislative interference, were adopted by seven medical schools, by the New York Medical Society, and by sixteen organizations in various localities. Three of the leading American universities have been quoted in support of the practice, and to the number is to be added Harvard Medical School, a believer in the experimental method.

But, after all, there are a number of experiments, a small number, which necessarily involve pain to animals, and in their defence it is only necessary to fall back upon the original position that the pain is justifiable for the sake of the good that is accomplished. These are the ones necessary to demonstrate the effects of drugs, of poisons like that of cholera, and such as were performed by Chossat, in which the animal must be deprived of food, but the experiments which cause pain become fewer and fewer as physiology advances, until all that remains to be studied is pain itself, and the physiologist can study that best upon his own body.

Some hasty opponent has recommended vivisection to practice among themselves. And so they have. The names of Toynbee, found dead in his laboratory; Christison, Hunter, Heinrich, Dvorak, and Schiff need but be mentioned in this connection.

It is not a pleasant occupation spending one's days and nights in nauseous dissecting rooms, surrounded by dead and dying animals. Physiologists have found themselves ostracised and vilified, and their practice ruined; but the misrepresentation which they have suffered has not stayed their hand from working for science and humanity. They subjugate emotion and feeling to judgment.

The provision that vivisection should not be practiced unless there is a probability of beneficent results must not be pushed too closely, for science must be untrammelled. The science of to-day brings us nearer to the science of the future, and one truth may in an unseen way be the germ of others. Science has only to do with the seeking of truth: utility will follow in its train.