

few quack schools of medicine in this country which undertake to educate physicians, but their degrees should not be recognized, for they leave their graduates ignorant on one, perhaps on several, most important subjects. It is true enough that the human body in its wretched nakedness is subjected on the dissection-table to most undignified treatment, which is liable to make the student vulgar and rude : but for that reason we cannot abandon dissection. The right thing to do is to teach the student the moral aspect of dissection and put him on his guard against the demoralizing influence of the dissection table. Do not cut him off from one of the best sources of information, but strengthen his moral nerve that he can bear the view of the Medusa without having his heart petrified by the sight of her terribly ugly features.

The anti-vivisection movement might be excusable if there were any valid arguments to prove that vivisection is useless. But the very opposite is the case. Innumerable discoveries of the most beneficent kind have been made through experiments on animals.

An anti-vivisectionist writes that he would rather die than purchase the prolongation of his life with the sacrifice of an innocent animal. That sentiment seems noble and generous. But should we not be ready to kill a million rabbits if we can thereby save the life of one child attacked with diphtheria? Now the question is not one child against a million rabbits : but many millions of children of all the generations to come against a few hundred rabbits ; and consider that not man alone, but the whole animal creation, too, is the gainer by every progress of science.

The truth is that all the great scientists who are famous as clever vivisectors are as considerate as possible and avoid all unnecessary suffering. It is of course not exactly impossible that there are among the minor lights of science men ruthless enough to delight in the cruelty of their work, but it is very improbable. I believe that it is painful to vivisectors to be reminded of the fact that their subject is a living being : but whenever they think of it, they cannot help being touched by a sentiment of compassion.

Every compassion is a pain. While the anti-vivisectionist weakly indulges in his sentiment and thoughtlessly yields to the impulse of removing it, the investigator knows that the victim is sacrificed for a great purpose, and he can say to the rabbit on the table before him : "Blessed art thou, poor creature ; thou art distinguished among thy comrades and glorious is the destiny for which thou hast been chosen. While most other animals die of direful diseases, frequently under terrible pains, thou shalt give thy life for science ; for the sake