

Christian man. It is over twenty years since Henry Bergh secured the incorporation of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the beginning of a work which has since broadened into many forms of humane effort. At the last annual meeting of the Humane Association, an outgrowth of Mr. Bergh's work and the center of many local organizations for the suppression of cruelty, its reports showed that over 130,000 cases of cruelty to animals and 110,000 cruelly treated children had been relieved by its associated various organizations. Much has been done by these societies to prevent cruel methods of transporting animals, the slaughter of birds, the overloading of street cars, pigeon shooting, the harassing of dogs, etc., and they are now looking toward legislation to reach the cattle kings of the Western ranches, who allow hundreds of thousands of cattle to die every year from exposure and cold. The members of the Humane Society deserve a hearty "god-speed" in these well-directed efforts.

The Need of Compulsory Education.
Wisdom hath builded her house.—
 Prov. ix. 1.

THAT the integrity of a republic is dependent upon the intelligence and virtue of its citizens has become axiomatic. What then shall be thought of the statement in the last report of the New York Superintendent of Public Instruction that the "large uneducated class of the State is growing larger," and that "the attendance upon our schools does not keep pace with the advance in population?" If this be true in the Empire State, with her Compulsory Education act of some fourteen years' standing, and spending yearly some

\$2.49 per capita for educational purposes, what shall be said of the half dozen States of the Union spending less than one dollar per capita for educational purposes, and of the large number with no Compulsory Education act upon their statute books? Of the New York act the Superintendent says: "It is a compulsory law which does not compel," and he shows why in the following words:

"In the first place it requires members of Boards of Education to look after and apprehend delinquent children, and it is unreasonable to expect that officials elected only to manage the schools, and who serve without pay, will devote the necessary time, or that they will engage in work which should devolve upon a policeman or constable, or some other officer specially charged with and paid for such service. Again, the penalties provided for in the act run mainly against children, and no people will be swift to enforce penalties against children for delinquency, not amounting to crime, for which they are not so properly answerable as are their parents or guardians. The penalties in the act which go against parents are mere fines, so inconsiderable as to be ridiculous, and the machinery provided for collecting them is too cumbersome and expensive to be commonly made use of. Moreover, the act requires that children under fourteen years of age shall be going for at least fourteen weeks in the year. Attendance for so small a part of the year is hardly of enough importance to justify any serious effort to insure it. Again, the law does not require communities to act in the matter, nor does it provide any adequate school facilities for the accommodation of delinquents if brought in."

Is it not high time the Compulsory Education act was amended and made effective? And who shall say, when he considers that in 1886 the nation spent \$13.00 per capita for intoxicating liquors and only \$1.97 for education, that it is not high time the Republic had a *double* compulsory act that shall, while it encourages the common schools, stamp out the schools of vice and crime—the open saloons?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Prof. William C. Wilkinson.

OUR highly esteemed contributor, Prof. W. C. Wilkinson, D.D., sailed February 23 for a long-contemplated

visit to Palestine. The time of his absence is not definitely determined, but it will be from three to six months.

His work, however, on *THE HOMI-*