

ducted scientific experiments or investigations performed only under the authority of some regularly incorporated medical college or university of the State of New York." This law was so vague its provisions did not interfere with vivisection any more than the Blue Laws prevent reasonable recreation on Sunday.

At the session of 1881, Mr. Henry Bergh introduced into the New York Legislature a bill providing, "That every person who shall perform, or cause to be performed, or assist in performing, upon any living animal an act of vivisection, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor," and "the term vivisection used in this Act shall include every investigation, experiment, or demonstration producing pain or disease in any living animal, including the cutting, wounding, or poisoning thereof." The attempt was renewed in 1882, and again in 1883, but since that time nothing has been heard of the bill, and vivisection in America is practically untrammelled, a fact the English Government has not been slow to take advantage of to evade the provisions of its own laws. From this it appears that vivisection can be practiced in a civilized country extensively and carefully, without cruelty or unreasonable pain, and without legislative interference. Indeed, the physiologists and legislators of the United States have proved the case for unrestricted vivisection. As the celebrated Owen said, "The Legislature of the United States of America, assailed by well-meaning ignorance, has refused to pass a law which would cast an unproven and unmerited stigma on scientific men."

If anti-vivisectionists claim that legislation has not diminished the practice as a whole, then their labor has been in vain; if they claim that it has, then they have committed a wrong against humanity in the light of the benefits vivisection has bestowed. But it is impossible to apply these principles by any other than moral force, and the great work the opponents of vivisection have wrought is, that they have stimulated and rendered sensitive the moral sense of operators, which deters them from unnecessary cruelty. In England and America, where the moral nature of the operator and community is well grounded, the suffering has been shown to be inappreciable, the number of operators small, and the operations few, but even on the continent there is nothing to show that cruelty is practiced at the present day. In a common German manual of physiology this rule is laid down: "An experiment involving vivisection should never be performed, especially for purposes of demonstration, without previous consideration whether its object may not otherwise be attained. Insensibility by chloroform or other drugs should be produced whenever the nature of the experiment does not render this absolutely impossible." Indeed, Profes-