

man can alone undertake the task of determining the nature and importance of appearances in the dead bodies of diseased animals. I need insist but little on this point; but as proof, I may mention having observed extravasations of blood and acute phlegmons occurring in the malignant "black quarter" of cattle, looked upon as simple bruises, and the carcasses passed as wholesome, the animals being young and fat; and the tubercles characteristic of phthisis passed over as unimportant, because of common occurrence, and, provided the meat was marketable—viz., fat enough—the diseased parts were cut away, and the carcasses sold."

This subject, gentlemen, is one which has interested me since the days I was a student in the London Veterinary College, when I wandered around the London dairies, and saw the disgusting practices incidental to the sale and consumption of diseased cows:—how the most filthy products of disease were hashed up with other meat, equally unsightly and unpalatable, to make sausages; how a lot of the carcasses of cows were polished, and dressed up with the fat of two or three fat young bullocks killed with them; and how the flesh of diseased animals not only found its way to the poor man's home, but to the table of the middle and upper classes from the quarters sold to the butchers who could not kill enough weekly for their own consumption. Edinburgh people may be gratified by the knowledge that most of the bad carcasses are trucked to London; but every person with the slightest regard for decency and humanity must revolt at the unmitigated evil which I have striven to expose.

There are difficulties in the way. They are so numerous that the champions to face them will not easily be found. The gratitude of the people would reward any public man who would seriously consider the question. No city offers better opportunities for a rigid system of inspection than Edinburgh, and only one objection exists, viz., its expense. This would be comparatively trifling; and I wish to ask, where is the person who would resist the infinitesimal tax upon the price of each stone of meat sold in Edinburgh, to ensure, so far as science can ensure, that the meat dressed daily for dinner is the *bona fide* nutritious food to be derived from healthy stock? The influence on Veterinary science, by the opportunities which the office of inspector would give to the Veterinarian, would soon be very obvious; and the persons required for such offices needing a better acquaintance with pathological anatomy and disease in general, than is usually possessed by students in leaving College, would compel many to work longer and harder in their profession than it has been usual to do.

I hail with pleasure any movement which turns public attention to our profession, and none would prove its public importance more than the

judicious employment of veterinarians, as above stated. That the services of the veterinary surgeon are appreciated, is amply testified by the vigorous steps taken at present in Ireland to establish a Veterinary College. On that subject I have expressed a decided and favorable opinion, though I have already observed remarks in public journals condemning the project. The reason assigned is, that Irish students would benefit by contact with Englishmen and Scotchmen in the Veterinary Colleges of Edinburgh and London. I have distinctly declared that great difficulty must be experienced in procuring teachers, from the imperfect system of veterinary education followed out for the past; but a college in Dublin would undoubtedly give an impulse to the study of the science of Comparative Pathology—would attract more to the profession to practice as veterinarians in Ireland, and would greatly strengthen the veterinary profession.

On various occasions my advice as to the establishment of an Irish College has been sought; and during the past week Professor Cameron of Dublin has favored us by a visit, to ascertain the best means of accomplishing this object. I believe that, in accordance with suggestions of my own, the young men devoting themselves with great assiduity to their studies during the forthcoming year, may look forward to compete for positions which will be awarded according to merit after a most rigid test.

The New Veterinary College is young in years, but, thanks to many favorable circumstances, it is sound in foundation, and is already fairly launched in an independent path of progress, in which it can with pleasure contemplate the co-operation of another institution, started with young and vigorous blood, to bear up in the hard race for simple sustenance in which it will have to run.

In my introductory lecture, in 1858, I mentioned how scantily Scotland, but more particularly Ireland, was supplied with veterinary surgeons. What a contrast when compared to the German States, in which our profession stands higher, as being more learned, than in any other part of Europe! There are colleges in Berlin, Dresden, Vienna, Wurtemberg, Munich, Carlsruhe, besides other professors of veterinary science in the different universities. It prospers; and we find one veterinary surgeon for every forty or fifty square miles of surface. In Ireland should, therefore, have a veterinary college, but I wish the promoters of such an institute in Dublin to know that it is not a simple matter; and, unless the right men are secured at first, no amount of money can accomplish the worthy object they have in view.

I am particularly desirous to acquaint all be- of the projected school, for this one reason: amongst others, that intelligent young men, devoting themselves to the veterinary profession, with a serious determination to become the