

perform a moral deed if his disposition at a certain moment happens to be excited in the right way.

The anti-vivisection movement we cannot help regarding as such thoughtless yielding to sentiment. The sentiment is noble and evinces a gentle disposition of the heart, but whether it is moral, whether it is right, whether it leads mankind upward is another question : and it appears to us that it cannot stand a careful weighing of all the pros and cons. Before the tribunal of ethics it stands condemned as much as all those other sentimental aspirations, indiscriminate alms-giving, the burning of the bodies of heretics for the sake of saving their souls, and showing mercy to the tiger because he ought to have a chance of reforming and might learn to eat cabbage and grass like a lamb.

This life is a struggle and only the courageous will conquer. Courageous is he who does not fear to leave his body on the battlefield in order that his aspirations, his cause, his soul may be victorious. But shall we be courageous only so far as our own individuality is concerned ; must not the leader in battle have courage for the whole army. Indeed he must. Victory is gained only by sacrifices, by the wounds of the gallant, by the death of the brave.

Count Moltke had his own sons in the ranks of the German army, and he was a man of the gentlest disposition, kind, compassionate, and taking pity even upon the sufferings of a dog. Yet for a great purpose he was determined to make any sacrifice that was necessary to achieve it, and he said that "a whole regiment of soldiers had fulfilled its purpose if at a critical moment they were all slaughtered for the sake of delaying the enemy ten minutes."

As to vivisection, we all know that it is not a pleasant duty of the physiologist, but it is an indispensable task that must be done for the sake of investigation. It falls within the same category with all sacrifices. Should science neglect to search for light in this most important domain, the domain of life, its representatives would be guilty of a gross neglect of duty. They would be like generals who would retreat before the enemy, because the enemy's bullets endanger the lives of their soldiers. They would be like an officer in the fire department who, inspired by the idea of not causing pain to anybody, would recall his men from the burning building when they ought to rescue its inmates, because the firemen might blister their hands.

Vivisection may truly have, and frequently will have, the tendency of blunting the sentiments of the vivisector ; but so does dissection. Shall we surrender dissection as an obligatory part of medical instruction lest the moral sense of the student be shocked ? There are a