

insignificant." He then specifies that in the case of three frogs, six mice, thirty minnows, and sticklebacks, some suffering might have been caused—a grand subject truly for a nation of whose new-born six per cent. die yearly from neglect. This legislation, so sweeping in its provisions and so drastic in its results, one would think, left to the votaries of the suppression of vivisection very little to desire. One of the foremost of them, Mr. Colam, acknowledged that after employing the "surveillance of detectives" he could "not accuse the physiologists of cruelty." Yet in 1883 every endeavour was used to have vivisection totally prohibited. But, after all, Frances Power Cobbe, the chief scribe of the anti-vivisectionists, was led to exclaim, that "anti-vivisectionists recognized that their work must take the shape of an ethical and religious agitation."

The law hampered and harassed the vivisectionists for a time, till they were able to take up their work in other countries, but the total amount of pain inflicted was not diminished by one iota. Fortunately for humanity, there were centres where researches could be carried out, but the results have not gone to further the credit of English physiological work, being arrived at under the ægis of foreign schools. The public is exacting of the ability of a physician, but by a senseless agitation it forbade the means of acquiring knowledge. Yet it has not been slow to avail itself of the advantages derived from physiological research, and would stand aghast if medical men were to cast aside what has been gained by the method of vivisection and return to the days when quacks flourished and vended their vaunted nostrums, their charms and cure-alls.

In the United States there is really no restriction placed upon vivisection, and the discussion of the question has been meagre. Professor Dalton makes the general statement: "The exhibition of pain in an experimental laboratory is an exceptional occurrence. As a rule, all the cutting operations are performed under the influence of ether." This is because the infliction of pain is generally no part of the experimenter's object, and on every account it is preferable to avoid it. In his own demonstrations he says: "I do not make experiments upon animals involving more pain than is caused, for example, by pithing to kill, or injecting an anæsthetic subcutaneously."

In 1867 an Act was passed by the State of New York "for the more effectual prevention of cruelty to animals." It declared it a misdemeanor to "unnecessarily or needlessly mutilate or kill any living creature," but nothing in the Act was to be construed "to prohibit or interfere with any properly con-