

HUMANE WORK.

No body of men are engaged in a nobler mission than the workers of the Humane Societies. The proceedings and deliberations of the delegates now sitting in convention at the Normal School building deserve our very earnest attention, as their work should command our heartiest co-operation. Mr. W. R. Brock and his associates in the local movement are inspired by high motives, and are entitled to our generous sympathies. They are not cheap philanthropists, merely hunting for popularity by easy methods. They are not making a pretence of concern for the public welfare in order to making a living for themselves. It is a movement that has nothing in it for any one except the children who are helped to clean lives and pure surroundings, and the dumb animals that are protected from brutality and cruelty. We have hardly yet risen to a true appreciation of the value and dignity of this movement. It may be that sometimes movements of this nature develop into petty officiousness and meddlesomeness, and that by false methods a public sentiment hostile to noble endeavor is aroused. But no such charge can lie against the directors of the local movement, for their wisdom and prudence is as commendable as their zeal and energy.

A LESSON.

That was an impressive declaration of one of the delegates, that not only could you be cruel to a child's body but you could be cruel to a child's mind and cruel to a child's future. They tell solemn truth when they declare that no child whose only crime is poverty should be sent to a criminal institution. And they ought to be heard. Take the case cited by Mr. Kelso: A boy thirteen years of age was arrested for vagrancy. He was put into the prison van with fourteen adult prisoners and sent to gaol. There for two days he was confined in a cell with twenty others, probably most of them of the lowest and most degraded type of humanity. What an awful experience that must have been to a child who seems never to have known the touch and contact of positive