

sent was the first meeting of the Society which he had been able to attend, although he had been invited to several of them. No one could doubt the excellence of the purpose which led to the formation of the Society. Indeed, the principles upon which it was based were so universally conceded, that the Society lacked public attention being called to it on account of its not meeting with any opposition, which often tended to make the members of any association work more ardently than they otherwise would do. He had been very much impressed in observing the habits of young people. He did not know whether this country was anything especial in this respect, but certainly there was a great deal of cruelty to animals practised by the young people of this country. The principle began in very early life, and he could not fail to be very much struck with the tendency to wanton destructiveness displayed, not only with regard to animal life, but to everything else. He might instance the shade trees, which had many misfortunes to bear up against, after the citizens had gone to great trouble and expense in planting them. These young people delighted to disfigure public buildings, as, for example, the railings of one of the most beautiful structures in Toronto—Osgoode Hall. Although this building was a source of pride to the city and an object of admiration to strangers, yet, for some reason or other, every corner stone of the handsome railings had pieces chipped out of it. This could not be done to gratify personal spite, but was simply owing to a wanton passion for destroying something. The latter examples could not be called cases of cruelty to animals, but they arose from the same tendency and habits of mind. He could not analyze it, but the fact was certain that there was a strong disposition in young people to destroy or injure something. It appeared to him that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals should direct its efforts to educating to some extent the young people of the city into a thoughtful, reasonable, gentle, and Christian-like habit with respect to this matter. If the attention of parents, and both day and Sunday-school teachers were also directed to it, they might exercise a most important influence in winning over the young to the objects of the Society, and in helping to carry them out. If, on the other hand, habits of wanton destruction and cruelty were cherished in early life,