

## INTRODUCTION.

MY DEAR CHILDREN, In starting this magazine the point I most particularly wish to impress upon you is, that we, that is, you and I, are starting out to light a good light for all dumb animals. Without your help my little magazine will surely be of no use, except to give you five minutes amusement admiring the pictures. I only want subscribers who love animals and heartily wish for their welfare. Not one in a hundred of you children are really cruel at heart. None of you would willingly give any animal any pain, but how often do many of you cause acute pain and suffering by ignorance or thoughtlessness? If you were to swing a stick round and accidentally hit your small brother or sister on the face with it and raise a red mark, that small child would cry out, "Oh, you have hurt me," and you would turn quickly full of sympathy and regret, for the pain you had caused. You would caress and pet the little sufferer until the pain was gone. But supposing you did the same thing to a dog or cat, that animal in all probability would not cry out, but would run away to nurse its wound in some secluded corner unseen and forgotten. And you could not call yourselves cruel, it was accidental, and when you saw the animal run away you would imagine that it was not hurt. Let me, here in my first letter, impress upon you that animals are all very patient and quiet over their sufferings, also, that most domestic animals, such as the dog, the horse and the cat, are extremely sensitive to ridicule, although they seldom give much outward show of their sufferings, unless they know their owners very well and have full confidence in them.

I have been fortunate in securing the following ladies to become Patronesses:—

HER EXCELLENCY THE COUNTESS OF MINTO.

LADY C. H. TUPPER.

MRS. DEWDNEY, wife of ex-Governor Dewdney.

MISS FRANCES POWER COBBE.

MRS. W. J. ROPER, of British Columbia, and other well known ladies.

With such examples and helpers as they are, we ought in a short time to be a very powerful agent in preventing cruelty to animals.