

cause the owners provide neither food nor shelter.

An Indian goes fishing, and will take his fowls and all he possesses and leave his dog behind to starve and steal.

In the Klondike rush horses were worked with wooden saddles cutting into their backs, already bleeding and sore, and when they had become so weak that they could not earn any more money for their masters, and did not pay for feed, and apparently were not worth a charge of shot to put them out of their misery, were left to die of starvation and cold.

That there is much work to be done is evident when the secretary is obliged to say that "Letters are continually being received from all parts of the province pointing out the necessity of immediate action being taken to prevent and punish the heartless cruelty taking place, especially to horses and cattle.

Yet although the work seems to proceed so slowly a change for the better is evident wherever the influence of this society reaches.

Mr. Dallain, another speaker, says: "To-day I feel proud and happy. I am happy because I know that the condition of the dumb animals whom we all love, is so much better than it was a short time ago. Although the reports show an increased number of cases dealt with I wish to impress upon you the fact that there is far less cruelty and neglect than in former years, but more cases are discovered, owing to the vigilance of our officers and our extended influence, by increased membership and other sympathies and further by the extension of our work."

In concluding this notice we hope that all our readers and the public generally, will accord their continual support to a society which is carrying on so necessary and humane a work.

Customer: "That was a splendid insect powder you sold me the other day."

Mr. Oilman (with justifiable pride): "Yes; I think it is pretty good—the best in the trade."

Customer: "I'll take another couple of pounds of it, please."

Mr. Oilman: "Two pounds!"

Customer: "Yes, please. I gave the quarter of a pound that I bought before to a black-beetle, and it made him so ill that I think if I keep up the treatment for about a week I may manage to kill him."

He: Let me kneel in the dust at your feet, Maggie, and tell you how much I adore you! She: I beg your pardon, but there is no dust on our carpets.—Sydney Town and County Journal.

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SIR JOHN AIRD AND GREAT NILE RESERVOIR.

Sir John Aird, the contractor for the great barrage works on the Nile, has returned to England after seeing the most difficult part of the work successfully completed.

In the lobby of the House of Commons recently he gave an "Express" representative some information about this wonderful undertaking.

The conversation was repeatedly interrupted by members anxious to welcome Sir John on his return, and to congratulate him on his success.

"Three weeks ago," said Sir John. "I wired home that you could walk across the Nile. You can now cross it in a railway train. We have got the locomotive running.

"I am highly gratified with the progress made, and that gratification is shared by the Khedive, by Lord Cromer, by Kakri Pasha, the Secretary for Public Works, and by Sir William Garstin, his Under-Secretary.

"We contracted to do the work in five years. Three have elapsed, and I think we shall finish in two years more. That will be a record, for we have had to go a good deal deeper for our foundations than was anticipated. We had to go down some 60 feet or 70 feet before we reached good solid rock. We expect the works to be in full swing for the Nile flood of 1903.

"The importance of the work cannot be over-estimated. Egypt lives on the Nile—always has done, always will. From time immemorial the country has been at the mercy of the floods and the low waters. That will be counteracted by the present scheme, which stems the water back for 180 miles, and holds it in reserve, to be let out through the sluices as it is needed.

"The land is fertile—fertile as no other land is—for a distance of three-quarters of a mile from the banks. This barrage scheme should extend the area of fertility to a mile and a quarter. More land in cultivation means more produce, more labour, more taxes.

"Egypt will gain all round. And such a country it is! Three and four crops a year, and the produce of the most beautiful green that can be imagined.

"Instead of destructive floods and droughts, and irregular navigation, there will be a constant and steadily regulated supply of water, and most of the difficulties of navigation will disappear.

"About 15,000 men are at work, and within the next three months there will be 3,000 or 4,000 more. Ninety per cent. of the men are natives. We have