

of those whom they would serve, believing, by the added experience of two centuries, with Harvey of immortal name, who, in speaking of this same subject, declared that skill and knowledge could be arrived at "*non ex libris sed ex dissectionibus.*"

During the past seventeen years very little has been heard of the controversy in the United States, and interest in it has largely passed away. No new legislation has been created upon the subject in any country. In all countries, save England, the practice of vivisection is without legal restriction. In Germany, on March 27, 1906, two petitions were presented to the Reichstag, praying that the matter be dealt with; but Professor Von Bergmann having explained that vivisection was based on a purely humanitarian purpose, "the House passed on the Order of the day."

All sensible persons are now agreed that medicine as we have it to-day, and as we will have it in the future, is based upon experiments on animals, and that the practice is in no way bound up with cruelty. Those few persons who allege to the contrary have deceived themselves and are striving to mislead others. Their mistatements lie on every page of their writings. They have been convicted before the Courts and they have publicly withdrawn their allegations.

These opponents are few in number and most of them are well-meaning, but they proceed upon the assumption that experimenters are cruel. Indeed, the late Miss Cobbe brought forward the awful charge that they were instigated by lust; and Professor Haliburton, speaking in London on May 16, 1907, was interrupted by the cry, "Lord Lister is a brute."

I admit that they are sincere in their desire to lessen cruelty. The medical profession is equally sincere. Nearly forty years ago a committee of the British Medical Association reported that, in their opinion, anaesthetics should be used wherever possible; that no painful experiments should be performed for illustrating laws of facts already demonstrated; that all painful experiments should be performed by skilled persons with sufficient instruments and assistants, and in laboratories under proper regulations; and that, in veterinary work, operations should not be performed for the purpose of acquiring manual dexterity.

In closing his evidence before the Royal Commission now sitting in London, the representative of the Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians said, on the part of the whole medical profession, that "we have no less regard and sympathy for suffering animals than others, nor any less urgent desire to spare them so far as is compatible with the larger claims of humanity." Mr. W. P. Byrne, of the Home Office, which has to do with the enforcement