

glanced over and then laid aside, nor one which can be disposed of in a few hours' reading. There is no better way of studying history than by giving earnest attention to the biographies of any particular period; and this life of Hugh Miller care-

fully studied, will be valuable to the student as presenting a trustworthy picture of the religious history of Scotland, and the development of science during his time, besides presenting to the young a beautiful character well worthy of imitation.

## Notices.

### HENRY BERGH.

We copy the following sketch of Mr. Henry Bergh, President of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, of New York City, whose portrait forms the frontispiece of this number of our magazine:—

A few months ago, as the writer was passing up Broadway, opposite Union Square, he saw a tall, fine-looking man, dressed in dark-blue military costume, pass quickly into the street and seize an omnibus-horse by the head, at the same time commanding the driver to descend from his box. The man grumblingly obeyed. Bidding him unharness the horses, the gentleman told the passengers that the coach would go no farther, and directed them to alight and take another. They too obeyed. A crowd had by this time gathered. The writer stepped to the gentleman who acted with so much authority, and asked his reason for this strange proceeding. "Look," he said, with indignation, "at that horse's foot." The cause was apparent enough. The hoof was swollen, had burst open, and was an offensive running sore. "May I ask, sir, who you are?" He handed his card, and on it was the well-known name, Henry Bergh. The horse was sent to the stable. The coach remained in the street till another team arrived. The driver was arrested and fined. We all felt it was a just act. Five years ago this could not have been done. No laws were then enacted to reach the case. Beasts were left to the mercies of owners and drivers. They had no rights which men were required to respect. Mr. Bergh, a gentleman of fine culture and benevolence, impelled by a tender regard for helpless dumb creatures, inaugurated measures for preventing cruelty to animals. A society was incorporated in New York, April, 1866, and has extended its influence until now nineteen States and the Dominion of Canada have incorporated societies of similar character. Its object may be inferred from section 1 of the statute under which it operates:

"If any person shall over-drive, overload, torture, torment, deprive of necessary sustenance, or unnecessarily or cruelly beat, or needlessly mutilate or kill, or cause or procure to be overdriven, overloaded, tortured, tormented, or deprived of necessary sustenance, or to be unnecessarily or cruelly beaten, or needlessly mutilated or killed, as aforesaid, any living creature, every such offender shall for every such offence be guilty of a misdemeanor."

To carry out this law, which his efforts have secured, Mr. Bergh has given his undivided time and energies. He receives no salary, nor has ever received any. His only compensation is to "see the compassionate instincts of man's nature manifested toward the helpless and unoffending, be it man or beast. Upon the success so far achieved he looks with satisfaction, and says, "I may be pardoned for believing that I have not lived for nothing." Especial attention is given to the treatment of horses; the transportation of cattle, sheep, calves, poultry, etc., used for food; careful inspection of their condition before killing, that no diseased meat may be sent to the market; examining the state of milch cows, kept in the city for public supply of "pure Orange county milk;" stopping brutal sports; breaking up dog and rat pits; enforcing a degree of privacy in the slaughter of animals, that children may not be made familiar with scenes of blood; providing facilities for supplying cattle with abundance of fresh water; and doing everything possible to develop kindness and prohibit all forms and tendencies to cruelty.

Mr. Bergh succeeded in breaking up Kit Burns' famous dog and rat pit, in Water street. With a strong police force, he entered the den, and arrested thirty-four of the choice spirits in the very height of their refined sport.

Fountains, so combined as to supply pure fresh water to men, horses, and dogs, have been erected in various parts of the city under the Society's direction.

Thanks to Mr. Bergh the community is more and more responsive to appeals of humanity. He is in the prime of life, and we trust that years of useful labor are yet before him.—*Christian Weekly.*