



"A SPRING OPENING."

imposing taxes on various productions. The Alexandrians were a people of narrow, sordid and old-fogeyish ideas, and did not realize that the payment of additional taxes was the road to wealth and prosperity, and were ungrateful enough to depose George and put him in jail, where twenty-four days after he was murdered by a mob consisting of the most prominent and influential citizens. If they had lived in these enlightened days they would have hailed George as a benefactor who took the only possible method of establishing national prosperity.

Shortly after his death George was canonized, which, considering that he was an arch-bishop, was a kind of promotion backwards. In recognition of his commercial genius and eminent financial success he was adopted by England as a patron saint, and so far appears to fill the bill satisfactorily. As a type of the self-made man—generally detested during his life and universally respected when his obituary comes to be written—no better example could have been selected.

A PERSECUTED ANIMAL.

THERE is a curious animal found still in considerable numbers on the island of Lewis, and in other parts of Scotland, called the Crofter. Its habits are somewhat peculiar. Like our own beaver, it is very industrious, and gathers with infinite pains a few stones, mud and driftwood together wherewith to build its habitation, which is generally found on the sea coast or in some rocky, barren glen. It is omnivorous, fish, flesh of any sort, even the offal left by more dainty creatures, with the stunted vegetation of its native haunt, form its food, to secure which it toils unceasingly. It is quite harmless in its nature, and, unless driven by desperate hunger, rarely attacks deer or other game.

This inoffensive creature is now being harried out of the country by the landed gentry, who, wishing to extend their deer ranges, object to the room occupied by the little heaps of rubbish forming its dens. The process of ruthless extermination is carried on with much barbarity, to expose which is the purport of this paper, so that the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals may take up the matter and urge Parliament to legislate against such shocking and wanton destruction. There

is really no necessity for treating as a ferocious wolf this poor animal, whose chief peculiarity is a tendency to multiply under oppression like the children of Israel, or the trampled worm which, instead of turning, squirms from beneath the dividing heel in a dual form. Doubtless Parliament could be induced to act in this matter if, instead of dwelling upon the cruelty of the landed proprietors, the agitation would take the shape of a protest against the needless waste of good material for healthful sport among the upper classes. Thus these persecuted creatures might secure the protection of the game law, under which they could be hunted only at certain seasons and with certain restrictions. Let the old ones, the sick and feeble, be declared exempt from the chase, then from March to November allow the "Lords of the Isles" to wind the mellow horn and loose the hounds on the track of the strong, young Crofters. So conducted these hunts would provide a maximum of bracing exercise with a minimum of cruelty and a residuum of practical charity such as seldom follows the activity of the tender mercies of the wicked. For the quarry, unless it chose to die game, would be forced to throw the pack off the scent by taking to the water, and crossing to some western land where "a man's a man for a' that," which no longer seems to be the case in the land of Burns.

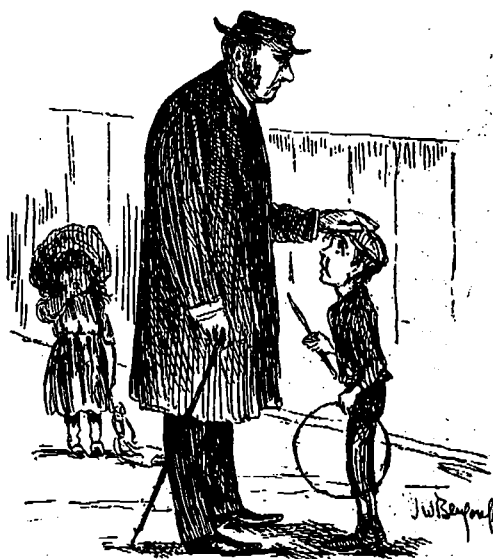
WILLIAM MCGILL.

A HUMANITARIAN.

KELSO (to a friend in street car)—"We must make an aggressive campaign against the barbarous practice of dehorning cattle."

FRIEND—"Yes, it is cruel and brutal in the extreme to mutilate defenceless animals by depriving them of their horns."

INEBRIATE (joining in conversation)—"Shcuse me gen'lmen. Sheems t' me youshe kin' o' men I'd like t' know better. I 'gree zac'ly with you. 's cruel thing to deprive anybody of (hic) horn. Know how 't feelsh m'shelf."



"ONCE A WEEK."

MINISTER—"Is your father a Christian, my boy?"

JOHNNIE—"No sir, but he will be to-morrow. This is on Saturday."