

PRACTICE OF VIVISECTION

Subject Discussed from the Points of View of Science and Humanity.

RESTRICTIVE MEASURE BEFORE CONGRESS

Political Pressure Exerted for and Against the Practice—Symptoms of Warm Opinions by Eminent Men.

A crusade against the practice of vivisection is being inaugurated throughout the country by the National Humane Alliance and kindred societies.

At the meeting of the alliance in Washington during the past week one of the resolutions adopted was a general action to put a stop to the vivisection of animals.

At a dinner in London the evening while Virchow was listening to complimentary speeches of the well known English scientists, an unsigned telegram was handed to the savant, which read: "Get thee hence, vile vivisector! England spurns thee!"

The Bee has secured from the most prominent advocates and opponents of vivisection their opinions as to the scientific value and practical humanity of the practice of vivisection.

Dr. George P. Shady has been asked to state his opinion for or against vivisection. As editor of the Medical Record he has kept abreast of general opinion on this subject and is well qualified to speak.

"Well, you know I am considered to be an arch enemy of the vivisection, but as a matter of fact my disposition is such that vivisection when I am present causes me more pain than it does the animals.

My general attitude in the matter was molded, I suppose, by an incident which occurred early in my career. I remember I was demonstrating some nerve functions to a class of students and found it impossible to get on because I had no subject with which to illustrate my remarks.

Against Vivisection in Schools. "Now I do not think that the practice of vivisection in schools can be justified from any standpoint. It is wrong every way you look at it.

"I am opposed to many of the luxuries of life, but when its necessities are considered nothing should stand in the way. I will illustrate with my own dinner table. If the getting of food with cruelty to certain animals. That is a thing which concerns me alone, but if I can further the curing of disease by experimenting upon animals, I consider that experimentation to be not only just, but necessary."

Dr. Frederick L. Deming, a prominent lecturer on physiology in Columbia college medical laboratory, was emphatic and to the point in his opinion of the necessity for vivisection. His experience covers fifteen years. He said:

"Regarding the first claim, Prof. Yeo, a well known experimental physiologist of England, has estimated that 75 per cent of all physiological experiments are painless, 20 per cent are as painful as vaccination, 4 per cent as painful as the healing of a wound, and 1 per cent as painful as a surgical operation without anesthetics.

term animal experimentation in preference to vivisection, for it is not always necessary to hurt animals in experimenting upon them. My experience has been that in every university every precaution is taken to prevent the animal from suffering.

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"Regarding the second claim, among hundreds of similar cases that of nitrite of amyl may be cited. Since 1866 this drug has been used to counteract the terrible pain of angina pectoris. It does this by dilating the blood vessels and thus relieving the heart of some of its work. Its introduction into medicine was due directly to the vivisection experiments of Mr. Arthur Gamgee on its effects upon the pressure of the blood in the arteries.

By similar experiments upon animals, Dr. Deming has been able to determine that the teachers were obliged to find some means of taking care of these animals outside of the school rooms. A humane person was procured who agreed to pay a small sum for each of these animals brought to him. The animals, of course, were turned over to the humane person, and the money obtained was turned over to the school for use in the physiological department.

As a matter of fact, after a certain time had elapsed, it was found that the character of the school had changed from one of blood-thirstiness to one of kindness. Human Subjects Have Been Used. "Now it is impossible to convince me that the slight of blood-thirstiness carried on in the school room will not deaden the sensibilities of the children.

We are against it in this direction and also to its being carried on in scientific institutions. I do not think that any right should be given to scientific men to main helpless animals. As a humane person, I am controlled. As it is now carried on behind closed doors, there is no knowing to what extent animals are made to suffer.

We have known of cases where the windpipes of animals were removed so they could make no noise when they were experimented upon. We have known of cases where animals were mutilated vilely so that the effects of suffering might be watched. We have known of a case where a dog's leg was bent over its back and held there for months with plaster of paris, and finally, we have known of a case in which a physician had a student assist in the sole purpose of demonstrating the effects of certain diseases upon healthy natives of the interior. He inoculated some of these natives with yellow fever germs for the sole purpose of watching the natives die of the disease.

"In our own journal we have published from time to time accounts of some atrocities which have taken place in institutions throughout the country. Only a short time ago we showed where vivisection was carried on in Yale college and where the doctors in that institution were in the habit of buying stray dogs for the purpose of operating upon them. It seems that the supply of these stray animals ran short, whereupon some miscreants of the town embarked in the trade of stealing dogs and selling them at small sums to the university. As a matter of fact, the operating room was raided, and a valuable dog was found therein which had been sold to the laboratory by some one, presumably the man who stole it.

professors under him to inflict unnecessary cruelty upon helpless animals? In short, the claims of these people really are not worth serious consideration."

Favorable Reasons. Mr. E. C. Vick, the secretary of the National Humane Alliance, which association met in Washington this week for the purpose of promoting legislation for the restriction of vivisection in the United States, gave the main reasons which his association has for objecting to vivisection in this country. He said:

"The greatest argument I have against vivisection is that it has never produced one valuable fact for science. I do not know of any bit of good which has been accomplished by it. I do not think any person has the right to cause pain to lower animals in the way vivisectionists are doing it, and you cannot say anything too strongly against it to satisfy me. Particularly is the introduction of vivisection into the public schools of the country to be reprehended. I have known of cases where animals have been cut and mutilated before the eyes of children in school, so badly, in fact, that some of the pupils have fainted in the school room. It has a brutalizing effect upon children, and can easily be seen from statistics, and I may mention one incident which will show the influence which the sight of blood has upon school children.

"In one of the east side New York school districts in which some slaughter houses were located, it was noticed that the general trend of the school children's characters were toward blood-thirstiness. It became so marked finally that something had to be done to counteract this influence. So it was decided to introduce a system of humane education into the schools. This was begun by a series of lectures, in which the school children were taught the blessings of humanity as applied to the lower animals. They were taught how infinitely better it is to care for the wounded stray cat or dog than it would be to stone them. They were also taught how to care for these animals. The effect of these lectures was surprising. School children began bringing in all kinds of maimed and sick animals which they found in the neighborhood. Finally this practice resulted in such large proportions that the teachers were obliged to find some means of taking care of these animals outside of the school rooms. A humane person was procured who agreed to pay a small sum for each of these animals brought to him. The animals, of course, were turned over to the humane person, and the money obtained was turned over to the school for use in the physiological department.

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"Yes, we are opposed to vivisection in all its forms, and shall do all in our power to prevent it. Law Should Regulate the Matter. President John P. Haines of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals graphically showed his position on the question of vivisection by pointing to some volumes of protest which he had built up against the practice. He has put himself in communication with leading clergymen and physicians of Europe and America, and he has reached the conclusion therefrom that the medical profession, at least, is divided against itself on the question of vivisection. Therefore he thinks this division sufficient argument in favor of vivisection practice. He is naturally opposed to vivisection himself. He said:

"There is nothing new to be said about this thing, unless some development takes place. We can but reiterate our arguments over and over again, and the matter takes the matter in hand. It will do that soon, for there is now a bill before congress which will put an end to the barbarous features of vivisection. This bill already has passed the lower house of the senate, and it is presently in the senate. It will be able to reach all those who disobey the letter of the law. Meantime there is no doubt that the majority of humane minded persons, even including the medical profession, are against vivisection. The best proof I can give you of this is to show you some testimonials I have received from eminent doctors and scientists all over the world. Here is one from Prof. Lawson Tait, the celebrated English scientist. He writes me:

"Like every member of my profession, I was brought up in the belief that vivisection had been obtained almost as an important fact in physiology, and that many of our most valued means of saving life and diminishing suffering had resulted from experiments on the lower animals. I now know that nothing of the sort is true concerning the matter, and that I do not only do I not believe that vivisection has not helped the surgeon one bit, but I know that it has often led him astray. In the interests of true science its employment should be stopped."

science, which is called vivisection, is, in my judgment, to be condemned. "First—Because there is really no necessity for it."

"Second—Because it has been proved to be not only useless, but misleading. "Third—Because it takes the place of other methods of study and observation which are infinitely preferable and to which no one can possibly object."

"Fourth—Because it is a gross and cruel abuse of the power which God has given us over the lower animals, and virtually a denial of our chief claim to mercy for our own kind. "There are here many more, all tending the same way and from men quite as capable of judging as those who are in favor of the practice. Therefore, our stand is quite tenable, even in the eyes of scientists, and our arguments against the practice are based merely on the feelings of unscientific enthusiasts, but on the knowledge that the very conferees of the vivisectionists fully agree with us."

FARRAGUT'S BOTTLED NAG. Bullye Hit by a Connecticut Band. "The regular stock music, 'Star-Spangled Banner' and 'The Star-Spangled Banner' were played in the hold. The regular stock music, 'Star-Spangled Banner' and 'The Star-Spangled Banner' were played in the hold. The regular stock music, 'Star-Spangled Banner' and 'The Star-Spangled Banner' were played in the hold.

The bugle sounded and the column passed, marching in splendid form to the music of the various bands, each doing its best. Of course the marching men could not see what kind of horses had been provided for the guests, and as the Twenty-fourth Connecticut approached the bandmaster gave a peculiar sign and the band struck merrily into "I bet my money on the bob-tailed nag, duds, duds, day." Generals Banks and Grover were chagrined and were about to order a change of music when they observed that the band was playing so heartily, and with bat in hand was laughing to the men from the Nutmeg state. He appeared to take it as a compliment from the regiment to him on his recent passage of New Orleans and probably as a prophecy of his future achievements and was enjoying it thoroughly.

The generals were relieved, and what at first seemed an awkward predicament, proved to be one of the funniest incidents of the day. A Yankee's whim to play something different from his rivals at an important moment and to badly used up coach horse made a combination that Farragut often referred to as a good joke on himself. They jumped into those piles of boxes and caddies and began to excavate great caverns. They grabbed cases of canned beef, bags of bacon and boxes of hardtack and slammed them across the hold like footballs—and let them be untouched where they fell. But when they struck a case of canned soups or fruits, a sack of rice, a box of condensed milk, a butt of tobacco, or a caddy of tea, it was promptly shouldered and a start made for the ladder. For a minute the mate was paralyzed by the pandemonium that prevailed, and then it dawned on him what was happening.

"Hold on!" he shouted. "Dunder and blitzen! It's mit der o-mee-gentlemen you vas takin' alretty! Stop dot! I command it!" Boxes and bags on their shoulders, the regulars charged tandem fashion down the narrow gangway to the ladder. They grinned as they went. The mate's hands went up in angry protest, but they rammed, jammed and banged him up in a corner, where he stuck breathless and purple-faced. "Hold on!" he gasped. "Hold on! I'm too theek! I'm too theek!"

At this appeal they ceased up a bit, and the mate laboriously climbed to a place of comparative safety on top of a pile of freight. From this perch he pantingly surveyed a boatscape, the atmosphere of which was full of flying boxes, bags and barrels. "Mein lieber Gott!" he exclaimed, "no vunder dese teffels go mit der Spanish parbed vices through!" Orders Faithfully Obeyed. Thus the regulars faithfully obeyed an order that, for the facility with which it could be translated into two directly contrary meanings, rivaled the best of the Del-

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EXPERIENCE ON BOARD A TRANSPORT

Delphic Orders from Army Officers and a Raid by Enlisted Men on the Delicacies Deck in the Ship's Hold.

On the return trip from Santiago to the United States one volunteer regiment shared a transport with the "Stentch regular infantry." The transport had just returned from Porto Rico, where it had disembarked a regiment of western volunteers. Its hold was full of supplies intended for that island, which either through haste or oversight had not been unloaded.

At Santiago, relates the New York Sun, each company of the two regiments brought on board field rations for the trip home. But it was soon found that these rations would prove scanty for the voyage. So orders were issued to make the deficiency from the rations stored in the transport's hold. Now it happened that the hold contained not only regular rations for enlisted men, but also canned soups and all sorts of delicacies originally intended, perhaps, for the hospital and staff officers in Porto Rico. It is probable that the officers of the steamship considered themselves responsible for these supplies and agreed to sanction access to the hold with the understanding that only regular field rations should be taken. In any event, in the matter of general order, the company officers of the "Stentch" assembled their men and delivered little speeches that went like this:

"Ten-shun! The field rations issued at Santiago for the trip home. There are plenty of such rations in the hold. There are also delicacies there which we have no authority to touch. The first sergeant will take a detail and go to the hold and take what is needed. The first mate and a regular field ration are taken. Dismissed!" The reader may interpret that order to suit himself. This was not the only occasion during the campaign that volunteers heard such an order with similar results, and many of these volunteers will believe to the end of their days that there is a secret freemasonry between West Point officers and their enlisted men. Either that, or each officer, when he said that little sentence and his men, must have winked the wink of the regulars. The regulars performed their duty and were not in evidence for several hours.

A somewhat similar order, but not so completely worded in the hold. There was a long and rambling lecture on the penalties of disobedience, was delivered to the volunteers. It happened somehow that the officer of the guard was a volunteer. The sentry at the hatchway to the hold was also a volunteer. The details from the two regiments slid down the ladder to the hold. At the thought of the forbidden delicacies stored there the volunteers looked grim, while the regulars grinned from ear to ear about something.

At the foot of the ladder stood the first mate of the transport. He was a massive German; big and broad, but corpulent and scant of breath. His position was in a narrow gangway between big piles of freight. It seemed odd that there was no soldier sentry posted there. As the regulars dropped off the ladder they sort of sidled up the first mate and grinned in his fat face. They jumped into those piles of boxes and caddies and began to excavate great caverns. They grabbed cases of canned beef, bags of bacon and boxes of hardtack and slammed them across the hold like footballs—and let them be untouched where they fell. But when they struck a case of canned soups or fruits, a sack of rice, a box of condensed milk, a butt of tobacco, or a caddy of tea, it was promptly shouldered and a start made for the ladder. For a minute the mate was paralyzed by the pandemonium that prevailed, and then it dawned on him what was happening.

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phic officer. The ship was crowded with fever-stricken men, to whose stomachs the regular field rations were an impossibility. The regulars "took what was needed" as per order. Behind the locked doors of some interior cabin there must have been some very absorbing business in hand. As a matter of fact, though, it is always a surprise to a volunteer to note how seldom he sees a commissioned officer of the regulars anywhere near his men, except when an order that is meant is tardily executed. Then you see one fast enough.

Of course, the first head that appeared up the companionway was that of a regular. On his back he carried a pack of supposedly forbidden food that weighed more than he did. He looked neither to the right nor to the left. He kept right on—straight ahead. The sentry took in the situation and glanced inquiringly at his superior. The officer in turn started forward, his hand on the hilt of his sword, ready to record a regular's insubordination. He seemed doubtful of his right to halt a rear rank private of the regulars. A procession of regulars with similar loads followed. The more enterprising among the volunteers were not slow to follow the trupp suit of the regulars. But the first volunteer who reached the top of the ladder with a case of canned soups was promptly ordered back by the volunteer officer of the guard and narrowly escaped arrest. For the time being he was not slow to follow the trupp suit of the regulars. But the first volunteer who reached the top of the ladder with a case of canned soups was promptly ordered back by the volunteer officer of the guard and narrowly escaped arrest.

It happened that this volunteer was the one who appeared at the top of the ladder with a case of the coveted canned soups. He had to carry it back. Then he brought up a box of hardtack; it was the lightest thing in the line of regular rations he could grab. He came and sat on his blanket-roll and said "Halt!" at the top of his voice, hesitated and dropped back. He seemed doubtful of his right to halt a rear rank private of the regulars. A procession of regulars with similar loads followed. The more enterprising among the volunteers were not slow to follow the trupp suit of the regulars. But the first volunteer who reached the top of the ladder with a case of canned soups was promptly ordered back by the volunteer officer of the guard and narrowly escaped arrest.

"If the reg's can swipe canned soups," he remarked among other things, "I'll be blinky-blanked if I can't." Then he went and consulted an enlisted man of the "Stentch" with whom he was acquainted. The regular advised him: "Go and take what you most want and walk right by the sentry," he said. "Don't look at him. If he orders you to stop, just keep right on going. It is all right." How he knew it is all right is not explained. Well, the volunteer waited a bit and tried it. When he got to the top of the ladder with the canned stuff the sentry ordered him to halt. He kept on going, or tried to. But the sentry sidled his bayonet up against the volunteer's solar plexus and gave him to understand distinctly that he would take that box back or go to the guardhouse for stealing. The volunteer thought it over and took the box back. Then he said some more things that would have shocked the chaplain. Again he consulted his friend of the regulars about his ill-success.

"I forgot," said the regular, "to tell you about the sentry's post. Was he a regular or a volunteer?" "A volunteer," said the volunteer. "That," replied the regular, "makes a diff. Your fellows always get the orders mixed. They're as long-faced and solemnly as a lot of parsons. Just wait until there's a regular on that post and try it again. If he says 'halt' keep going. He has to say it, you know, but he won't jab you. If he yells after you, keep going, only faster. He won't hurt you. If he was a volunteer he might get rattled and shoot, but if he's a regular he won't. He'll just yell like blazes and let you go—provided you go fast enough. You know he doesn't do his post."

Carrying Out Instructions, Etc. The volunteer waited as instructed and then tried it again. As he slid down the ladder the regular on guard stared sternly at the carlines of the deck above. When he reappeared with his booty the same sentry had his back to the highway and was looking very hard at nothing. The volunteer was seemingly unseen until he had a start of a good three paces. Then the sentry suddenly turned, called "Halt!" and stuck his gun and bayonet across the highway so that the volunteer couldn't have gone back if he wished. He gained five paces more and the sentry again called "Halt!" at the top of his voice. The volunteer disappeared through a doorway. Twenty seconds later there rang through the ship, from sentry to sentry, the sharp call, "Corporal of the Guard—No. 7!" Panting, the volunteer arrived at company quarters, dropped the case of canned soups, and said "Halt!" at the top of his voice. He waited for results. None came. At intervals of half an hour his companions would hear the sharp summons, "Corporal of the Guard—No. 7!" and that personage would walk briskly down the guard and very shortly walk back, with no prisoner. That was all. But when a volunteer got post No. 7 they would hear the summons no more, or, if they did the corporal would come back with a prisoner. They came to smile when they heard that post called and to know that each time a new and absolutely unavoidable raid on the transport's hold had been reported by an alert but discriminating sentry from the regulars.

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Dr. W. Gilman Thompson, who has lectured on physiology in New York university and who is president of the Practitioners' society of New York, said: "I do not think any danger is likely to result from the efforts of the National Humane Alliance. If the point of actual legislation is reached the doctors of the country will rise up and most effectively protest, as they have done when their rights were interfered with on certain other occasions. After all, it really is of no use getting into arguments with these people. There is no counter ground to go upon. They make sweeping statements which are highly absurd and unreasonable. I have heard them state that thousands of animals are slaughtered annually in the United States for vivisection purposes. Now, if you reckon upon the number of laboratories in the country, and think how few experimenters there are consequently, you can get some idea of the exaggeration of such a statement. Medical students must not be included in the number of vivisectionists. As a matter of fact you cannot get them to waste valuable time on the subject and their attention to it is not demanded in any curriculum that I have heard of. Of course a few necessary object lessons are given them, but they perform no experiments themselves. "It seems to me that the most effective argument you can use against these people is to note the standing which doctors have relatively in any community. It is quite as high as that of lawyers. Country doctors especially are very often the guardians, not only of the physical, but of the moral welfare of their patients. They are looked up to as a kindly class of men, whose humanity and good sense are to be trusted on any occasion. Now it does not seem possible that such a class of men, with such a reputation for benevolence, can be the bloodthirsty wretches the anti-vivisectionists make them out to be. Outside of the universities vivisection is practiced hardly at all and these institutions are not likely to allow animals to be mutilated unnecessarily. For instance, President Low of Columbia college is looked upon as a rather respectable and humane gentleman in the community. Now, do you consider it probable that he would allow the

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