

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Lowell Humane Society.

(Protects Children and Animals.)

For the Year Ending Jan. 1, 1892.



*"Among the noblest in the land,
Though he may count himself the least,
That man I honor and revere,
Who without favor, without fear,
In the great city dares to stand
The friend of every friendless beast."—[Longfellow.]*

LOWELL, MASS.:
CITIZEN NEWSPAPER CO., PRINTERS.
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OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1892.

PRESIDENT:

JAMES BAYLES.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

C. A. R. DIMON.

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT:

MRS. TAPPAN WENTWORTH.

TREASURER:

MRS. CHARLES H. KIMBALL.

SECRETARY:

FRANK P. PUTNAM.

DIRECTORS:

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KATE DEMPSEY,
FRANCES M. ROBINSON,
C. A. R. DIMON,
DR. JAMES H. SPARKS,

MARY NESMITH,
GEORGE F. LAWTON,
MRS. JULIAN TALBOT,
CHARLES H. KIMBALL,
JAMES BAYLES.

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GEORGE F. LAWTON, ESQ.,
JOHN DAVIS, ESQ.

HON. CHARLES S. LILLEY,
HON. FREDERIC T. GREENHALGE
LARKIN T. TRULL, ESQ.

VETERINARY SURGEONS:

DR. JAMES H. SPARKS,

DR. JESSE A. VILES,

DR. WALTER A. SHERMAN.

AGENT:

JAMES F. DRURY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Lowell Humane Society was held in the lower hall, Mechanics' Building, February 9, 1892. Following the presentation of the reports the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year:—

President, James Bayles; Vice President, C. A. R. Dimon; Honorary Vice President, Mrs. Tappan Wentworth; Treasurer, Mrs. Charles H. Kimball; Secretary, Frank P. Putnam; Directors, Mrs. George F. Richardson, C. A. R. Dimon, Mary Nesmith, Kate Dempsey, Frances M. Robinson, George F. Lawton, James Bayles, Charles H. Kimball, Mrs. Julian Talbot and Dr. James H. Sparks.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The Lowell Humane Society has reached the age of action ; it is twenty years old. The days of its infancy and of its youth are past ; it has come to the time of maturity, firm handed, keen sighted, alert and aggressive. Its loins are girded to fulfill the purpose for which it was established, and in the pursuance of that duty it is sustained by every one that lives in the order of rational existence and has kindliness and forbearance in his nature.

It has been a slow development ; but the decided, the progressive steps were taken when, through the generosity of the friends of the children and of the dumb creatures it sought to save and to protect, the Society secured the services of a permanent agent.

The work of the Society within the past ten months most thoroughly commends the steps so taken.

The people who questioned the need of such an officer are willing now to admit that the need was urgent ; and those who were not in active sympathy with the society have made generous haste to prove their awakened interest in it.

The regularly employed agent of the Society has for several months been joined by a volunteer whose zeal and courage have done a great deal to increase the record of the Society's work.

That record has also been made effective through the gratuitous services of the gentlemen who constitute the board of legal advisors, and the co-operation of the chief of police and the members of the police department.

Much assistance has also been given by the members of the medical staff, one of whom, after a long and faithful and zealous service, has passed out of the sphere in which he exercised so much skill and merciful tenderness, passed out into the beyond where hope stands beckoning.

As the Society has been sustained and encouraged in its duty by the contributions of the very few—among the great many—who have paused to let their sympathy crystallize into substantial assistance, we have to acknowledge means that have enabled us to do what has been accomplished, and words that have given us heart to go on in spite of petty obstacles with the good work to which the Society stands committed.

One clergyman has from his pulpit spoken of the aims and of the purpose of the Humane Society, and for that isolated instance of ministerial interest we are most grateful.

The Humane Society is a broad organization; it cannot be otherwise and be humane. It is not a religious body. It is founded upon human kindness, which in all lands and under all creeds is an attribute of intelligence, the development of nature's own and better impulses. The Society invites the company and co-operation of all who believe in its purpose.

Within the year, as you will learn from the reports which follow, the Society has afforded much relief to animals that were unfit for the tasks imposed upon them; the barbarous curb bit has almost disappeared; and an effective effort has been made to bring the no less cruel and wholly unnecessary everhead check rein into disrepute.

Much attention has been given to stables that were unfit for occupation; cattle in transportation have been relieved; horses exposed to the inclement weather have been sheltered, and the list of prosecutions and convictions proves the merit of the cause the Society fosters, as it does the zeal and the fearlessness of the officers who have been instrumental in bringing these offenders to justice.

A commendable feature of the Society's work has been developed by the committee on humane education, and I would recommend that more money might be expended in this most effective way to spread abroad among the young the beautiful precepts of the universal gospel of kindness.

I would also suggest in this particular, the publication and free distribution, particularly among the children of the schools, of a monthly paper that should contain, in addition to a record of the Society's work, carefully selected stories and miscellaneous matter bearing upon the subject of kindness.

It is with sincere regret that the Society appears in the role of public prosecutor; it is a sorry function to perform, and it will be a glad day for the community, for the beasts of burden and the people who are their friends, when there is no more need to punish men for their cruelty.

To this end let us do what we can to educate the rising generation to a complete appreciation of what it means to be merciful, manly and womanly, to be just and kind.

There are many channels open and inviting to the Society but the lack of means limits its sphere of action. Much has been done at small expense and much more may be done and will be done if the people whose sympathy we already possess bestir themselves to to help us.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

That in the latter days of the nineteenth century an organization should exist solely to prevent cruelty to children and animals indicates a perverted social condition that can be charitably accounted for only by Fiske's theory that "we have made more progress in intelligence than in kindness." The mere existence of a Humane Society brings out in sharp relief a grave defect in modern civilization. Its strongest claim for support is as a civilizing factor whose mission it is to seek to establish right relations between man and the lower animals, and plead that mercy be shown to helpless living creatures.

In the broadest sense the moral influence of an association of this character is of infinitely greater value to a community by awakening and strengthening human impulses, than its more conspicuous function, the relief of immediate suffering, is apt to suggest for it. A dim consciousness of this truism seems to have been aroused in the minds of our own citizens as manifested by the more liberal public support accorded the Lowell Humane Society during the year. May we regard this awakened interest as hopeful evidence that the first step has been taken toward that perfect social condition where all needless suffering is eliminated?

With increased means the Society has been enabled to employ an agent, Mr. C. H. Philbrick, whose whole time has been given to its work. The result of systematic and continuous effort is shown in the appended report of cases investigated, an increase in number of over four hundred per cent. as compared with any previous year.

Mr. Philbrick's services as a paid agent began on April 1, 1891; in the latter part of May he was joined in the work by Mr. J. F. Drury who had also been appointed an agent of the Society

by the directors. The report covers nine months, from April 1, 1891 to January 1, 1892, and is instructive as showing that there was a greater necessity for a paid agent than had been suspected. The comparatively small number of cases reported in former years is accounted for by other employment of the agent. Two charity balls were given by the Society in 1892, one in January the other in November, and the receipts from these entertainments have been of material assistance in carrying on our work.

By a vote of the directors, the chief of police and all the members of the police force were elected members of this Society; the association is under great obligations to them for valuable assistance in many instances.

The agents have devoted much of their time to work of a preventive nature; in more than three hundred cases users of animals were cautioned against further neglect, abuse or cruel treatment of their patient beasts, and at the same time warned of the consequences of continued offence against the law. Advice has been given owners of sick and disabled animals which has ameliorated much brute suffering. The action of the agents has been strictly impartial, without regard to the individual, and it has been only in aggravated cases that prosecution has been resorted to.

Five cases of cruelty to children have come to the attention of the Society. These were promptly investigated but sufficient evidence could not be obtained to warrant the arrest of the offenders on any of the complaints.

Seven prosecutions were made for cruelty to animals. In two cases the offenders escaped through legal technicalities; five were convicted and fined. By arrangement with the Massachusetts State Society the fines resulting from prosecution made by the local agents are now paid to the Treasurer of the Lowell Society.

Eight cases of glanders were discovered and the animals destroyed by direction of the State Board of Health. These cases alone, if nothing further had been accomplished, would have well repaid all the expenses of the year, as the disease is contagious, and fatal alike to man or beast.

Through the efforts of the Humane Society the dog fountains were supplied with water through the summer, and the horse

fountains are reported to the proper authorities whenever found out of order, or in an unclean condition. Forty-five Society signs, cautioning drivers against over loading or abuse of their animals, have been posted about the city in conspicuous places; sixteen hundred of the Society's cards, bearing the address and telephone number of the agents, have been distributed, and a large amount of humane literature disseminated by the committee on education, to whose report reference is made for further details of this work.

An eloquent sermon sustaining the Society was preached by the Reverend George Batchelor on October 10th, and I respectfully recommend that it be printed with the annual report.

It is earnestly hoped that the beneficial work done by the Lowell Humane Society during the past year may so commend it to right thinking people as to insure for the association in the future heartier support than it has received. It does not seem possible that the one hundred and twenty-six members who have contributed to its maintainance in 1891 can represent the whole number of individuals in this city of eighty thousand souls who are interested in humane work.

Thanks are due from the Society to the newspapers of the city for the generous assistance given the association in publishing reports of cases. No more effective means can be employed to put a stop to cruel practices than the publicity given to these cases in the daily and weekly papers, and their aid is heartily appreciated.

The following report exhibits in detail the various causes for complaint and investigation.

Whole number of cases investigated April 1, 1891, to
January 1, 1892, 935

Children:

Complaints,	5
Cautioned parents,	4
No cause for complaint,	1
	<hr/>

	5	
Horses taken from work,		362
Lame,	255	
Galled shoulders,	37	
Sore back,	18	
Sore neck,	2	

Sore mouth,	1
Sick,	10
Otherwise unfit for labor,	33
Overloaded,	4
Drunken drivers,	2

OWNERS AND USERS OF ANIMALS CAUTIONED.

For whipping,	54
Overloading,	62
Not properly caring for,	25
Hard driving,	17
Using lame horses,	65
Using galled and sore horses,	23
Using sick horses,	8
Using horses otherwise unfit for work,	13
General bad treatment of animals,	19
Not properly feeding,	12
Fretting and worrying horses,	4
Not providing proper shelter,	4
Using cruel bits,	3
Improperly transporting cattle,	3
Cruelly dragging cows and calves behind wagon,	5
Animals released,	2
Driving cows with sacks over heads,	1
Feeding in cruel manner,	1
Worrying cow,	1
Cruelly dragging dogs tied to wagons, released,	5
Abusing dogs,	5
Abusing cats,	1
Cruelly exposing fowl,	1
Stoning doves,	1
Inciting dog fight,	1

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ANIMALS MERCIFULLY RELEASED FROM SUFFERING.

Horses worn out,	57
Abandoned,	1
Suffering with farcy,	3
Suffering with glanders,	8
By request of owners,	2

II

Cows injured,	1	
Dogs,	22	
Cats,	6	
Total number animals,	100	100

STRAYED HORSES.

Restored to owners or cared for,	.	.	.								6
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ANIMALS CARED FOR OR RELIEVED.

Injured cow,	1	
Abandoned cats,	7	
Dogs,	3	

Cases investigated, no action taken,	14	
Cases investigated, found no cause for complaint,	91	
Cases reported, could not be found,	19	
Prosecutions,		7
For cruelty transporting calves, offender convicted and fined,	1	
Cruelty to cow, offender convicted and fined,	1	
Cruelly whipping horse,	3	
Cruelly overdriving, defendant acquitted,	2	5
											2

FRANK P. PUTNAM, Secretary.

SPECIMEN CASES.

Here are given a few of the typical cases investigated by the Society:

Case 28.—A horse working in a tread-mill in a wood yard; had two spavins and ring bone, in constant pain; horse condemned as unfit for work and killed.

Case 37.—Cow struck by a train on Old Colony R. R., back broken, owner left the animal to suffer for three hours, until the arrival of the Society's agent, who killed it.

Case 40.—Horse with cancer in foot, owner compelled to take the animal from work and have it properly treated.

Case 71.—Contractor overloading teams, additional horses ordered to be put on, which was done.

Case 79.—Cow being dragged attached to a wagón, driver ordered by the agent to unhitch the cow and lead it in a proper way.

Case 92.—A farmer driving a poor and lame horse, the Society bought the animal for \$1.50 and had it killed.

Case 141.—Farmer cruelly carrying three calves with legs tied, and crowded into a Concord wagon; the animals were suffering, and when released by the agent were so stiffened from the cramped position in which they had been placed that they could not stand. Offender was prosecuted and fined \$20.00.

Case 153.—Farmer cruelly beating a horse was prosecuted and fined \$15.00.

Case 161.—A dog cruelly attached to a carriage. Owner was ordered to release the animal, and threatened with prosecution if he repeated the offence.

Case 175.—Man from Billerica, using horses weak from lack of sufficient food. Was ordered to properly feed the animals and not to use them until they were in condition to work.

Case 183.—Peddler driving a horse with very sore back. Animal sent home and ordered attended by a veterinary surgeon.

Case 185.—A horse found running at large on Pawtucket Street. Caught by the agent, and when taken to stable was found to be suffering from glanders. State Board of Health was notified, and by its direction animal was killed.

Case 190.—Horse found in a pasture suffering from farcy, reported to the Board of Health, and animal quarantined.

Case 195.—Agent reported to owner of several teams, that some of his drivers cruelly whipped the horses. The owner expressed his gratitude for the information. Said the abuse should be stopped, and requested the agent, when another case occurred to have the driver arrested.

Case 314.—Cattle overcrowded in two cars of Boston & Maine R. R. Agent ordered cattle put into three cars, which was done.

Case 345.—Horse found being driven suffering from necrosis of jaw bone. Animal unable to eat; was in miserable condition. Purchased for \$1.00 and killed.

Case 364.—Driver of a barge, crowded with passengers, horse was exhausted. Driver ordered to discharge his passengers and to take his team home.

Case 418.—Horse dealers brought five horses to Ayer City to be sold. Two of the animals were condemned by the agent and killed and the owner ordered to take the other three out of the city.

Cases 439, 443, 444, 451.—Four horses turned out to pasture and abandoned by their owners, found by the agents, condemned as utterly unfit for use and killed.

Case 487.—Man from Lawrence reaches Lowell with a horse completely exhausted from over driving. Was ordered by agent to take the horse to a stable and have the animal properly cared for and rested.

Case 560.—Man complained of for keeping a dog confined in a dark cellar. Was ordered by the agent to release the animal and keep it in better quarters.

Cases 582, 583, 584.—The "Horse Fair" at East Chelmsford was investigated and broken up. Dealers from neighboring towns who did not dare bring their worn out animals into the city

attempted to establish an exchange there. Three horses were condemned as unfit for work and killed by the agents.

Class 605.—Horse from Londonderry, N. H., weak, worn out and absolutely unfit for work, was bought by the agent for \$1.00 and killed. Owner threatened to sue the society,

Case 630—Horse found in a barren pasture, weak and exhausted from lack of food. Was taken by agent and cared for at owner's expense.

Case 769.—A horse found in a pasture the 30th of November. Exposed without shelter over night, suffering from intense cold and lameness. Owner was notified and ordered to provide proper shelter, which he did.

Case 874—Four drivers of carriages ordered to remove cruel curb bits and chains.

ANNUAL REPORT OF TREASURER.

LOWELL, November 10th, 1891.

Cash on hand Nov. 18, 1890,	-	-	-	-	\$217.82
Received during year,	-	-	-	-	858.95
					<u>\$1076.77</u>
Paid, per voucher,	-	-	-	-	\$804.00
Cash in bank,	-	-	-	-	244.77
Cash in hands of Treasurer.	-	-	-	-	28.00
					<u>\$1076.77</u>

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR.

Membership,	-	-	-	-	-	\$342.50
Charity Ball,	-	-	-	-	-	446.45
Fines from court,	-	-	-	-	-	70.00
Cash on hand November 18th, 1890,	-	-	-	-	-	217.82
						<u>\$1076.77</u>

PAID, PER VOUCHER.

C. H. Philbrick,	-	-	-	-	-	\$450.00
J. F. Drury,	-	-	-	-	-	120.00
Printing and Signs,	-	-	-	-	-	70.90
Massachusetts Humane Society,	-	-	-	-	-	55.25
Horses purchased,	-	-	-	-	-	35.00
Incidentals,	-	-	-	-	-	72.85
						<u>\$804.00</u>

GERTRUDE S. KIMBALL, Treasurer

COMMITTEE ON HUMANE EDUCATION.

This Committee, consisting of Mrs. George F. Richardson, chairman, and Mary Nesmith, Frances M. Robinson, Mrs. Julian Talbot, Kate Dempsey, and George F. Lawton, was formed for the purpose of disseminating Humane literature among the children attending the schools. The authorities have afforded the committee every facility for its work and much that is satisfactory has been accomplished.

THE REPORT.

In Japan it is generally believed that at the death of Buddha, not only the personages of royal birth, as well as the more humble, but also the fowls of the air and the animals of varied species bewailed their great misfortune. So merciful a benefactor had he been that all creation mourned the irreparable loss sustained.

Kindness to animals is characteristic of the Japanese, inculcated by the gentle teachings of the Buddha, and also due in a great measure to the prevalent idea that each animal is consecrated to some divinity.

"The Buddhist duty of universal love enfolds in its embraces not only our neighbors, but everything that has life."

Cruelty to animals is guarded against by special precepts.

The Japanese will never kill animals wantonly. Guardians are appointed for their protection and hospitals provided for them when sick. Thus the young grow up in an atmosphere of gentleness and tenderness for all of God's creatures, and learn that "sweet mercy is nobility's true badge." If these humane doctrines are taught the children in a Pagan land, what an example for Christianity to emulate!

The Humane Society, with a desire to enlarge its opportunities for usefulness, at a meeting held in June, 1891, appointed a Com-

mittee on Education, having for its object the distribution of leaflets, pamphlets and other papers through the public schools, hoping thus to interest the young in this great lesson of humanity to dumb animals. The committee of ladies has left with each teacher, one volume of the *Black Beauty*, together with several leaflets and papers. This Committee has been received with uniform courtesy by the teachers, who have made use of the books for supplementary reading, and afterwards loaned or given the papers to the pupils to take home.

The children are greatly interested in stories of animal life and beg for copies to have as their own.

Cruelty to animals is often practised by the young through ignorance of the misery inflicted, and it seems a wise movement to reach the children in our public schools, who are soon to take their places in the battle of life, and teach them to be "merciful, even as they shall obtain mercy."

John Bright says: "If children at school can be made to understand how it is just and noble to be humane even to what we term inferior animals, it will do much to give them a higher character and tone through life."

In addition to those distributed through the schools, books and leaflets have been left at the livery stables and the horse railroad stables, also two hundred leaflets, on the care of horses, given to drivers about the city. Thus three hundred volumes of *Black Beauty*, twenty-four hundred humane leaflets and sixteen hundred Society cards have been sown broadcast through the city.

The result of this experiment seems to justify continued action in this direction, with renewed faith in the words of Francis Power Cobb, that "The battle of mercy, like that of freedom, once begun, though often lost, is always won."

C. A. RICHARDSON.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

To those who may feel disposed to donate by will to the benevolent objects of the Society, the following forms are suggested :

FORM OF BEQUEST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

I give and bequeath to "THE LOWELL HUMANE SOCIETY," a corporation duly organized under the Laws of the State of Massachusetts, the sum ofdollars, to be applied to the uses of said corporation.

FORM OF DEVISE OF REAL PROPERTY.

I give and devise to "THE LOWELL HUMANE SOCIETY," a corporation duly organized under the Laws of the State of Massachusetts, all [Here insert discription of property.] Together with all the appurtenances, tenements and hereditaments thereunto belonging. To have and to hold the same unto said corporation, its successors and assigns forever.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PUBLIC STATUTES OF MASSACHUSETTS.

[CHAP. 267, ACTS OF 1889.]

TO PREVENT THE MUTILATION OF HORSES.

Whoever cuts the solid part of the tail of any horse in the operation known as docking, or by any other operation performed for the purpose of shortening the tail, and whoever shall cause the same to be done, or assist in doing such cutting, unless the same is proved to be a benefit to the horse, shall be punished by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding one year, or by fine of not less than one hundred nor more than two hundred and fifty dollars. One half of all fines collected under this act upon, or resulting from, the complaint or information of an officer or agent of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, shall be paid over to said society in aid of the benevolent objects for which it was incorporated.

[CHAP. 207]

OVERDRIVING, UNDERFEEDING, ETC.

SECTION 52. Whoever overdrives, overloads, drives when overloaded, overworks, tortures, torments, deprives of necessary sustenance, cruelly beats, mutilates or kills an animal, or causes, or procures an animal to be so overdriven, overloaded, driven when overloaded, overworked, tortured, tormented, deprived of necessary sustenance, cruelly beaten, mutilated or killed, and whoever, having the charge or custody of an animal, either as owner or otherwise, inflicts unnecessary cruelty upon it, or unnecessarily fails to provide it with proper food, drink, shelter or protection from the weather, shall be punished by imprisonment in jail not exceeding one year, or by fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

CRUELLY WORKING, ABANDONING, ETC.

SECTION 53. Every owner, possessor, or person having the charge or custody of an animal, who cruelly drives or works it when unfit for labor, or cruelly abandons it, or carries it, or causes it to be carried in, or upon a vehicle, or otherwise, in an unnecessary cruel or inhuman manner, or knowingly and wilfully authorizes, or permits it to be subjected to unnecessary torture, suffering or cruelty of any kind, shall be punished in the manner provided in the preceding section.

RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION.

SECTION 54. A corporation which violates any provision of either of the two preceding sections shall be punished by a fine as therein provided; and corporations, in regard to animals transported, owned, or used by them or in their custody, shall be responsible for the knowledge and acts of their agents and servants.

SECTION 55. Railroad companies, in carrying or transporting animals, shall not permit them to be confined in cars for a longer period than twenty-eight consecutive hours, without unloading them for rest, water and feeding, for a period of at least five consecutive hours, unless prevented from so unloading them by storm or other accidental cause. In estimating such confinement, the time during which the animals have been confined without such rest on connecting roads from which they are received, shall be included. Animals so unloaded shall, during such rest, be properly fed, watered and sheltered by the owner or person having the custody of them, or, in case of his default in so doing, then by the railroad company transporting them, at the expense of such owner or person in custody thereof, and said company shall, in such case, have a lien upon such animals for food, care and custody furnished, and shall not be liable for such detention of such animals. A company, owner or custodian of such animals, who fails to comply with the provisions of this section, shall be punished by fine of not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars. If animals are carried in cars in which they can and do have proper food, water, space and opportunity to rest, the foregoing provision in regard to their being unloaded shall not apply.

ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT, ETC.

SECTION 56. A person found violating any provision of sections fifty-two, fifty-three and fifty-five may be arrested and held without warrant in the manner provided in Sec. 34 [see note]; and the person making the arrest, with or without warrant, shall use reasonable diligence to give notice thereof to the owner of animals found in the charge or custody of the person arrested, and shall properly care and provide for such animals until the owner thereof takes charge of them, not, however, exceeding sixty days from the date of said notice, and shall have a lien on said animals for the expense of such care and provision.

[NOTE.—In the same manner as in case of persons found breaking the peace.]

SEARCH WARRANTS.

SECTION 57. When complaint is made to a court or magistrate authorized to issue warrants in criminal cases, that the complainant believes, and has reasonable cause to believe, that the laws in relation to cruelty to animals have been or are violated in any particular building or place, such court or magistrate, if satisfied that there is reasonable cause for such belief, shall issue a search warrant, authorizing any sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable or police officer, to search building or place; but no such search shall be made after sunset, unless specially authorized by the magistrate, upon satisfactory cause shown.

PROTECTION TO CHILDREN.

The Lowell Humane Society protects children, and acting in conjunction with the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children enforces such laws as have been framed for the benefit of those who are cruelly treated and neglected.

It rescues children from miserable surroundings and places them in homes or institutions where they will receive proper care and treatment. It does not interfere with the just rights of the parent or the guardian, but it exercises a jealous supervision over the rights of the children.

The Society invites complaints of neglect. Any such complaint will be investigated and every effort made to secure the consent of the parents or guardian to have the children placed under proper care. In the event of failure to secure such consent the Society will prosecute under the law of neglect, or apply for guardianship in the probate court.

In cases of cruelty by beating or inflicting pain the Society will prosecute for assault.

PROTECTION TO ANIMALS.

The Lowell Humane Society protects animals. It corrects abuses of every description, by persuasion and advice if possible, and failing these, by the corrective influence of the law.

It invites information of overloading, overdriving, beating, curbing, docking, improper housing, improper feeding, neglect in sickness, exposure and lameness of horses; and every species of neglect or wanton cruelty to animals or fowls.

The society will also prosecute all cases reported of the killing of song birds, the slaughter of which is woefully indiscriminate in the vicinity of Lowell.

COMPLAINTS.

The Lowell Humane Society solicits the aid of the public in the prosecution of its work. Complaints of neglect or cruelty to children, of neglect or cruelty to animals should be made to the agent, James F. Drury, at the office, 98 Central Street. Telephone number, 306-2.

It is not necessary that the complainant should appear in the subsequent investigation.

A REWARD OF \$25.

The Lowell Humane Society offers a reward of \$25 for the arrest and conviction of any person or persons engaging in or being present at a dog fight or cocking main.

BRUTES, ANIMALS AND MEN.

The following sermon was delivered by the Rev. George Batchelor in the First Unitarian Church, Sunday forenoon, October 11, 1891:

Prov. XII. 10, "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel."

The proverb is true. Thought and feeling that are wholly right will bring one into right relations with the animal world. Any system of morals which begins and ends with human beings, not including also the whole world of animate life, is defective. There has always existed among people of right feeling a happy sense of fellowship with the animal creation. But there has always been also for the majority, a state of war between man and beast. A token that civilization is setting in at any time and in any community, is to be found in a new thoughtfulness for animals. Where savage warfare ceases and a more kindly intercourse begins civilization strengthens. Coleridge shows what happens when men become really religious:—

"He prayeth well who loveth well
Both man and bird and beast.
He prayeth best who loveth best
All things both great and small;
For the dear God that loveth us,
He made and loveth all."

In the same spirit the story is told of St. Francis, who preached to all sorts and conditions of men. Seeing the trees full of birds he said to his companions: "Await me here while I go and preach to my sisters, the birds." To the birds he said: "You sow not neither do you reap, and God feeds ye and gives you the streams and fountains for your thirst; He gives you mountains and valleys for your refuge, tall trees wherein to make your nests, and inasmuch as you neither spin nor weave, God clothes you, you and your children, hence you should love your Creator greatly, who gives you such benefits; and therefore beware my sisters of the sin of ingratitude and ever strive to praise God." So the happy birds obeyed and rising upon their wings with wondrous songs they spread all over the earth the story of the love of God.

And now what happened to the joyous song birds whose beautiful plumage brightened the air as they repeated the sermon of St. Francis? Alas! But few of them remain to tell the tale. They were hunted down on every shore. They were driven from their tall trees. They were trapped and netted and shot. Their happy songs died out of the air, and—but one hesitates to write it down—of all their beautiful plumage little now remains except the fragments which were saved to decorate

their sisters, lovely women who needed no such adornment. From the tender breasts of the dead mother birds was stripped the soft and downy covering made to warm her eggs and cuddle her young, and her children died in their nests in the tall trees. The song birds that filled the air with their music fell and their melody was forgotten. Thus was the sermon of St. Francis to the happy birds made of no effect when martyrs to the vanity of woman, they fell, forgetting the love of God in their fear of man.

To drop the legend and the parable, think for a moment what an addition it would be to the pleasure of living if for ten years man should attempt to live in love and peace with all innocent and happy animals. Think of the trees filled with song birds, of marsh and river, of lake and pond swarming with wild fowl in their season. The heron and the crane would return. The woods would again be tenanted: and the streams being cleansed the salmon and the trout would come back to their breeding places. Then life for man would be a little more joyous and diversified with innocent pleasure.

The old warfare will go on and rightly enough, until all noxious animals are destroyed. The hunt for food and the struggle for existence will continue, and rightly enough so long as man needs to live at the expense of the animal world. Beasts of burden and other domestic animals will be the servants of men. But there is no reason for the suffering of those who are "about to die." They may live happy lives and die without pain. We shall have our servants; but they may be happy servants, cared for while they are useful, nursed when they suffer and tenderly removed when their brief day is done.

We have in Lowell a Humane Society. In humane society this should be useless. Why, then, does this society come into existence? Not to exaggerate evil which undoubtedly exists I venture to suggest that one principal reason for it is to assist the progress of civilization and the extinction of barbarism. A difference between the ancient and modern forms of life in Europe and America is the increase in our time of sensibility to, or consciousness of the existence of suffering among animals. Once a highly cultivated man or woman might be as insensible to the sufferings of a dumb animal as he would be to the wilting of a plant or the fall of a tree. Now the surprising thing which one may often note is the fact that the old insensibility remains in many natures otherwise refined. Good, honest, trusty and even religious men there are who have no affection for the beasts that serve them and are never moved at the sight of suffering animals. It is necessary to give the world object lessons in the science of humanity. Those who are sound at heart and of honest fibre soon learn and never forget. Hence the necessity of the Humane Society. It is its function to point out the difference between savagery and civilization, to remind a thoughtless public that the new day of civilization has come. In a civilized society no dumb animal has any just cause of complaint.

The title of my discourse is "Brutes, Animals and Men." It is mainly because these three classes exist that a humane society must be. Of course, strictly speaking all dumb animals are brutes, because the Latin "brutus" means dumb. But we have come to a worse meaning of the word than that, and we have come to it not because

of the bad behavior of dumb animals, so much as the misconduct of men. Most of the faults and vices of our domestic animals come from their association with bad men. I claim that I can commonly tell what kind of human beings animals have lived with by noting their habits and behavior. A dog that has associated only with ladies and gentlemen from his birth will have the disposition and manners of a gentleman. I should never be afraid of a horse or dog whose human companions had always been above suspicion.

I went to Ashland, Henry Clay's old farm, to see the houses there. They are beautiful creatures with soft skins, intelligent eyes, high bred manners, and most striking of all they were gentle, docile and affectionate. I wondered that such spirited creatures could be so kind. But I was told that they were gentle because they had always been well treated. No one was allowed to strike a blow. They never heard an angry word. All causes of irritation were removed. No one would think of calling them brutes, because they had never associated with brutes.

One does not think much of the possible fate of such a beautiful beast when its money value is gone and it has fallen into the hands of those whose tender mercies are cruel. It drops from one social level to another. It falls out of the comfortable estate in which a principal part of its happiness came from human companionship. It is neglected, half-fed, beaten, over-worked. Its beautiful coat, soft as silk and brown as the seal, is blistered and galled by ill-fitting harness. It is foundered and spavined, and at last, old, rheumatic and miserable, bought and sold for a dollar, it drags out in pain and sorrow its miserable remnant of life, a disgraceful evidence of the fact that the brutes in such a city as ours are not the dumb animals, but their human oppressors. Such things are not pleasant to think of or to speak of, and yet we ought to think of them just enough to make it certain that cruelty shall become unprofitable and so cease.

The public is fast learning that all cruelty to the animals that are used for food is liable to be matched by disease in those who eat their flesh. The fever caused by misery and rage may turn to poison in the flesh of an ox and so avenge the wrong done upon him in his life.

But the work of a humane society is most effectually done, not by exhibiting the ugliness of perverted human nature so much as by encouraging the beautiful sympathies which bring men into happy relation with the animal world about us. In a civilization not wholly artificial and degraded, the earth, the air, the water, even, is filled with animated creatures which are both innocent and beautiful. Man never walks in solitude. Not only does nature furnish in profusion beautiful forms, sweet odors and bright colors, but she also produces in abundance and of infinite variety, forms of intelligence like his own. The clods of the valley show their exuberant vitality by producing creatures that feel the full pulse of nature's joy, and reflect to man the general gladness. It gives one a wonderfully home-like feeling in this world to know that animal affection lies all around us, and that whoever will, may excite strong sympathy and secure for himself faithful and devoted service from the brute creation. It startles one to think that intelligence, fidelity, courage, affection and delight in life are the blossoms of animal life as much a product of nature as the fruits and flowers

of the vegetable world. All do not feel this or care for it because other things occupy the thoughts and choke the word. But let one become solitary, a prisoner or an exile and there is no creature so mean that he may not rejoice at its coming and be comforted when he has learned to love it. There is no land so barren that it may not produce some little crop of beautiful sentiment and sympathy between the lower races and our own.

When the true christianity comes two things in the teachings of Jesus which now attract too little notice will spring into prominence and humanize the life of the world. Two things are always near the surface of his thoughts to shape the form of his teaching. Nature and the human home. His philosophy, theosophy, religion and ethics are wholly stated by him in phrases which describe the human home, and his illustrations are borrowed from human life around him in a rural landscape. Ploughing, sowing, reaping, threshing, the lillies of the field, the sunset sky, the harvest home, the wedding feast, the sparrows that ate the grain were killed by the boys and sold in the market two for a farthing, and even the mother hen at the cottage door, clucking and scratching for her young, and then with motherly content, settling down to brood her chickens as they snuggled down to warmth and sleep; these are always present to his thought.

It was said in praise of a minister after his death that he was known and recognized in the street by more dogs than any other man in the city. I have sometimes thought that a council of animals should be consulted at every ordination. By some subtle instinct cats, dogs, horses and babies know their friends and are skillful judges of character. If they condemned a man I should withhold my confidence until after inquiry had revealed mitigating circumstances. There are some who have been wrongly taught to fear animals and dread their presence. The animals recognize the aversion and resent it, although it implies no moral wrong.

My friend, who is afraid of American dogs, went to Japan, when a dog ran toward him in the street he picked up a stone to throw at him, to his astonishment the dog did not recognize the gesture. There were only heathen in that city and the dog had never been stoned before. He did not resent the insult because he did not understand it.

Forty years ago my father, a dozen miles from home, took a short cut across a field, in a dark night, with a companion, half way across they were somewhat alarmed by the approach of an animal that followed them and refused to be driven away, as his companion stopped to take more energetic measures my father said, "Wait, let me speak to him, I sold a horse which must be in this neighborhood." He called the horse's name and old Tom came up out of the pitch darkness and rubbed his nose against him. The horse recognized the voice of a master who had always used him well, and who in many drives, had carried on long conversations with him, insisting that the horse understood every word he said.

But many think that while so many human creatures are suffering from the greed and cruelty of their fellows it is a little Quixotic to organize for the relief of the dumb animals. The objection seems not well taken when we remember that all life is one in many ways. Moral wrong has many causes. Virtue has many roots. Disease germs lurk in unexpected places. Any injustice removed clears the moral atmos-

phere. We cannot afford to neglect any wrong. A boy may become a murderer because his father beats a horse; he may be held back from evil ways by the revelation of the power of law applied in the punishment of cruelty. A humane society humanely and wisely administered puts power into the hands of the weak for the defence of the weak. Any ruffian after a little wholesome experience will obey when even a woman commands him in the name of the law to stop in his abuse of animals.

Once when ill and weak I was confined to my house in Chicago. An important piece of work was undertaken in the street which for a week was filled with men and mules. The profanity, the noise and the abuse of the mules was something not to be endured and yet one hesitated to meet such men. At last I ventured to the door, called for the "boss," and to him delivered my message. I expected to hear a volley of abuse. To my surprise he made no defence. More animals were provided. The horrible beating with shovels and hoes ceased. The men were quiet and like a drop of oil on stormy seas one word invoking a law which was sure to be enforced wrought a miracle. Not only was I relieved and the mules spared, but the moral atmosphere of the whole street was changed. No doubt the men went home in better temper and were less inclined to beat their wives.

It is often remarked that the love of animals cannot be refining else horse jockeys and dog fighters should be the best of men. But if you will take accurate note of brutal men who seem to love animals you will find that they are not moved by affection at all. Such men will cause an animal to undergo any torment if there is sport to be had or money to be made. The animal is merely a machine in which they find so much courage, swiftness, endurance and obedience which they can use for betting and gambling. They take such care of them as is necessary to make them serviceable. Beyond that the affection is almost wholly on the side of the brute beast who seems often to be the nobler animal. Those who associate with animals because they love them are people of a different order. I think I may say without qualification that they are never brutal, never careless of the health and comfort of their favorites, and they are always more trusty and tender in their human fellowships because of their broad sympathy with everything that has intelligence.

When the right light falls upon it we see that the new sensibility to the sufferings of the brute creation is a legitimate and necessary unfolding of Christianity. It is a new and beautiful phase of character which is essential to progress. Without it no soundness of faith or breadth of intelligence will avail to carry on the religious history of the world. We must begin low down, about the foundations of our life and build there in justice, mercy and sympathy, and then above the lowly relations with the animate world around us we shall be prepared to enter into loyal fellowship with human creatures. If in addition to justice we can come into real communication and affectionate understanding with the animal world the gates of the imagination will open for us. Life will be more rich and full and varied in its delights and duties because we see how fair is the wide domain of intelligence over which man rules a king. Make society humane and superstition, bigotry, religious intolerance, social oppression and all the causes of war will begin to fade away. For these and many other reasons the Humane Society is worthy of notice, patronage and cordial support.

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