

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BANGOR ASSOCIATION

FOR

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,

ORGANIZED APRIL 22, 1869.

Office 19 Main Street, Room No. 7.

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REPORT.

The fifth anniversary of this Society dawns with brighter hopes and better auspices than any preceding year of its existence. The reason for this favorable aspect may be found in the fact that the incessant labor of your officers and members has wrought upon the public mind an awakening sense of duty toward the dumb animals, which has been lying dormant for years past, and would still have slept, but for the movement of a few of those restless spirits who are always seeking to do the greatest good to the greatest number.

The task of raising the dumb animal to his proper level of usefulness was not an easy one. It was surrounded by many and stubborn objections and obstacles, which could only be approached by toil and labor. But, like all fallow ground, it must first be broken, and looked upon with suspicion, criticised and sneered at, as labor wasted. But the pioneers were not discouraged; they persevered and labored, and have been rewarded for their labors in witnessing the growing influence of their unwavering toil.

The small amount of money needed for the current expenses of the Society was contributed by a few individuals, with the steady determination of success. Some faltered and fell out of the lines, but others were found to fill up the vacancies made by those of little faith in our humane undertaking. The fruits did not ripen soon enough for their eager hopes to live upon; their faith died for the want of nourishment—hope.

But the Society did not die, for its interests were in the hands of those who had so identified themselves with the

Society that to them the word fail was not to be thought of in connection with it.

It is true that owing to peculiar circumstances which are always to be taken into consideration, our ablest men do not always take the lead in the official department of the Association, but they were most always found in the important deliberations of its councils, ready with their advice and their money to support its progress toward the avowed object of the organization.

Who is there among us to-day that would dare to prognosticate the failure of this Association, founded, as it is, upon the great principles of humanity toward all the dumb animals of our country? Would he not be looked upon as beneath the lowest of them all? God has given us the talent, and we must not bury it in the earth.

I have said there were objections and obstructions in the progress of this Association; were it not so, the efforts and labor bestowed upon it would indeed be wasted. But the very objections and obstructions thrown in its pathway have caused much of our labor to remove them.

The greatest of all the objections and obstructions are found in the growing evil of horse-racing and its concomitants. Let us look at this one evil and see if it is not a formidable one. The owner of a tolerable nag is anxious to compete with his neighbor, and in order to do so he must train his animal, which literally means to abuse him; and if the horse does not know how to perform the duties of a racer, the driver seldom, if ever, knows how to teach him; so, to cover these defects, the driver inflicts the most terrible abuse upon the horse. This is what he calls training him. So this training (abuse) is repeated day after day, until one or both breaks down, and for a time they are sick of each other.

It is with shame we say it, but this class of the community are not to be found among those of the lower or-

der, for they cannot afford to risk \$500 or \$5000 dollars for sporting horses. Men sometimes attempt a display of their wealth by the speed of their horses. This evil is decidedly a grown up one, and is to-day only what it has been for some time past. It is for this Society to consider what can be done by its power to alleviate the condition of fast horses. The difficulty still exists of procuring prompt action on the part of the officers of our towns and cities, in bringing up cases before the courts for action. It is a new era of official action, and officers are impressed with the idea that it is the business of some one else to perform.

I would suggest, in this connection, that efforts be made by the directors, by which officers of the police be appointed who will at least be qualified to understand their duty.

The condition of the treasury forbids our employing agents to perform the duties required of our Society in the outskirts of our city and in the towns adjacent, where the greater necessity exists for prompt and energetic action. I desire to say to the Board that all the authorized agents that are laboring for this organization are performing their duties faithfully, and *without* pecuniary consideration. With even a slight effort from our citizens, I can see no reason why this Association cannot be placed on a firm working foundation and made a permanent State organization. Agents should be appointed in every town, with authority to establish branch societies.

The number of complaints for violation of the law for prevention of cruelty to animals the past year, were not so great as the previous year, owing, in a great degree, to the vigilance of the officers of the Association; and I may here say that those who were the violators had also a vigilant lookout for those of our officers and men who were on the lookout for them; hence the necessity of continual vigilance, which is of itself a prevention of crime.

We are under *continual* obligations to the Boston Association for copies of their paper, "Our Dumb Animals," and I recommend a liberal subscription for their paper for distribution, or for a like publication within our own city in the interest of the cause for the dumb animals. It is for the Board of Directors to consider this matter, and I trust their immediate attention will be given to it.

In my last year's report, I suggested the formation of juvenile societies as auxiliary Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, but as yet I believe none have been formed. I now renew the suggestion, and urge the Board of Directors to consider this subject, and if, in their judgment, it is worthy of a trial, to put the matter into active operation, and thereby direct them in the part they are to take in the matter.

A very singular case of abuse to animals, from Stetson, was brought to this office—that a number of cattle belonging to quite a well-to-do farmer, *and he a Justice of the Peace*, had been allowed to lie out in the snow, without shelter or food, only such as could be obtained by their own efforts. The President wrote to Mr. John Rogers, *a Trial Justice* of Stetson, asking him to inquire into the matter and inform us if there was any truth in the statement. Mr. Rogers is, I am informed, one of the Selectmen of Stetson, as well as a Trial Justice. The President's letter was returned by Rogers, with the following note: "I am no public *informer*; please hunt your own information." If such are all the John Rogers, I am not sure but a little burning at the stake is a just retribution. The complaint was, however, prosecuted, and the defendant, after a fair and impartial trial, was fined *ten dollars* and costs, amounting to thirty-two dollars, from which decision the defendant appealed. But after taking advice from his friends, he recalled his appeal and settled up. On inquiry, it has been found that the cattle have not been kept there this winter.

The number of complaints and cases noticed for the year past have been about two hundred, but the number of prosecutions have been only six ; the rest of the complaints were settled without appealing to the courts. The parties to all the above cases acknowledge the supremacy of the law, and *when caught*, are perfectly willing to promise to do better, and most of them keep their promise pretty well, *considering* they do not ask this Association to give bonds to prosecute if they offend the second time. I am satisfied that there is a vast improvement in the treatment of animals within the circle of influence covered by this Association, and one of the great efforts of this Society should be to extend this circle ; and in order to do so, we need pecuniary aid from the gentlemen and kindly advice and influence from the ladies. Without these aids, the Association must become weak and finally perish. I am proud to acknowledge, in behalf of the Association, the pecuniary aid to a fair extent, and the latter, as yet, to a very limited number. The ladies, in this as in other affairs of life, hesitate, but I am led to believe their hesitation in this, as in other matters, is only to be fully assured of the honesty and integrity of the undertaking ; and in order to assure them and give them the fullest confidence of its value, we have, with this report, published a *bona fide* list of its members.

At our regular quarterly meeting in January last, after full discussion of the subject, it was thought advisable to get an act passed by the next Legislature, giving this Society the power to take old, poor, worn-out horses or any other animals within its jurisdiction, and kill them, rather than to allow them to continue in a state of suffering ; and General John L. Hodsdon was requested to confer with members of the Legislature, with a view to the amendment of the law looking to that end. No report has reached this Association in relation to this mat-

ter from General Hodsdon, up to this time, so I am unable to state what has been done. I most heartily recommend that some action in this matter be taken by the Board of Directors, that the Association may have ample time to prepare the matter and lay the same before the next Legislature for their action.

I am very happy to state that the financial condition of this Association is much better than it has been any year since its organization. The Treasurer's statement shows a balance in the treasury of \$156.20, although the expenditures have been quite as large as in former years.

I take this occasion to thank the officers of the Association for all courtesies extended to me, and the prompt and ready assistance rendered in cases requiring their aid, and I now relinquish the honorable trust to which they so unanimously elected me two years ago.

J. D. WARREN,
President Bangor Association for
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

BANGOR, March 3, 1874.

Mr. President and Gentlemen:—It is now about fifty years since Lord Erskine, while riding in the streets of London, saw a drayman cruelly beating his horse, and while admonishing him for his inhumanity, received this reply: "Have I not the right to whip my own animal?" When Erskine, bringing his cane stoutly across the shoulders of the man, caused him to remonstrate, he was met with the inquiry, "Is not this my cane, and have I not the right to use it as I please?" The result was that an act was passed to prevent cruelty to animals, and the Royal Society of London was organized to see that it was properly executed, and it has among its patrons England's Queen and family, and many of the noble men and women of her realm; and this Society has sent abroad its influence throughout all Europe and across the waters to our land, so that in America and the British Provinces like organizations have been multiplied to the number of more than half a hundred, which are hard at work helping on the good cause, and to whom have come many kind remembrances and words of cheer from the parent Society, who will, in a few months, observe its semi-centennial in London. A kind and earnest invitation has been extended to this Association to be present by delegates. Our thanks are due to the "Royal Society" for their special invitation to be present by representatives on that occasion and for a monthly number of the "Animal World," an ably edited and beautifully illustrated advocate of the rights of dumb animals.

I think measures should be taken to find some one that intends to visit England, or some one that is now there, to represent this Society, on that occasion, as we have intimated to them we would do, if possible, by a letter written some months since.

It has been said by a writer, that these Associations have taught the world a new religion. I think it would be more truthful to say, that they have aimed to present to the world the practical workings of the humane principles as found embodied in the "Law and the Prophets" and more fully set forth and enforced in the Gospel of our Saviour, that if we find our neighbors' ox or ass fallen into the ditch or under his burden, that it is our duty to relieve them whether it be on the week day or the Sabbath, and so the people in all lands are being impressed with a stronger conviction of the duty of kindness to animals than perhaps by any other means now in use.

It has also been said in the report of the Philadelphia Society, that no work can be more humane or of greater importance, than that which tends to promote the health and consequent happiness of the community, and the consequent ability of our citizens to work profitably and comfortably, and to enjoy the "rewards of their own industry." This is one of the objects of this Society. Our work embraces not only the prevention of cruelty to animals, but we say *emphatically* to man, "do thyself no harm." We aim to check the sale of feverish, diseased, or unwholesome meats, to provide for the safe transportation of cattle, so that they may be in a healthy condition at the time of slaughtering, to prevent the spread of contagious diseases that are capable of being transmitted from animal to man, to notify those in charge of streets or highways, of any defects that would cause injury to man or beast, prevent miasma or contagion, to warn mothers to see that their infants are not fed on impure milk that has been doubly or trebly watered, in a word, to procure the passage of laws and ordinances necessary to prevent all oppression or cruelty that tends to abridge the welfare or happiness of man or animal, now or hereafter, at home or abroad, by every proper means in our power.

In order to show the necessity of the recent law of Congress, which is entitled "An Act to prevent cruelty to animals while in transit by any railroad, or other means of transportation in the United States," allow me to present a part of a tabulated statement, prepared and reported from the stock yards at Philadelphia: Among the cattle, sheep, and hogs, brought by rail, there were found dead two thousand and three, during the year 1873, or an average per month of one hundred sixty-seven.

There were found on a train reported to have arrived at Pittsburgh, from Chicago, fifteen hundred dead animals, in the month of April last, having died from exposure to cold and storm. But we trust that, by the passage of this law, which makes railroads, steamboats, &c., responsible, as well as the shippers, this average will be reduced, or prevented altogether, and thus save the animals from a cruel death, the owners from loss, and the people from eating unwholesome meat, inducing disease and an untimely end. The disease of animals, which has caused the owners so much anxiety and loss, has proved a providential blessing in that it has enforced the necessity of heeding the lessons of wisdom found in Prov. 27.23—"Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds."

The time was when there were those who thought and dared proclaim that there was a class of *persons* in a condition that had no rights that others were bound to respect; but this false idea has not only been almost entirely corrected, but we have learned that even *dumb animals* have rights that the laws of God and man require us to respect, and we have occasion to congratulate ourselves that this Society is earnestly at work, with more than fifty other organizations, to disseminate these truths over the land and world; and we may say and sing, "The morning light is breaking, the darkness disappears," and "The good time coming" is being hastened on. Already millions of oppressed men, women and children have been lifted from their bondage; duels, prize fights, bull and bear baiting, dog and cock fighting suppressed or driven from the light of day; shooting matches, rat pits, &c., have been discontinued; check-reins have been loosened; loads lightened; working gear improved; drinking fountains established, and better facilities for housing and feeding of animals, with many things that I have not time or space to mention, are the results of our efforts, so that we should thank God and take courage.

We are often stirred and our hearts are pained by reading in our daily papers articles like this:

"A shooting match between two parties of ten men each, commanded respectively by Messrs. Ed. Davis and Jerry Goodwin, took place in Stetson last Wednesday. Capt. Davis' side scored 1305 and Capt. Goodwin's 1330. More than a bushel of squirrels were among the game shot. The losing party gave their opponents an oyster supper at Mr. Walter Brown's."

Just think of it! A company of twenty men sitting down to eat and drink and have a good time, after the wholesale slaughter of two thousand seven hundred and twenty-five innocent creatures (that a good God had created for a wise and beneficent purpose and so mysteriously connected with the welfare of man that our wisdom fails to discover) among which was more than a bushel of squirrels, that had, with much care and effort, constructed their habitations and laid up in them their winter store of choice nuts and other goodies, for themselves and little ones. Think of the consternation, the anxiety, the moanings and cries of these thousands of harmless creatures that waited and watched for the coming of the parents or mates until the light faded out and the darkness came on, not able to understand that men who should have been their friends and protectors had laid them low in death, to secure the enjoyment of an oyster supper. And how it must have been enjoyed, in sight of the bushels of dead animals. Surely, to me it would

have been but as the "impious feast of Belshazzar," and I should have expected to see the hand on the wall and to read the suggestive words it had penned. I earnestly hope that the scene may never again be repeated, as I trust it will not, if the matter shall be by such men properly considered and the sin and wrong rightly understood.

One of the principal hindrances to the progress of our work during the past six years of our organization, has been a want of funds to employ and pay a suitable number of agents, whose duty it should be to search out and bring to justice all violators of the law, not only in the city and adjoining towns, but throughout the county, if not the State. We ought to have a State Society, with branches in every principal town and city; and I am glad to know that the people are awakening to the importance of the matter and are forming new Associations in many places in the State, which will serve to strengthen our hands and help on the good work.

Another want felt by our Society, to give it greater efficiency, is that of spreading more general information among the people by public meetings, lectures, and printed matter for distribution, and a less seeming unwillingness on the part of our daily and weekly journals to publish articles calculated to suppress cruelty and to awaken a more extended interest in our dumb animals.

At the request of the President, I wrote to Mr. Bergh, of New York, asking him if he could visit our city and give us a lecture, but presume he did not get my letter, as I have received no reply as yet. I would advise that measures be immediately taken to secure public meetings, and have no doubt that if we cannot secure speakers from abroad we shall find those among our own citizens who would willingly address us and instruct us. At any rate, let us try.

We are under many obligations to the Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Illinois, California and Canadian Societies for documents, papers and reports, for which they have our thanks, and we hope to be able to extend to them the same courtesies.

Every parent and guardian should have a deep interest in our work, because of its good influence on children. It has long been admitted, that *cruel* boys naturally become *bad* men, and that a tender-hearted boy has within him the elements for making a good and useful man; therefore parents and teachers cannot take too much pains to impress upon the young, under their charge, the wickedness of destroying birds or their nests, or of hurting animals of any kind, or shooting or stoning them in sport. A feeling of sacredness for life is natural to the heart of every human being, and it only requires cultivation to grow into a strong and enduring sentiment, which will guide the actions through each stage of existence. Some instances of kindness to birds have recently come under my notice. A little boy in our city, found a dove that had been badly lamed, so that with great difficulty it secured sufficient food to sustain life. The lad at once became its helper, and daily it came to receive its meal that had been carefully prepared, and soon it brought several others, and up to this time, they receive their meat from his hand. On Hammond street, may be seen a large flock of doves receiving there morning meal, prepared by a lady connected with the establishment of Mr. Frazer.

But I must not extend this communication further, and perhaps I cannot do better in closing, than to quote the beautiful lines that accompany the photograph of "Landseer and his works," by Mendelssohn.

O. H. INGALLS.

MENDELSSOHN'S PHOTOGRAPH OF LANDSEER AND HIS WORKS.

This beautiful card may be purchased for one shilling at all booksellers. We strongly recommend it to our readers. Accompanying it a nicely-printed copy of the following lines is given:—

He painted nothing mean, his skill was such
That all things gained new grace beneath his touch,
And cold must be the heart that is not taught
Some noble lessons by the works he wrought;
For though the weary head is laid in peace,
The honoured master's teachings shall not cease,
And still our eyes may see the helpless woe
Of the poor fawn beside the stricken doe;
Still may we see the noble dog that braved
The dashing surf, and his young master saved;
Still learn to love the shepherd's trusty friend
As we behold him faithful to the end;
Still may we see him seeking in the snow,
While the lost sheep lie hidden deep below.

He gave each thing its fitting attributes
And showed mankind's dependency on brutes,
Yet deigned to paint the piper of the bush,
And Keynard, his poor brother of the brush;
And, when that way his lighter fancy ran,
Made dogs the pleasantest satirists of man.
These were the touches of his softer hours,
But wilder scenes engaged his giant powers.
He showed us how the monarch of the glen
On his snow ramparts, far from haunts of men,
Challenged his antlered foe to cross the loch
And do him battle on the moss-clad rock.
He showed us how they fought by night, and died,
And how the fox beheld their humbled pride;
He shewed the hound and great hart face to face
When in death-struggle ends the glorious chase;
He shewed the horrors of the Highland flood,
Where all are gathered in one brotherhood;
He showed the desolation of the goal
Which men must dare who seek the icy pole,
And how the king of brutes was subject made;
But never shewed he aught which would degrade
The hand that painted or the eye that saw,
A prince of painters, he obeyed the law,
And put his talents out to good account
To render up his Lord the full amount.
He has not lived in vain whose magic art
Portrayed God's creatures in the nobler part;
He has not lived in vain whose teaching tends
To human sympathy with our dumb friends.

J. TEMPLETON LUCAS.