KINDNESS TO OUR FRIENDS, THE DUMB ANIMALS.

Dr. A. S. Alexander, Madison, Wis.

"The greatest need of America is more education of the heart."—Hiram Powers.

"The lack of humane education is the principal cause of crime."

"Show me the laws of a State for the prevention of cruelty to animals and I will in turn give you a correct estimate of the refinement, enlightenment, integrity and equity of that commonwealth."—Hon. L. T. Dashiel, Speaker of Texas House of Representatives.

An interesting and instructive lecture on "Kindness to Our Friends, the Dumb Animals," was given by Dr. A. S. Alexander, of the College of Agriculture, of the University of Wisconsin. It was an extemporaneous talk and finely illustrated by over one hundred stereopticon slides.

Dr. Alexander in his introductory remarks asked, "Are animals dumb?" and to this he said he must answer in the negative. Continuing he said, "Animals have languages of their own, according to their kind, if we can but understand their speech and interpret the signs they make. To do so we must love Nature and her works and become keen, appreciative observers. There is no one so deaf as the person who will not hear and to such an one animals are dumb. But they do talk! Not as did Balaam's beast of burden, yet in simple comprehensive language."

To illustrate this, the speaker said that when a horse that has stood for a long time waiting for its driver on a cold winter's night whinnies to him as he appears at last, that call is speech, for does it not plainly mean, "Say! Old man; do you know that I haven't had my supper and that it's awfully cold standing out here?" Of course it meant that, but perhaps the driver paid no heed to the poor dumb (?) beast. "That was the speech of interrogation," said the speaker, "and we have all heard the loud neigh of recognition, the shrill of anger, the groan of pain and have read in the Bible of the 'Ha, Ha!' of the war horse among the trumpets scenting the battle from afar. It is true, however, that our servant, the horse, suffers in dumb misery under circumstances that would cause the dog to whine or yelp, and it is largely for this reason that men take so little notice of the suffering entailed by numerous cases of lameness and other sources of cruelty.

Nor can one say truly that our servant, the dog is dumb. What a flexible language is his of tongue and tail! I need but mention his growl of anger, his snarl of battle, his howl of dejection, his sad song to the moon, his ecstatic bark at play, his woeful yelps of agony, his expectant music of the chase, his exultant cry of victory. Have you not thrown a ball for him to fetch and had him lay it at your feet and cry in sign language, 'Say! Mister Man, do that again. It was lots of fun.'

Of course you have and you could give me hundreds of illustrations to show that our so-called dumb servants do talk, and that plainly, to those who have ears to hear. And are they not more than servants? Assuredly they are. Were it not for the loving companionship of his dog, many a lone shepherd out on the vast,
still plains of the frontier would go mad from isolation. Lost in the wilds of our own forest lands of the northern counties, hunters become insane, seeking the way home. Under such circumstances, a dog would be much more than a servant to the lost one. He would serve by finding a way out of the difficulty, but do more in the kindly companionship that would cheer the heart of his master and prevent his mind from becoming unbalanced. Away on the snow-clad peaks of the Bernese Alps, those heroic dogs are not servants alone, bringing succor and hope of life to storm-bewildered travelers. Their companionship saves as truly as the stimulants they carry. "What is home—without a dog?" asked Bob Burdette, and he meant, in this inquiry, the companionship rather than the service of the beast. But whether we regard animals as dumb servants or intelligible companions, they deserve merciful treatment from their masters."

Many beautiful pictures of dogs of all kinds were used. Some of them showed the intelligent, perfectly trained collies of Scotland, the strong-set collie for slow work on the fertile farms of the lowland; the slim, fleet collie for fast work and long distance running in "herding" the Cheviot and Black Faced sheep of the green hills and heather-clad mountains. "One of these dogs will do as much work as could forty men on the mountains," said the speaker, "and they are trained by kindness, but firmly, and are properly fed, managed and housed."

He then spoke of the hundreds of nondescript, "yellow cur dogs," so common in the country. The poor man's pet, "for did you ever notice," said he, "that the poorer a man seems to be, the more useless cur dogs he will keep—and fail to feed? Such dogs, when not howling to the moon and disturbing the peace of the neighborhood, often are out slitting the throats and supping the blood of somebody's good Shropshire sheep—living, in fact, at the expense of the neighbors and causing serious damage that is seldom fully paid for in Wisconsin, owing to the inadequacy of the present law relating to the subject."

The lecturer showed a good picture of kindly, intelligent Frank Kleinheinz, shepherd at the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, who has won international fame by the fitting and showing
of fat sheep, which have carried almost all before them at the Chicago International Live Stock Exposition, since the inception of those shows, and who is a strong advocate of better legislation relative to the sheep-killing dog. The need of good shepherds, properly trained collie dogs and the control of worthless curs was strongly brought home to the hearers by a slide showing among stock and game, in the veterinary hospital and in the lonely, dismal city "pound,"—"the place where a feller needs a friend," as the speaker said, in bespeaking kindness for animals, great and small.

Other slides showed that animals can be kind to one another, that kindness pays in keeping work horses in good condition for effective service and cows

Have the Teeth Attended Annually, Else this Abnormal Condition May Result.

192 sheep, out of a flock of 200, killed by two stray dogs one night on a farm in Michigan. Slides were also shown of St. Bernard dogs rescuing travelers on the Alps, and of the monument in Paris to the noted dog, "Barry," of this breed, who saved the lives of 41 travelers.

Many interesting anecdotes were told of the sagacity of dogs accompanied by pictures of dogs with children, working for a maximum production of wholesome milk.

Accompanying pictures showed galled, injured, paralyzed and suffering horses and the speaker told how kindly care may prevent such sores, many of the injuries, much of the suffering and azoturia, which is the commonest cause of paralysis. That disease is caused by feeding the customary ration of oats, or other rich feed, while a work horse is
standing idle for one or more days in the stable. "Never let a horse stand for a single day idle in the stable," advised the speaker, "and," he added, "greatly reduce rich feed and enforce exercise, when there is no work for the horse to do, and azoturia and lymphangitis (‘Monday morning disease’) will become practically unknown."

Pictures of the champion cow of each dairy breed were shown and the record of each cow stated, then dirty cows in filthy stables followed and the speaker made the point that kindliness helps materially in the making of great dairy records, that all cows deserve clean, light, well ventilated stables, that it is cruel to keep them in filthy, hot, dark badly ventilated hovels and that the milk of the cow kept in a dirty stable is dangerous and unfit for human use. The speaker clinched his argument by showing a picture of clean absorbent cotton through which had been strained clean and fairly clean milk and blackened cotton soiled by the dirty and filthy milk it had cleansed. "The wire sieve and the cotton readily remove solid objects, large and small," said the speaker, and then he added, "But let me ask you a solemn, serious question—and please consider the matter carefully before you answer—what becomes of the soup?"

The lecturer sketched the history of Humane Society organization in America and incidentally showed a good portrait of Governor Emmanuel L. Philipp, who for years has been the active and honored president of the Wisconsin Humane Society and "who is trying," said the speaker, "to make Wisconsin an Emmanuel's Land for animals." A portrait was also shown of Hon. Henry Berg (1820-1888) founder in 1866 of the American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, through whom was established the first society for the prevention of cruelty to children, and who established the first ambulance for sick and injured animals and invented the artificial or clay pigeon in seeking to abolish trap shooting of the live birds. Another slide illustrated the fine Henry Berg memorial fountain in Milwaukee, which has quenched the thirst of thousands of work horses and day by day silently preached the doctrine of kindness to man and beast.

Then came a portrait of Hon. George Thorndike Angell, who died in 1909 after a long life devoted to the furthering of kindness, justice and mercy to living creatures, and a picture of the $200,000 Angell Memorial Hospital for Animals in Boston, Mass., which was built by public subscription. The lecturer told how Mr. Angell founded the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals some twenty-five years ago, and also the American Humane Educational Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which has disseminated free literature on the subject throughout the country and led to the organization of Humane Societies all over the world.

To illustrate the good work done by the humane societies, Dr. Alexander showed a picture of the horse watering cart and its magnificent team of horses, owned by the Boston Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and by which means 243,673 horses were watered on the streets of the city in 74 working days from the middle of June into September, when the law abolished public watering troughs for fear of spreading glanders. The subject of watering horses and preventing sunstroke and heat exhaustion was at the same time discussed by the speaker, who said that when the man at work on the farm in the hot days of summer every now and then tips up the "little brown jug" and remarks, "I do love thee,"
after each cooling draft of water, the harder working, more profusely sweating and suffering horse should be similarly remembered and its thirst frequently

will be better and more easily done by all concerned."

Speaking further on the organization of Humane Societies and urging their

quenched. "Love the horse better than the jug—especially the beer and whisky jug"—said the speaker, "and the work establishment everywhere, the lecturer said: "During the past 100 years, humane sentiment has waged an unceasing

Frank Kleinheinz, University of Wisconsin, Shepherd.

"A Man who loves Sheep and so Succeeds with Them."
“Bring Them Up in the Way They Should Go.”
—Photo by Chas. Ried, Wishaw, Scotland.
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warfare against cruelty—not to man-kind alone, but to animals as well. The challenge note of the crusade was boldly sounded when in 1811 Lord Erskine arose in the British House of Peers and pleaded eloquently for justice to the lower animals. Then came “Humanity Martin,” the Irish landlord, who on his vast estate in County Galway, organized a personal humane society and as judge, counsel and jury either committed offenders to jail on the spot, or “took it out of them” in person there and then.

In 1822 the “ill treatment of cattle bill,” commonly known as “Martin's Act,” was made law by the British Parliament and on June 24, 1824, Col. Martin and a few benevolent friends met in London and organized the first regularly authorized society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. From this starting point similar societies have been organized throughout the country. About 100,000 Bands of Mercy also have been formed since the first one was organized in 1882, and Audubon Societies and Bird Clubs are being established everywhere.”

Dr. Alexander spoke feelingly on kindness to children as well as beasts and birds. As to animals, he pleaded that every driver of a horse should say, “I will treat this animal that is in my care just as well as I should like to be treated if I were this animal myself,” and then he quoted Edward Everett Hale, who said, “We are all in the same boat—animals and men—you cannot promote kindness to one without benefiting the other.” He threw on the screen a slide of the “Horse’s Prayer” and speaking of it said that if a horse prays the prayer goes no higher than man, because God has said, “I put you into the world to till and dress the gardens. I give you all authority over the brute world. You shall be to them instead of God” (Exodus IV. 16). Let us treat them humanely. Let us anticipate their prayers, and above all, let us love one another.”

“The farm boy and girl are by far the finest and most important crop in Wisconsin,” said Dr. Alexander, throwing the picture of a big family of boys upon the screen, and then he made an eloquent plea for the orphans and the foundlings in the cities and wished that they might be brought up in the country and given animals for their companions, to love and be kind to and feed and manage properly. “Get an unruly boy to love a pup, or pig or calf or lamb or colt and you instantly regenerate his soul and change his heart so that he becomes easy to mold and lead in the way he should go,” said the speaker, and in concluding the lecture he showed a beautiful picture of a child among animals—the celebrated millenium scene—quoted from Isaiah XI, 6, “The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fattling together and a little child shall lead them,” and after speaking of peace and good-will among men which, in His own good time and way, Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will surely bring upon earth and end war and suffering and sin and sorrow, he recited the familiar lines:

“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, who loveth us, He made and loveth all.”