

MISCELLANIES,  
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POLITICAL AND SOCIAL.

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## NINE REASONS AGAINST THE SCIENTIFIC TORTURE OF ANIMALS.

1. **B**ECAUSE it cannot be justified without justifying the scientific torture of men. To torture a man is not wrong on the ground that he is intelligent or immortal, but only because he has a sensitive body: and the same is true of all vertebrated animals.

2. Because it cannot be practised without an immediate hardening of heart to students who grow up under it, and a spreading demoralization in the community.

3. Because in particular it becomes impossible to punish boys for indulging their boyish curiosity by cruel experiments, when philosophers indulge their philosophic curiosity by experiments prodigiously more cruel. So too, if a philosopher may try how many minutes it takes to bake a dog to death, or what amount of torture suffices to alienate his affection, rude men cannot be punished for trying which of two animals has greater endurance of wounds.

4. Because a medical degree is at best a test of intellectual attainment, not of gentleness, patience, and wisdom; and since one heartless man who has taken a medical degree can torture in living death tens of thousands of dogs, cats, and rabbits, no licence of torture can safely, wisely, or justly be granted to any one by virtue of his degree or station.

5. Because the increasing use of more and more artificial apparatus for ingeniously torturing our innocent, helpless, gentle, and imploring fellow creatures has been accompanied with an increasing tendency in the medical profession to approve of and promote artificial impurity in the blood and in morals; *cruelty, recklessness,* and *impurity* going hand in hand; so that we are threatened with demoralization of a complicated order from the profession which ought simply to minister to health.

6. Because it cannot be proved that any truth of science worth knowing is not attainable by legitimate observations and experiments which involve no cruelty, and especially by observations and experiments on human beings, with their full assent.

7. Because in particular it is denied by competent medical authorities that the circulation of the blood and the function of the nerves were discovered by vivisection; while other eminent persons have avowed that this cruel practice has perpetuated error and distracted students from truer modes of discovery.

8. Because it is not even pretended that the cruelties aim directly at the relief of human suffering. Avowedly they aim at science, that is, at the gratification of curiosity; any relief to man from it, is only contingent and barely possible, and to judge by results, may rather be called a fiction and a fraud not pious.

9. Because Christendom has long since been taunted by the nations beyond as the Hell of Animals, and Christianity must be eternally and fatally disgraced, if nations called Christian allow the perpetration of these heart-rending enormities under any pretext whatever.