

tical purposes, insane cases may nearly all be grouped in a simple way under a few general mental states, one of which being present gives the character and name to the disease. The faculties of the mind are said to be feeling, thinking and the will. The term feeling must not be confounded with the sensation arising from the special sense of touch. What it means cannot well be put in words, but we all know what is meant by pleasurable or painful feelings. According as the feelings are unnaturally painful or pleasurable we classify many cases of insanity.

So we will make three grand divisions of the insane :

1st, There is the melancholy class, whose minds are in a depressed state ; 2nd, the maniacal, whose minds are in an elated state ; and 3rd, the demented, whose minds are in a state of enfeeblement. The melancholy are the most numerous, although not so according to hospital figures, for more of them are kept at home for treatment. You may often tell from the patient's face that the characteristic of the disease is depressed feeling. His head may be bowed, or his eyes cast down, and every feature indicate unhappiness. He talks little, or may refuse to speak. The mind seems to act slowly, the memory dazed. In some cases you can detect little else wrong. He may be able to talk like others about his symptoms. Indeed that is the trouble, the patient thinks of nothing but himself, his unworthiness, etc. Self is the prominent characteristic. He interests himself in nothing else. But all are not quiet. The patient may groan, or cry (for he can shed tears), pacing the floor and wringing his hands. His thoughts may plainly show disorder, his mind being full of painful delusions of which he may talk much. Tortured with fear, he may be as frenzied and violent as any maniac. The melancholiac is often suicidal.

In mania we find the opposite condition. The feelings of the maniac are exalted, often excited. Thus the fundamental difference between the two is in the state of the feelings. They may have other symptoms in common. The maniacal patient's mind is usually overactive, unbridled. His thoughts come too rapidly for utterance, and his speech may be a jumble of words. He talks rapidly, and his loquaciousness is often trying. His memory is acute, his imagination