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CRIMINAL ANTHROPOLOGY—A REVIEW.

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The treatment of criminals has perplexed the statesmen of all ages, and in their efforts to protect society against the criminal, all kinds of methods have been tried. For centuries the underlying principle of penal law was that on vengeance and repression. The state tried in vain to suppress crime by the terror of tortures and intimidation. "All hope abandon ye who enter here," might properly have been inscribed over the portals of every penal institution a century ago, for the whole life of the prisoner was ingeniously contrived for producing misery and despair, so that his mind might be filled with the hideous terror of it, in the belief that upon his release fear would act as a deterrent to crime. Even on his release the pitiless vengeance of society followed him up, for the criminal at that period was marked and branded for life, that he might serve as a living warning to others if he tried to fall into step with the world again.

Did it work as anticipated? Of course not. In fact crimes of property became even more daring, until experience was crystallized into the axiom that "crime thrives upon very severe penalties." In the older countries the prisons and jails