

ence of the race, early strives to suppress every emotional impulse leading in that direction. A certain psychical perversion is the result, and the unhappy individual gives indirect vent to his natural physiological inclinations through an intellectual channel. The ecstasies of what is known as "conversion," and "sanctification," and "second blessing," are often nothing more and nothing less than a perversion of the erotic instinct, and a vicarious means of sexual gratification. A very striking peculiarity of such perverts is a tendency to lapse from the perverted manifestation of emotion to the natural expression of the same with almost explosive suddenness and frenzy, which shows that such perversions are merely a temporary makeshift of the cramped faculties.

A vast mass of evidence could be brought forward in proof of these statements, chiefly from the class of female celibates which, under existing traditions, is necessarily a very large one; and of this class not more from those who from accident, or choice, or religious scruples have remained in a state of celibacy from the first, than from those who have experienced the natural play of their functions for a time and have subsequently been forced, or found it convenient, to remain in a state of celibacy. Perhaps the most familiar example is to be found in the case of those who, upon the decay of the functions referred to, become perverted in the manner already described, and, having survived their energies, desperately try from mystical vigils and rites to extort from their waning existence an aftermath of emotional excitement. This tendency to perversion is facilitated undoubtedly by the symbolism of sex in constant use in the Christian as in all other religions. In this system of symbolism both sexes are represented, and upon these ideal types the pervert tenaciously fixes his thoughts; one figure being a paragon of manly virtues and the other the complete embodiment of feminine loveliness. Upon these poetic lay figures the mind of the religious pervert luxuriously battens.

Some forms of perversion are so preposterous as to suggest the advisability of placing the patient under proper control; but the majority of cases can only be regarded as personal idiosyncrasies and isolated indications of the insidious process of degeneration which is taking place in the inmost structure of modern civilization.

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## A MACHINE FOR MANUFACTURING PLASTER-OF-PARIS BANDAGES.

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To those surgeons whose work requires the use of a large number of plaster-of-paris bandages it is a matter of considerable importance to be able to manufacture them with the least possible