

moral insanity are combined. These perhaps figured in the ancient codes as brutal criminals.

In the meantime moral insanity has been gaining ground, and though in the beginning of the present century it was excluded from all the statistical tables of mental diseases, as a savage thrust against justice and law, it is now admitted as a guest in almost all the statistics of asylums. The American, Dr. Hughes, of St. Louis, editor of the *ALIENIST*, when at the Medical Congress in London, admitted it under the title of *affective insanity*. Van Persyn, the distinguished director of the most important asylum in Holland, has also accepted it. Dr. Kesteven, of England, does not doubt it; he even extends its domain, saying that all crime is insanity. The famous Guiteau appeared to Lutaud and others to be morally insane. As respects Italy it may suffice to say that in the four censuses which I have made in a tabular form, moral insanity has been recognised in nearly all the asylums, including those of Trento and Trieste. On this occasion I observed that moral insanity is most frequent in the male sex, and in the upper classes.

We must not however admit moral insanity with our eyes closed. It would then be too easy for real delinquents to escape the consequences of their offences. Lawyers would, in some cases, magnificently comprehend the value of *moral daltonism*, and in others of larvate epilepsy. There are poor devils who do wrong, believing it to be right; these creatures, because of a violent and untimely discharge of some cerebral cells, involuntarily and irresistibly, or even unconsciously, commit serious offences. It is necessary therefore, to distinguish the true cases of moral insanity from the false or simulated. If some individuals pretend to have a bad headache, or to be very weak, in order to avoid work, it does not follow that other unfortunates ones are not, from such causes, unable to work. It is indeed difficult to distinguish with certainty, these two classes, the real and the simulated or fictitious. This was the question which was