

Justice, was well known. With a criminal lunatic asylum in eastern Canada, it is somewhat of a hardship on the denizens of the Prairie Province to confine a miscreant so dangerous in an unwall'd prison, as the penitentiary here is. Why not send him east, when he might afford study for the further advancement of psychological science in that part of the Dominion?

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

THE BORDER LINE OF SANITY AND INSANITY.

This line has never been definitely fixed. Mandsley says:—"It certainly would be vastly convenient, and would save a world of trouble, if it were possible to draw a hard and fast line, and to declare that all persons who were on one side of it must be sane, and all persons who were on the other side of it must be insane. But a very little consideration will show how vain it is to attempt to make such a division. That nature makes no leaps, but passes from one complexion to its opposite by gradations so gentle that one shades imperfectly into another, and no one can fix positively the point of transition, is a sufficiently trite observation."

It is with those who dwell near this border line that science receives her greatest perplexities. When crimes are committed by those who are near this line the great question has been—on which side of the line have they been? The question of responsibility is determined by an attempt to find the line, and to find out on which side of the line the deed has been committed.

There are many men who are sane, but who live near the border; a slight trip or stumble and they are liable to be thrown over the line into the land of insanity. Let such a one live properly; let him attend regularly to the laws of his being; let him eat proper food, take proper drink, and have proper sleep, and he passes through the world as a sane man. But let

that man be thrown into mental worry; let him meet with reverses in business—and he loses his equilibrium, and becomes insane. Let that man drink spirituous liquors to drive away dull care—his weak will-power becomes weaker; his habit of drinking now overcomes him; he swears by all that is good he will leave it, but he is soon found again under the influence of the intoxicating bowl. Let that man commit some deed of violence while in an intoxicated spell; we shall not discuss the question of responsibility? He may be paralysed in speech and ideas, or he may be furious with rage, or wholly insensible; or he may suffer from delirium tremens, even when he has ceased drinking perhaps for days. Besides, his delirium tremens may run into an ordinary insanity with delusions, and he may lapse into dementia and utter obliteration of memory and mental power, from which he may never emerge.

EXPERT WITNESSES.

A late witty judge is well known to have classified false witnesses under the three heads of "liars, d—d liars, and experts;" and it is quite certain that an element of partisanship, of desire to do their best for the litigant who had employed them, used seldom to be absent from the testimony of the latter. In many instances there would be a certain amount of probability in favor of each of two different or even opposite views, and these views would each be presented by men whose opinions were of recognised value, but between whose conflicting statements it would be impossible for a jury to decide by any other process than that of tossing up. A lady, for example, received an accidental blow on her right eye from the whip of a passing coachman, and sued the coachman's master for damages. Experts examined her, and it was found that she had an early stage of cataract in both eyes, but more advanced in the right than in the left. On this both sides were agreed. The plaintiff's expert, however, maintained that the blow had either been the ex-