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**SOCIAL AND PERSONAL MEASURES FOR THE CONTROL
AND LIMITATION OF INSANITY.**

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Insanity, or to speak more broadly, racial degeneration accompanied by mental disorder in the individual, is on the increase in America and Europe. This statement is not based upon a comparison of published Asylum records of the past and present time; for though these also show clearly an increase in Mental Disorders much exceeding in proportion the increase in the population, it must be remembered that the incident of asylum residence is purely a matter of practical convenience at the time of the attack, of which many, but not necessarily all, take advantage; and also that the legal definition of insanity upon which such commitments are based is in all cases a narrow, and in many cases an unscientific, one.

Because some cases of diphtheria are so severe, and the means for treatment at home so inadequate that the friends are forced to remove the patient to a hospital, it does not follow that a list of such cases will furnish anything like a true or complete idea of the diphtheria of the time.

Perhaps, though Heaven forbid! the over copious nomenclature of Psychiatry might with advantage be enriched by the invention of some new generic term to cover all forms of mental degeneration, whether intellectual or moral, independent of existing criteria. A term which would embrace not only the insane at present in duress, but the insane who are, and always will be, at