

# Dominion Medical Monthly

And Ontario Medical Journal

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## COMMENT FROM MONTH TO MONTH.

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**The Degenerate.**—It must be growing more and more evident to the physician, and even to the thinking layman, that the occurrence of criminal assault is becoming more painfully frequent. It might seem at first sight that this is in a large measure due to two things: our increasing population, and the influx of a large number of foreigners of low mental and moral calibre; but on more careful consideration we think other and more potent factors in the causation of this intolerable condition must be taken into account. Quite apart from this undesirable and, perhaps, unavoidable foreign invasion, there is a most potent native force at work, which, to our way of thinking, is responsible for a large majority of local criminal records; we refer to the ever-increasing number of neuropathic subjects encountered in our everyday life. And it is not enough to state this evident fact; rather should we seek for the causes which produce this greatly increasing number of nervous bankrupts. This is a large order, were it attempted in detail; but for our