

is restored "ad sano mores." The same principle applies to criminal as to vicious imbeciles, which constitute the chief part of the incorrigible of the population. They are held in law to be entitled to uncontrolled freedom, when not convicted of offences against the law, and thus they become mischievous to society. Practically under the influence of the system of control, detention and cure woul' be still the fate of the criminal, but mercy and cure, not terror and repression, would be the aim and the result of its operation.

To accomplish this, there must be alteration of the law, so as to permit other issues to be tried than delusion or hallucination, or knowledge of right and wrong.

The appointment of a competent physician for states or districts, to assist the Judges in all cases of disordered mind, would be desirable. All the scandalous scenes of opposing doctors would be avoided by the appointment of a competent man to help the Judge to decide these cases. The principle that a man is insane or not, as compared with his past state, not according to the fancies of twelve ignorant jurymen, would then have its due weight. The standard, as I have said, is the comparison of the mind with itself at different periods of life. The law as it now stands violates well known physiological principles, and should be amended, not in the spirit of Lord Chelmsford, by setting those principles at defiance, but in obedience to them, if it seeks to merit a reputation for truth and equity. Law has been said to be the embodiment in a code, of truth and justice. The sooner it merits this definition the better for its fame, for its condition now is intolerably disgraceful to the present state of knowledge. It ought not to be endured that the Courts of Law and the Schools of Medicine should be at issue on the fundamental question, whether insanity be a disease or not. As medicine is on this point far in advance of law, and to it is due the rescue of the insane from that state of