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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Three cases of well marked Moral Insanity, with remarks; reported for the Canada Medical and Surgical Fournal.

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It is now a recognized fact, by all scientific medical men that there can be no case of Insanity, from any exciting cause whatever, if there does not exist already, an insane neurosis, that is a predisposition, in either, or both, of the intellectual and moral faculties, or more properly speaking the intellectual and moral organization, from which these faculties come. Of course there is the exception, where there is organic disease, such as apoplexy, and softening of the brain, or a disorganised state of the brain from direct injury. The next well established fact is, that all cases of Insanity, whether it be intellectual or moral, or a combination of both, is produced by physical causes. Some physical disease of the nervous centre must exist, consequently insanity to be treated, on scientific principles, must be treated both physically and morally. There is not much difficulty in diagnosing a case of insanity depending upon direct organic disease, but it is not always very easy, to diagnose a case of insanity, particularly if it is moral insanity, from functional derangement. It is so very easy to confound moral insanity, with moral depravity, or what we call wickedness. The following quotation is from Maudsley on "Responsibility in Mental Diseases."