

becility, epilepsy, vagabondage and crime. Every student of the dark side of human nature must admit that drunkenness is very frequently the first visible symptom of a decaying stock.

Closely connected with some classes of the defectives is the criminal. In most cases he commits anti-social acts because he lacks the capacity to earn an honest living. We are all liable to follow the line of least resistance. This is particularly true of the criminal. Like a child or a savage, he soon tires of any systematic employment, takes the shortest cut to relieve his present wants, quite careless of the future. It has been observed among the lowest strata of society, that in large families where the older sons are criminals, the younger are paupers, thus showing the close connection between these two classes of degenerates.

Crime in its widest sense is a violation of law either human or divine, but it is generally confined to actions contrary to the laws of the state. In the past, punishment has been adjusted to the crime, mainly as a deterrent, with very little reference to the character of the criminal. To-day people are awakening to the fact that each individual found committing any overt act against the state, should be the subject of a careful physical and psychological diagnosis.

Time will not permit even a brief analysis of the different varieties of crime, so for our present purpose we shall consider it as a whole. Hereditary instinct and environment are the two factors in the production of crime. One of the most important monographs on the study of heredity in its relation to crime, as well as the part played by a suitable environment, was written by Robt. L. Dugdale, of the State of New York. It is called the "Jukes" family—"a study in crime, pauperism, disease and heredity." It was the result of two special inquiries—one of county jails in 1874, the other of state prisons in 1875. He found nothing worthy of special notice until he reached a certain county, the name of which he does not give, where *six* persons, who were blood relations, were held for trial for various crimes. The ancestors of these people had lived in that locality for several generations and had not intermingled, to any extent, with the later immigrants to that region. The place and its surroundings were well suited to be the "cradle of crime." A mountainous locality, away from the common line of travel, rocky, barren and dreary of aspect, it was a suitable site for such a miserable race. Here they lived in the winter season in hovels of wood or stone that had done duty for several generations, fit only for the slaves of the South. In the summer season both