

eating. It is most likely that the result in this case would have been the same, but the unseemly exhibition of antagonistic experts would have been avoided, if the jury had been directed to determine whether Tyler was competent to take care of his own property, not whether he was unsound in mind. It cannot be held that every one who has a crotchet in his head is incompetent to manage his affairs, though it might be maintained that he was not altogether sound in mind. Still less can it be held that a man like Tyler, who has incomprehensible notions about the Book of Revelations must be deprived of the control of his property; for if that is to be the test of soundness, more than half the clergy of this and every other Protestant country are unfit to manage their glebes, and are as mad as King Lear. The comments of the writer of the article are in the main true, and they help to demonstrate the necessity of altering the law, so that judges may put the right issues before juries, if juries are competent to try such cases.

There is an article on "the value of Expert Testimony," well worthy of attentive perusal, in No. 1, Vol. 28, of the *Journal of Insanity*. The writer says that the issue to be tried in the case he is commenting on, ought to be this:—"Whether a man who for thirty years had shown all those traits of character which belong to imbecility, and shown no other, was competent to take personal charge of a large estate." In this case justice was defeated through the incompetence of the jury, the combativeness of experts, and the deficiency of law.

The tenacity with which lawyers hold to their opinions and practice, in the face of facts, is very remarkable. Daily experience shows abundantly that a man or woman may be imbecile morally, from cerebral disorder and disease, and yet have great intellectual or even high logical powers. There are many who being thus diseased mentally, drink to drunkenness, are lascivious, lie, steal, are obscene, homicidal and malicious, in spite