

The first does not need our attention.

The second are ulcerous and diseased outgrowths on society that will pass away and our efforts must be directed to prevent future recurrence.

The third, a gradually increasing class, the result of natural causes, and if not to be eliminated in toto could be greatly reduced in numbers.

The fourth class is the one that all efforts of society should be directed towards perfecting, for from it the preceding classes spring, and but few laws need to be studied or acted on. They are :—

1st.—Hereditary Transmission.

2nd.—Indissolubility of the marriage tie with its home associations.

3rd.—A correct appreciation of the Dignity of Labor, and that all individuals be trained to make their own living by the hand as well as the head.

4th.—Moral training with fixed or positive religious ideas.

5th.—A General and Practical Education.

6th.—Definite Instruction in sanitary Laws.

1ST LAW, HEREDITARY TRANSMISSION.

Parentage imposes on offspring the dominant characters of each, and though there is also a distinctive individuality (no two brothers or sisters being alike) yet we receive the impress from our parents, and this the more when these impressions have been to them transmitted.

Thus is explained the failure to inherit special pronounced or accidental talents. The sons of specially gifted parents often fail in the heritage of the marked ability of a parent, unless this has been transmitted to either parent. *Prepotency* is the term used to express this power and the potency is the more certain as it has been more frequently transmitted. We may accept this as a law and base our remarks on it.

A very long list of disorders, both mental and physical, are classed as Hereditary. By this we mean not that disease is present in the offspring at birth, but that certain organs are imperfectly developed or vitilized and hence become a prey to disease that would not affect another normally constituted.

This is the key to the whole subject, and explains what many fail to understand. To illustrate: Does intermarriage of cousins impose disease on the offspring? Not at present taking the inherent weakness resulting from this practice into consideration, the answer is *yes* and *no*. *No*, if both parents are in perfect health. This is an enigmatical expression—apparent health may exist in a much dilapidated organism—when life has been so favored that no severe strain has been placed on any organ. For since a healthy organism has a very large factor of safety (to use an engineering expression) a very defective one may show no signs of weakness where no stress has been applied.

Since it is very exceptional that any family is perfect, intermarriage doubly intensifies any defect that may be present. Hence the answer, *yes* can as a rule be given and such unions are fraught with danger. Where financial loss is probable how the faculties are