

whether they come from the plains of Poland, the steppes of Russia or the slums of Manchester and Birmingham."

While all will endorse these opinions, we as a profession can have no special weight in mapping a policy by which desirable emigrants may be had. Still, as citizens of a grand country, we can do something to promulgate the very excellent views expressed in this particular. It is to that part of the article dealing with the care of the defective element of our population that we desire to call the attention of the medical profession of this province especially. In the field of prevention and care we should not only have influence, but we should exert all our power for good.

Mr. Irving says, "among the defectives may be classed the diseased, deformed, feeble-minded, drunkards, epileptic and that discouraged, hopeless class, notably those bereft of home very early in life and who have been reared in benevolent institutions, those indigent, faint souls, past corporeal toils."

It is to the one class of feeble-minded that we wish to direct attention in this article.

It may be a matter of surprise to some to know that for this element of our population we have absolutely no provision. In other countries, and in at least one province in the Dominion, institutions, some supported by the state, others by private charity, exist, to which the idiot, and feeble-minded are sent, and in which are provided such instruction as will develop any latent intellect, and as a result a large per centage can be taught to take care of themselves to a certain extent. In fact under proper methods of teaching, all, except the hopelessly idiotic, receives distinct benefit.

This neglect on our part should be corrected, and with a view to discover what number of feeble-minded children especially there are in this province, Dr. Sinclair, inspector of humane institutions, has recently sent a circular letter to the members of our profession asking that he be furnished with the names of all such children known to them. Provided with such information it will be possible to agitate upon the question of supplying a proper school or asylum into which such afflicted members of our population may be gathered and trained by modern methods. As it is now such children are sent to the poor houses in which it is not possible to do anything on educational lines, or they are kept at home under the affectionate but unscientific direction of parents or relatives. As matters now are