

countries the increase has already begun to cause alarm. Lawyers and judges fail in their management of the criminal classes because their methods are founded on mere arbitrary precedent, without a due regard for the ever changing conditions and circumstances of an acutely progressive age. Medical science offers more hope for the future and promises to be able to show what is the real physical cause of crime. Physiology of the brain is defective and leaves us entirely in the dark in regard to many interesting and important phases of cerebration. Yet it plainly shows there is a logical and definite connection between normal brain structure and normal function as exhibited in the lives and acts of men. It remains for gross and microscopic pathology to point out what actual lesions exist in the brains of criminals. Then a rational and intelligent system of treatment will be adopted which will be in the interest both of the criminal classes and the general public.

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### PROSTATIC HYPERTROPHY.

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SINCE the distinguished Philadelphia surgeon, Dr. J. William White, has called the attention of the profession to the value of castration as a curative or relief measure in some of those cases of senile enlargement of the prostate which are so often a source of distress and misery in elderly men, there has been fresh interest given to the subject from the standpoint of pathology, inasmuch as a correct knowledge of this must determine our line of action when the serious question of unsexing an individual arises. First, let us for a moment consider what the functions of this organ are.

It is commonly classified with glands, but strictly speaking, from an anatomical standpoint, it is not, as its epithelial or secreting elements form but a minor proportion of its structure. In its parenchyma we find an abundance of erectile tissue, with considerable smooth muscle fibre in the trabeculae. It presents many striking points of analogy with the uterus, in its great vascularity, its density and muscular frame-work. It is probably functionless, except in generation, and no one is conscious of its presence as a factor in the economy until the degenerative changes