

vicious, in whom I have never been able to discover any sign that would justify the diagnosis of epilepsy.

I believe that moral insanity is absolutely not a simulated form; I believe that in a medico-legal discussion we could never find much difficulty in refuting the suspicion of simulation, regarding a morbid form which had indicated to us a moral insanity; it seems to me to be very difficult to assure ourselves of proof of simulation, for it requires many studies, many observations and very close enquiries, before we can establish it; and I find that no form, or at least but very few phreniatric forms, present, in themselves, evidence so reliable for practice as moral insanity; when we have present the means by which it may be discovered, and when we hold in view all the alterations manifested, it must be very difficult of simulation. I now say frankly that it appears to me to be one of those forms which an individual would hardly select for simulation, because it is so vast, and one who is not a medical alienist would find it very difficult to deceive an expert.

Finally, I say that in order to establish the existence of a moral phrenosis, the means of deciding cannot be furnished unless by the full history of the individual and of the case, and from a precise recognition of a defective relation between the intellect and the affections, and above all from that incorrigibility to which Prof. Verga has justly alluded. I do not admit that degenerative characters suffice to give us an exact idea of moral insanity. I admit that these characters are often found in the unfortunates, who are morally diseased, but I here repeat what I have said of epilepsy.

When moral insanity has been alleged to depend on one of these alterations which are said to form degenerative personal character, in my estimation, it would cease to be a phrenopathia, and would become a nervous form, like the majority of mental maladies, a nervous form which has its substratum in a physical alteration which we are well able to appreciate. This is my way