

that he was injuring himself alone, and it was none of our business ; but unfortunately the law of heredity comes in here with great force, and not only the craving for strong drink is transmitted, but the cunning and thieving propensities developed in the parent to obtain it, are intensified in the offspring, making him a bane to society. We also constantly find that the enfeebled mind of the drunkard who is deprived of his mental and moral powers of discrimination is developed in idiocy or some other form of insanity in his offspring. As a proof of this the statistics of the State of Massachusetts affirm, that of 300 idiots 145 were the children of intemperate parents.

M. Morel, than whom no greater authority can be quoted says, " I constantly find the sad victims of the alcoholic intoxication of the parents in their favourite resorts,—the asylums for the insane, prisons and houses of correction."

Much might be added of the general criminal propensities, almost amounting to insanity, of the self made drunkard, as well as the congenital criminal, that would be of interest, but this will suffice for the present.

I can hardly agree with Dr Howard in saying that we must let the marriage question rest, because it touches on so tender a point as Love, but rather use that very incentive to exert some influence in averting the consequences of injudicious marriages. So let us instill into our young men and women the evil results which must inevitably follow from marriages of this description, and seek to warn by their sad results, those who are blindly entering thereon. We must invite the Clergy to aid us, and work incessantly to achieve our object. For we not only have to work at the sad results of unsuitable marriages from the standpoint of Insanity, but the many other dire affections that are transmitted as a heritage to the incoming population, such as Phthisis and Tuberculous affections generally : including Scrofula, Cancer and many others which it is unnecessary to mention.