

the affliction of the idiot, the epileptic, the imbecile, the hydrocephalic, the choreic, and the mentally debilitated, up to the alcoholic father, mother, or grandparent, in so many and such clearly marked instances that it is quite impossible to deny his conclusions from the data he gives. An alcoholic subject runs a terrible risk of conferring upon his descendants either insanity or tendency to vice, or suicide, or hysteria, the milder nervous disorders. The legacy of evil may miss a generation, and then appear in the next.

THAT THE MORAL CHARACTER of the drunkard becomes degenerated, we are constantly compelled to observe; and perhaps the mildest form in which he transmits the consequences of his vice to his offspring is in the form of a dulled moral sentiment, a hazy mental outlook which, while not always developing to actual turpitude, yet makes the higher forms of manly and womanly nobleness difficult, if not impossible, of attainment. Dr. Bourneville has written a very interesting preface to the essay in which he asks, in view of the sad revelations of the statistics: What is to be done to remedy the evil? He suggests the establishment of special asylums for the treatment of inebriates; much greater supervision of the drink trade, and increased penalties for adulteration; but above all, the making known to the public—the education of the public in regard to—the awful consequences which drinking customs entail, not only on the drinkers themselves, but upon their descendants.

A SOURCE OF DISCOURAGEMENT is the reflection that few, if any, of our schemes for ameliorating the condition of our fellow men do more than touch the surface of the evils attacked, leaving their obscure and deep-seated cause to go on producing a like train of ills entirely uninfluenced by our efforts; this chiefly from want of education. Some one asked Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes if it were not the fact that every disease could be cured if the doctor were called early enough? "Yes," he replied, "but early enough would commonly be two hundred years in advance." That Moorish doctor spoke like a philosopher when he prayed: 'Oh God, be kind to the wicked! Thou hast been sufficiently kind to the good in making them good.' We must all have sometimes wished that the human race could be propagated with as much care as breeders bestow

upon horses and cattle; and no thinking man of our profession can contemplate without pain the marriages of consumptives, sphilitics, neurotics, or drunkards.

THAT CRIME AND MENTAL DISEASE are simply the effects of criminal or cerebral atypism and therefore anatomically necessitated, has been very vigorously attacked in an able paper which Dr. George Gould recently read before the Medical Jurisprudence Society of Philadelphia. He maintained not only that this theory is not proved, but that it is disproved by unanswerable facts and arguments, and that modern civilisation is bringing about its own ruin by worshipping the hideous creation of its own fancies. If we look for atypism, it may be that we would find it both in criminals and the insane. Why? Because we cannot find a perfectly symmetrical skull or a perfectly typical brain in the world. Are there no sane folk, with atypical skulls? Dr. Gould has the gravest misgivings as to whether or no we are cultivating crime and insanity; and he quotes Dr. Farr and Professor Graham Bell to show how we are contributing to race deterioration in permitting the imbecile, idle, criminal, and defective classes to breed *ad libitum*.

THE AUTHOR MAINTAINS that all lunacy and all crime have resulted from slight repetitive but always conscious departures; from right living and thinking, and sound medicine has to check the departures. "The lie is not in the brain; it is in the liar. Evolution is dead against the modern Frankenstein; but Society says of its pet criminal, 'Poor fellow, he was crazy; let's build him a nice big asylum, and feed him, and hire attendants and doctors to wait on him.'" The Chinese regard insanity not as an extenuating, but as an aggravating, circumstance in connection with crime.

SOCIETY MUST LOOK FOR INSTRUCTORS and administrators mainly to members of our profession who have exceptional opportunities for forming just views as to the origin and transmission of insane and criminal tendencies, says the above mentioned journal. "The best hope lies in prevention." "The criminal class exists, and it is an evil that it is permitted to multiply itself by reproduction, but the greater evil is that it is being continually recruited from above; by the operation of disease—of alcoholism, and syphilis especially—and of unhealthy surroundings, using that phrase in its widest