

this cause may be." He then asks the question, "Is it possible that every moral delinquency has a physical cause?" or in other words, is every criminal diseased physically and does he commit crime as a result, and only as a result of that physical disease?" Very few medical men, I think, would care to answer these questions in the affirmative, and yet what data have we at hand upon which to base a rational and intelligent conclusion?

All reasoning should be based upon carefully observed and well assorted facts. When a murderer is hanged his body is buried in the jail yard. Only the most formal post-mortem examination is made by a general practitioner who has little or no special knowledge or experience in microscopic or gross pathology. Could not this valuable material be made to shed much light upon the causes of crime? Paupers, chronic alcoholics, and those who have been convicted of petty crimes from time to time, die in our jails and almshouses. A thorough post-mortem examination of these subjects by a competent pathologist would produce an abundant supply of reliable facts from which criminologists could draw sound and scientific conclusions. These facts would not only throw light on the causes of crime, but would assist in the diagnosis and classification of criminals. It is a well known fact that disease of other organs, apart from the brain, may have a powerful influence over the disposition and conduct of an individual. Patients with anæmia are apt to be melancholy, morose and irritable. Chronic diseases of the heart, such as valvular incompetency and obstructions, fatty degeneration or congenital smallness may profoundly alter the cerebral circulation and thus cause a deviation from the normal function of the brain. Puerperal mania is a familiar example of how the brain may be affected by a toxic influence circulating in the blood.

A large number of prisoners in penitentiaries have physical defects that are plainly visible. Some experienced wardens state that as many as seventy-five per cent. of prisoners have such visible defects. In many cases one side of the head is larger than the other, showing either partial arrest or other abnormal development of the brain. Such defects are well illustrated by the following report in Inspector Byrne's book, "The Professional Criminals of America." Report No. 2. David Bliss, alias Dr. Bliss, sneak; thirty-nine years old in 1886; born in U.S., married; doctor; slim built, height five feet eight inches and a half, weight one hundred and thirty-five pounds, light-colored hair turning gray, gray eyes,