

TABLE XII.—*Showing number of pupils having one or more deaf-mute relatives.*

(American Asylum for Deaf-Mutes. Report for 1877.)

693 pupils had	1 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
374 pupils had	2 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
224 pupils had	3 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
120 pupils had	4 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
65 pupils had	5 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
35 pupils had	6 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
15 pupils had	7 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
9 pupils had	8 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
4 pupils had	10 or more relatives deaf and dumb.
3 pupils had	15 or more relatives deaf and dumb.

Without going into detail, the results may be noted of an examination of a few other institution reports* where the deaf-mute relatives are recorded.

TABLE XIII.—*Proportion of the deaf and dumb having deaf-mute relatives.*

Institutions.	Total number of pupils.	Number of pupils having deaf-mute relatives.	Percentage of pupils having deaf-mute relatives.
American Asylum	2,106	693	32.9
New York Institution	1,165	380	32.6
Ohio Institution	560	166	29.6
Indiana Institution	283	103	36.4
Illinois Institution	1,620	356	21.7
Texas Institution	89	21	23.6
Total	5,823	1,719	29.5

The above table shows us that out of 5,823 deaf-mutes taken from different parts of the country no less than 1,719, or 29½ per cent., were known to have relatives deaf and dumb.

If this proportion holds for the whole country, we must have in the United States about 10,000 deaf-mutes who belong to families containing more than one deaf-mute.†

It is to be feared that the intermarriage of such persons would be attended by calamitous results to their offspring.

These are not, however, the only cases in which we would anticipate that the deafness of the parents might be transmitted to the children. The lessons we have learned from the lower animals concerning heredity teach us that a certain physical peculiarity, which may normally make its appearance only sporadically here and there, may be perpetuated and rendered hereditary, by suitable selection, during a number of generations, of those individuals that happen to possess the peculiarity from birth.

* The tables relating to the deaf-mutes of Ohio, Indiana, New York, Texas, and Illinois have been compiled from the following sources:

1. Ohio. "List of pupils admitted to the Ohio Asylum previously to January, 1854." American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb, Vol. VI, pp. 101-116.
2. Indiana. "Catalogue of the pupils of the Indiana Institution from its commencement in 1843 to November 1, 1853." American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb, Vol. VI, pp. 162-169.
3. New York. "List of pupils of the New York Institution, &c., complete from May, 1818, to January, 1854." American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb, Vol. VI, pp. 195-225.
4. Texas. "List of pupils in attendance at the Texas Institution (1881)." See Exhibit A, twenty-fifth annual report of the superintendent of the Texas Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Austin, Tex., November 1, 1881.
5. Illinois. "List of pupils of the Illinois Institution admitted between 1846 and 1882." Twenty-first biennial report of the trustees, superintendent, and treasurer of the Illinois Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb. Jacksonville, Ill., October 1, 1882.

† The number is probably greater, even exceeding twelve thousand, as will be seen farther on. (See Table XVII.)