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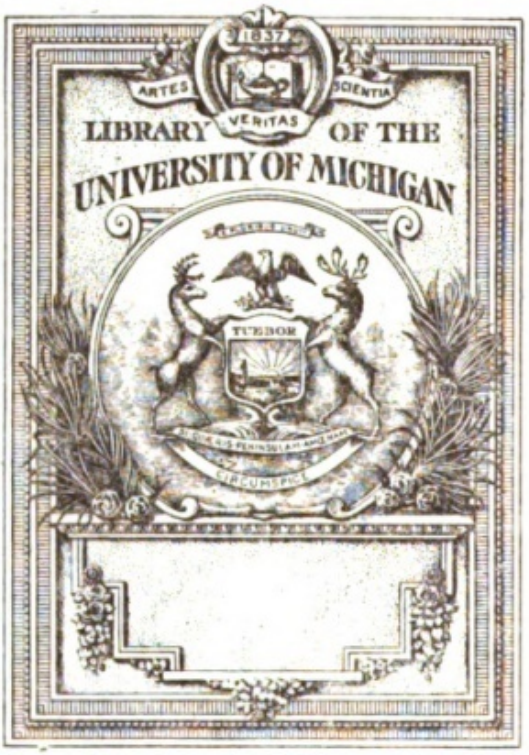

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"Quantam ego quidem video motus morbosi fere omnes a motibus in systemate nervorum ita pendent ut morbi fere omnes quodammodo Nervosi dici queant."—CULLEN'S NOSOLOGY: BOOK II. P. 181—EDINBURG ED., 1780.

THE

Alienist and Neurologist

A JOURNAL OF

Scientific, Clinical and Forensic

NEUROLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY AND NEURIATRY.

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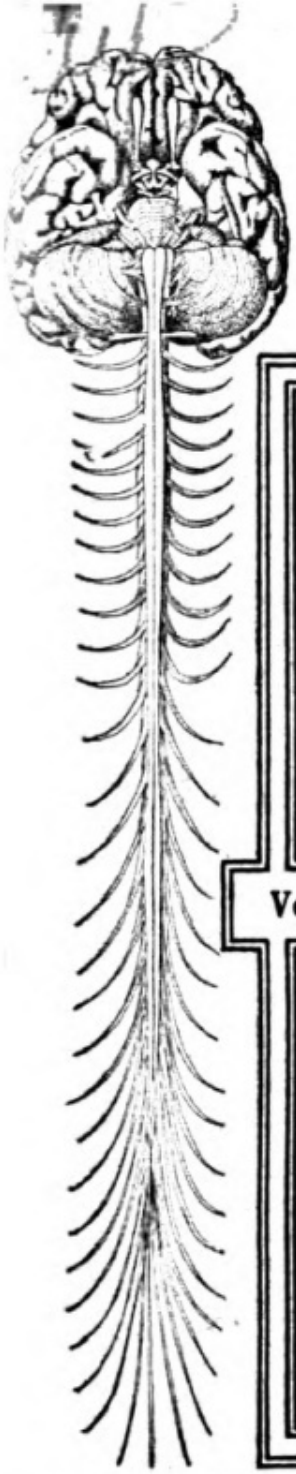

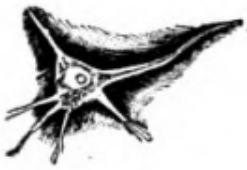

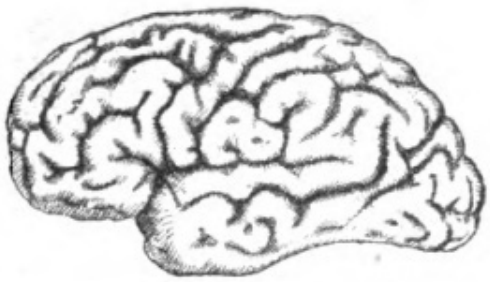

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THE
ALIENIST AND NEUROLOGIST

VOL. XXXIII. ST. LOUIS, FEBRUARY 1912. NO. 1.

"THE ASEXUALIZATION OF THE UNFIT."*

BY MARTIN W. BARR, M. D.,

Chief Physician Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble-Minded Children.

Elwyn, Penn.

ANY faithful student of eugenics will be led to ponder upon the tremendous power of heredity for good or for ill. The possibilities of advance which the generation of pure stock offers to the coming race on the one hand, and, on the other, the impossibility of escape from the fateful effects of baneful transmission bringing unnumbered ills, together with a perpetual retrogression.

This truth, accepted from time immemorial as the law of progress for the lower orders of creation in plant and animal life, finds expression also in the history of certain nations, who have held the maintenance of race purity to be the first principle of true patriotism. The Spartans esteeming the preservation of race, the first principle of national life, exposed their weak younglings to perish; yet Greece was the acknowledged leader in Europe of civilization and all the gentler arts; a civilization that surely finds expression in that one monument which standing alone, as Lecky tells, was honored above all others—an altar dedicated to Pity.

*Read before the 61st Annual Session of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, September 28, 1911.

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The custom of enforced sterilization is noted in Biblical times, among the ancient Egyptians and later among the Malays, the inhabitants of Borneo and Java, and certain Australian tribes, notably the Kalkadoons, and also the American Indians.

Shall not we then, claiming advanced civilization, be as wise in our generation as were those Tribal fathers, and to the question, who shall be castrated? reply, "All who are unfit for citizenship or unable to produce healthy offspring."

Boetius states that in Scotland were any insane, idiotic, epileptic, leprous or afflicted with disease likely to be transmitted, "he was instantly gelded, and if a woman, she was kept from all intercourse with men."

Religious societies accepting purity as their first law are found in all ages and all lands; notably the "White Doves," ("The Skoptzies") of Russia who castrate by thousands; and not alone in the East have existed Eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake.

This implicit belief in transmitted qualities is to be noted among those in close touch with nature, in the work of farm, orchard and garden; and the results obtained through the persistent discarding of imperfect stock and the amalgamation of good, so observable in the wonderful variety of grains, fruit and flowers are more than equalled in the high grades of stock of all kinds from hogs to horses.

What stock raiser having once attained this would permit a base intermixture of breeds; and yet, what is man that we should be thus unmindful of him, and the son of man that he should be so disregarded? For this very stock breeder, for lack of the sustaining arm of law, might be forced to accept in his family what he would not tolerate in his piggery.

We sequestrate insanity and quarantine cholera, yet we allow defectives responding only to exaggerated, unrestrained, sexual impulses to infuse their poison, and to permeate with disease and defect, with filthy and criminal instincts, generations of human beings. Witness the notorious Jukes family—over 1,200 defectives, descendants of five degenerate sisters—and the so-called tribe of Ishmael, which within fifty years poured over many states a flood of more than 5,000 degenerates.

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A study of, and long experience with, degeneracy discovers sexual impulses almost always exaggerated, and associated with defective will-power, absence of self-control and the moral sense often absolutely lacking. In this condition the defective is a mere animal preying upon himself and upon society and each and both demand protection under law.

To-day, in Pennsylvania alone, there are 10,000 cases of avowed imbecility, and of these but 3,500 are sequestrated. As sexual impulses dominate their lives, the removal of this excitation, as has been proven, not only makes them more tractable, as does gelding for the ox, but the general health improves, and nervous disorders, to which many are subject, become more amenable to treatment; therefore, far from being an injury, the slight and nearly painless operation required, improves physical vigor and they become contented and happy. Intelligent parents unhesitatingly accede to such suggestion as a means of safe-guarding alike the family and the individual, preserving the purity of good stock while eliminating the bad, and insuring always the moral and physical improvement and well-being of the individual. The state, to these its irresponsible wards who are wholly and for all time dependent, holds or should hold a similar relation, and would but exercise a true and wise paternalism in forbidding to them the act of procreation. Moreover, many high-grade imbeciles, recognizing a slavery from which they are powerless to escape, have plead that the remedy be applied that would insure them from certain degeneration into vice and crime. The well-known fact that exaggerated sexuality is the marked characteristic of the imbecile would lead to a logical deduction that rapists and prostitutes belong largely to this class. Such unfortunates, absolutely destitute of the moral sense, cannot be said to be infringers of a moral code of which they can have not the least conception. Logically, therefore, the right of such individuals is that they neither be classed with nor be punished as criminals; although, the safety of society demands their sequestration and prevention of increase. Then, surely, here might the state emulate the wisdom of the Greeks and find no more fitting place for her altar of pity; for we claim that in withholding the sacred office of parenthood from these "perpetual

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children," incapable of assuming its responsibilities, she will best protect the innocent from being the victim of the vicious; will prevent a rapid and appalling increase of her hopelessly irresponsible and dependent classes; and, furthermore, in protecting her normal citizens from the contamination of degenerate stock, she will open the road for the onward march to the attainment of true race ideals.

How, in the light of all the teaching that nature, history and experience supplies, anyone can object to the unsexing of the unfit as the only assurance for the survival of the fittest, on the grounds of interference with individual rights, is inconceivable. Rights! We hear nothing of rights when the food of pauper emigrants is seized and thrown overboard; still less when hundreds of quarts of damaged milk are poured into sewers. There, as in the quarantine of disease, it is openly declared that the right of the individual must be sacrificed to the good of the community.

The family histories, collated in the institutions and hospitals of our land, form in themselves a library of tragedies which should convince the most skeptical of the magnitude of race suicide, increasing with each generation. My own study and observation alone, of over 4,000 degenerates, shows such examples as: A man aged 38 years, the father of 19 defective children, all living, he and his wife both under par mentally; as was another couple with 9 imbecile children; and an idiot woman with 7 idiot children. A forcible instance is that of a man with two daughters and one illegitimate grandchild, all feeble-minded. The father served as a juryman, and shortly after, application was made for his admission to the training school for defectives of which I am in charge. One might say there was a clash of rights in this instance. Which? Is the individual or the public to be considered?

I could name a family, one of the proudest in the land, where there are five children, an aunt and two uncles all feeble-minded.

Yet another, which in seven generations numbering some 138 individuals, records 10 still-born children (premature births), 16 insane, 7 imbeciles, 3 epileptics and 32 with mental peculiarities so pronounced as to occasion remark. Of the

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138, there remain 80 apparently normal, who are nevertheless hopeless slaves of a neurotic heredity, direct or collateral.

In a study of 15 imbecile girls, 3 were recognized prostitutes; 9 had each 1 illegitimate child (2 being the result of incestuous intercourse with brothers;) 1 had 2; 2 epileptics had, the one 3, and the other 4 idiot children.

Four feeble-minded women had 40 illegitimate children.

A feeble-minded woman living in an almshouse since early childhood, allowed to go out to service periodically, had given birth to 6 illegitimate children, all inheriting her defect.

An imbecile drunkard is the father of 3 feeble-minded children. The daughter, seduced before the age of 16, gave birth to an idiot child; one son is a harmless imbecile, but the other is a moral imbecile, a sexual pervert, a thief on the streets, and a pyromaniac, firing in sheer wantonness, a large mill property.

Another shows the entire family for 3 generations below normal. Father, mother, mother's sister and father's uncle, all imbecile. Five children feeble-minded. One girl had a proposal of marriage, and one boy is married to a feeble-minded girl.

One insane woman, whose brother and sister committed suicide, had five sons. The oldest feeble-minded, a drunkard and hobo, had one son, a criminal. The second son, insane, had 3 imbecile children. The third, an insane epileptic, had 3 imbecile sons, one of whom was an epileptic. The fourth son was insane. The fifth apparently normal, had a moral imbecile son and an epileptic daughter.

In these cases do we note the right of the individual to bless or to curse the race; and where may we trace the beneficence of law protecting him from society and society from him? Echo answers! "The rights of the individual must be maintained. Who dare tamper with them?" cry some of our legislators. Yes, he must be allowed free exercise even if he does poison the life-blood of his neighbor's family with his vile infusion. Yet we sometimes think would that we could dump into sewers something more than impure milk!

A comparison of statistics, carefully compiled by experts through a century of observation and study of causes of de-

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generacy, shows heredity a potent factor among all races and, among Anglo-Saxons, the primary cause. In America the direct transmission of imbecility has proven unfailing, and its startling increase simply the natural result of non-prohibition by law.

In my individual study of 4,050 cases of imbecility, I find 2,651 or 65.45 per cent caused by malign heredities; and of these 1,030 or 25.43 per cent are due to a direct inheritance of idiocy, and 280 or 6.91 per cent to insanity.

That the experiment of stringent marriage laws in some countries is unavailing to meet this contingent is self-evident; as are also the efforts of moral and religious codes to control irresponsibles who, victims of exaggerated sexualism, can recognize no higher impulse. This having been proven, the logical sequence of such experience is that the only practical means of arrest is in the removal of sexual desire; and that must be done at any cost, since the destruction of powers of procreation by the imbecilic individual has become the paramount obligation of law in the protection alike of the individual and the race.

This purging of the body socialistic and the maintenance of race purity may only be accomplished by the power of common law and the constant supervision by its emissaries of schools and families; so that neither poor nor rich shall contribute aught to mar the common weal.

And why not? Surely such safe-guarding as shall license sound and clean procreators is as necessary as the pure food laws that insure healthful feeding of the race, if indeed not more so.

The first step in this direction, that of separation, has already been taken in the establishment of backward classes in the public schools. Such grouping cannot but facilitate intelligent inspection, and the special training given arrest rapid deterioration of the simply backward. But, on the other hand, it must be understood that of the so-called backward at least three-fifths are irretrievably defective. For these, mere mental acquirements will but constitute a mask preventing recognition. It is, therefore, of primary importance to the race that this incurable condition, after a reasonable period of trial, be

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determined by experts, and that all hopeless defectives so adjudged by them be duly asexualized. Rendered thus harmless to society, special training benefitting the individual may be pursued on any lines which inherent capacity, circumstance, or the needs of his community may indicate. This massing into communities or colonies has already proven the best substitute for that family life which each has been forced to forfeit. Not this alone, but insuring for the cunning, moral imbecile, devoid of the moral sense, protection from temptation, and also safe-guarding the merely weak-minded who, out in the world, would prove a victim or a ready tool for the master-mind devising ill. Indeed, this first step of separation must find its only logical conclusion in asexualization and permanent sequestration, if it is to be of any permanent value to either the individual or the race.

The unrecognized defectives (contributing so largely today to the records of enfeebled degenerate heredity), are also swelling numbers in criminal courts, in our houses of correction, jails, penitentiaries and insane hospitals.

But the time of cleansing has come. The movement is already on foot, and Pennsylvania we may well be proud to reckon among the leaders. Thrice by *vox populi* has she responded to the acknowledged need, and each time been suppressed by a single voice; the veto of two governors (1909-1905,) and the influence of one legislator (1911). She has this record, at least, if not the affirmative action of her four sister states, Indiana (1907), California, Oregon and Connecticut (1909,) who recognizing by Legislative act the only remedy to stem the torrent of degeneracy have authorized the asexualization of confirmed criminals, idiots, imbeciles and rapists.

Now as to the modus operandi. Much prejudice and misunderstanding on the part of the general public might be removed, could it be made clear that the operations are perfectly simple, involving no danger and almost no discomfort.

It is not always essential that testicles and ovaries be removed, but I prefer it, as giving absolute security—security beyond a peradventure, and when castration and oophorectomy are performed in the young, desire almost entirely ceases, or is at least held in reasonable abeyance.

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If, for sentimental reasons, the removal of the testes and ovaries will not be considered, ligation of the spermatic cord or vasectomy in the male and fallectomy or tuberectomy in the female, may be performed through the vagina. After these latter operations the organs do not wither and atrophy, collateral circulation being established, and there remains sexual desire and sexual power, but inability to impregnate or to conceive.

I have been told, however, by a distinguished surgeon that in one case a reunion of the divided ends of the vas deferens was effected and that the subject, a vigorous man, afterwards begat three healthy children.

In such cases, therefore, the race receives only partial protection, while individuals, remaining victims to some extent of exaggerated impulses, may as rapists or harlots, still pollute society, even should they not reproduce their kind.

I have followed, most interestedly, the castration of 84 boys and the removal of the ovaries of 116 women, and have been advised that the improvement in every case has been marked.

At the Indiana Reformatory at Jeffersonville, Dr. Harry C. Sharp has vasectomied some 500 males (176 operated upon at their own request) and in each and every case the results have been most gratifying.

In a very recent personal study of 7 oophorectomies, 5 vasectomies and 13 castrations, there has been decided mental, moral and physical improvement. In every case there was advance, noticeably in the castrations; both sexes becoming brighter mentally and dispositions more amiable.

In the vasectomied the sexual desires are held in abeyance, although masturbation is occasional. The semen, however, is inoccuous and under the microscope shows no spermatozoa. On the whole the individual is more tractable, and there is a marked change for the better in both behavior and disposition.

I am firmly convinced that if the many who decry and protest against sterilization, could be brought into direct contact with warped mentalities as are we who live among them, they would come over to our side; just as have those who, in theory opposed to lynching, when their own families are defiled

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at once become enthusiastic advocates of lynch law.

We all need to personally realize and have things brought home to us; for how slow humans are to learn a lesson unenforced by pain. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the Legislature of Pennsylvania will for the fourth time enact, and the Governor at last affirm, a decree of protection of society; so that the defective irresponsible shall live out his little day of happiness within and sunshine without, rather than in misery and darkness behind prison walls.

It may doubtless be urged by some that such a law might be abused. There is no reason, however, why it should not be so safe-guarded as to achieve the greatest good to the greatest number without abuse. In no case would I advise the indiscriminate use of the knife, nor a license for physicians in general practice to act without proper authority.

The operation should be permissible only after ample period for study of and testing by accredited alienists and surgeons, and this, as I have stated, is best attained in the grouping of numbers by separation and segregation.

"To be a good animal is the first requisite to success in life, and to be a nation of good animals is the first condition to national prosperity," says Herbert Spencer. Later when the world has noted the results of such wise legislation; in an uncontaminated generation, unfettered by accumulated inherited weaknesses, pressing forward to high ideals; again the *vox populi* may demand another "union of states," in a patriotism based upon a noble culture of racial purity; recognizing Lord Beaconsfield's dictum that "The public health is the foundation on which reposes the happiness of the people and the power of a country. The care of the public health is the first duty of a statesman."

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ASEXUALIZATION OF THE UNFIT.*

J. MADISON TAYLOR, A. B., M. D.,
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ABUNDANT and convincing reasons are on record in favor of mercifully and scientifically checking the propagation of the unfit. Now and then asexualization is opposed. Legislation is too often thwarted.

The only forceful reasons urged against this eminently humanitarian and economic procedure seem based on shallow sentimentality; on pleas for individual freedom to do as one may choose or desire. The same arguments may be used equally well to liberalize privileges of choice and action in many directions already determined to be prejudicial to communal interests, even dangerous to ourselves and our children. Among them are unbridled divorce, prostitution, "free love" and such like encouragements of the lower animal impulses. Sex impulses are implanted in human beings for the wisest and best of reasons, no less than the maintenance and propagation of the race. Like all dominant primitive impulses in man, the reasoning animal, they must be safeguarded by intelligent restraint; by normal inhibitions. Society has gradually built up customs, habitudes, folk-ways, etc., which becoming instinctive, materially aid the exercise of self-restraint.

All religions worthy the name teach great moral truths, of which the basis is the significance of self-restraint and other elemental principles of sociologic physiology. Among the most forceful principles inculcated are high standards of thought and action, making for the betterment of the community and the race. Penalties of one kind or another are promised for those who transgress these economic and physiologic laws.

The simplest legal definition of a responsible man or woman is one possessing the ability to realize the significance of moral

*Opening discussion on the paper of Dr. Martin W. Barr, (same title,) read before the State Medical Society of Penn., 1911.

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considerations. If the individual is shown by the evidence to be unable to appreciate the difference between primitive principles of right and wrong action, he or she is adjudged a lunatic and is no longer permitted freedom of choice or action. Restraint is applied in proportion to the degree and kind of the mental disability determined.

In every community there are many semi-insane, imbecile or otherwise unfit individuals who enjoy the fullest liberty of action, who may or may not have come under suspicion of mental alienation, yet are wholly defective in the one essential guiding quality of self-restraint, viz.: in the genital sphere. Sex impulses at short range are despotic. From the licentious acts of such persons the whole community perpetually suffers. Not only is there peril for all from the whole realm of venereal disease, endangering the integrity of health, of legitimacy, of life itself; but the whole social fabric may and does thereby suffer. The sane, the wholesome-minded, the frugal of the community must not only thus run perpetual risks, but are compelled to pay for the maintenance of these incompetents.

Every community includes a large number of wholly incompetent individuals, showing such evident defects of mind or morals, or both, that their mentality comes under suspicion by those who are barely able to judge, or wholly unwilling to believe plain facts. Many of these are sheltered, screened, protected by blind love, or by reason of other selfish considerations, especially political schemers. Parental safe-guards may or may not be exerted over these unfortunates.

It is obvious that no good whatever can come of permitting freedom of action to such beings. They are a perpetual and frightful menace to all decent citizens, especially to the young and unsuspicious of both sexes. A little alcohol wholly dethrones what remnant of mental poise they may possess. Yet the law says they shall enjoy absolute freedom until they commit some overt act which brings the offender within the artificial and fluctuating category of offenses justifying commitment.

Painful it is to contemplate a state of society which invites the blackest horrors to fall upon innocent members, and is only willing to protect itself after the blow has fallen.

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There remains to mention a few degenerate human creatures, so low in the phylogenetic scale, so like unto no being made in God's image, that they are a burden to themselves, a stain upon their ancestry, a blight upon the good green earth, a perpetual horror and reproach to all who see them, cumbering the ground. They are lower than the beasts, far lower than the mangiest cur, the wretchedest abandoned cat.

Animated by archaic notions of sentimentality, morbid soft-heartedness, of over-wrought, vitiated philanthropy and blind to teratologic truths, there are those who insist that these derelicts shall be carefully nurtured and permitted to come freely in contact with those of the opposite sex, even encouraged to marry and beget even worse than they. Mrs. Grundy is a great force in the land. We are still influenced by what she declares to be proper, in spite of overwhelming scientific or economic evidence to the contrary.

It has been demonstrated beyond dispute that:

(1) Many of these unfortunate beings are capable of at least a small measure of improvement, especially by asexualization.

(2) That wheresoever they come in contact with those of the opposite sex they have no power of controlling the sexual impulse.

(3) The offspring of such are almost invariably as bad, or worse than themselves.

In the light of these facts can we assume the responsibility of denying these degenerates the *privileges* of asexualization?

It has been shown repeatedly that glimmerings of a better self frequently impel individuals, imbecile sexual perverts and criminal insane, to recognize the beneficence of this simple procedure and beg it for themselves.

Finally: a legislator or governor who would block the way to shutting the door on the flood of putrefying humanity which now flows unchecked into the clean breast of every community is taking a large and grave responsibility upon his shoulders. He must answer for his acts, not alone to his soft-hearted constituents, but to the beneficent and wise God before whom he must ultimately appear.

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REAL AND PSEUDO-EXPERT MEDICAL TESTIMONY BEFORE COURTS AND JURIES.[1]

By C. H. Hughes, M. D.,

St. Louis.

Honorary Member British and Russian Medico-Psychological Societies, Late Superintendent Missouri State Hospital for Insane No. 1, Hon. Mem. Chicago Academy of Medicine, Ex. Pres. Miss. Val. Med. Assn., Member Amer. Medico Psycholog. Assn., Active Member of A. M. A. and other home Med. Assn's., Author of Neurological Practice of Medicine and many Monographs in Psych., Founder and Editor of *The Alienist and Neurologist*, etc., etc., etc.

No more pitiable, and often cruel and criminal in consequence, picture presents to the public and to the shame of the profession, before courts and juries by the profession, than a medical man without complete knowledge of his subject, viz: the pseudo self-asserting medical expert on the witness stand, in an important cause, when property, character, liberty or life are involved in the issue. Always of significance, but especially grave when involving questions of right or wrong or issues of liberty or life, as in matters of crime or cerebro-mental integrity and graver forms of insanity, the moral imbecile, the mild mannered insane, the marked but periodically convulsed maniac, such as the psychically convulsed larvated epileptic homicide, whose crime is masked in nocturnal malady of which the average physician without wide experience in alienism and the artful simulation of mental malady knows often less than he should.

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1 This paper was designed to be read in brief before the Miss. Val. Medical Assn. held at Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 19, 1911, but the author was unavoidably absent.

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Meconophagy or the Opium Habit—Narcomania.

For instance, the first case happening under my personal observation, (and I shall confine this contribution mainly to personal experience only), involved a deposition as superintendent and medical chief of the Missouri State Hospital for the Insane at Fulton, Missouri, now designated Hospital No. 1, forty years or more ago, on the question of the opium habit, the condition of mind it engendered, testamentary capacity under its influence and the state of mind under sudden withdrawal of the drug from the system and its enforced abstention therefrom for a time, (a cruelty to the unfortunate habituate of opium or its derivatives). The case should be found in Missouri revised statutes for the latter part of the eighteen hundred and sixtieth to seventieth decade. It is known as the Cowgill will case, where an aged man deceased, but in the latter part of his lifetime a slave to morphine, brought about by unauthorized self-prescribed and druggist-aided renewal of a morphine prescription hypodermically administered by his nurse, the morphine being denied him except in certain prescribed quantities and at times entirely interdicted by the family and the family physician.

This gentleman's last will and testament mainly ignored his surviving family and favored to an extreme degree the nurse who won his gratitude and reward by supplying the morbid demand of his system which his family ignored and his physician likewise. For most victims of this terrible habit should be let down or rather lifted out of the depths of the misery of sudden withdrawal gradually and by skillfully substituted and chemical antitoxic support to their damaged cerebro-spinal centers. For, as Burns said of toothache, "it is the hell of all diseases," and its victims, as De Quincy described in his Confessions of an Opium Eater from his own personal experience, "the opium habituate, after its abrupt withdrawal, suffers an Iliad of woes." He is not his normal self. His brain weakens, the psychic neurones become unstable, causing delusions and dreads of horrible calamity, wrong imagings, morbid apprehensions. Exhaustive sweatings, fulgurating pains and colliquative diarrhoaes occur while nature is eliminating

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the specific and the ptomaines. Tremors and restlessness of mind and body. The brain, in fact the entire neuraxis, is often in fatal morbid disharmony. Depression and collapse of the cerebro-spinal nervous system succeed and supplant the bonhomie and exalted imagination and apparent neurotic entonement and tranquility.

This case ended on the first trial against the validity of the will and bequest to the nurse, mainly on my testimony that, under the circumstances of family antagonism and withdrawal of the accustomed drug, the victim's meconomania (opium habit, not opium fiendishness) these unfortunates under prolonged abstention, would resort to any means or subterfuge, even to lying in the most truthful or stealing in the normally honest, the selling of virtue even by the naturally virtuous, or other crimes and misdemeanors out of harmony with the individual's natural character, to get the accustomed drug.

The opiophagist may be sane when the drug is moderately in his blood, but he is ordinarily not rational when it is out for a considerable time, when its impress is suddenly and completely withdrawn from the brain, just as the lower centers of the cerebro-spinal axis and sympathetic systems work wrong in their governmental regulation movement of the brain and other viscera. In this trial the will was not sustained, but in a subsequent one, without right expert testimony, it was reversed.

Great harm is done the unfortunate slaves of opium or its salts, sometimes even by the medical profession neglecting to restrict and limit the use of morphia, laudanum and other salts and preparations of opium (not so much now as in the past), but greater harm is done them often by police courts and policemen through suddenly enforced deprivation and deafness to their pleadings; for "a hair of the dog is good for the bite" and a moderate drug support and a gradual withdrawal are humane even for criminals. A whole volume of my personal experience might be here recorded. I will only note that one of my patients came to me one morning asserting that he had taken only nine grains in three grain doses of sulphate of morphia, whereas he had taken three ten grain doses hypodermically the day before. Before night he

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was so delirious that he did not know his own name or where he came from. It required about five days of gradual morphia restoration to get his blood and nerve centers in the state of opium surcharge sufficient to bring the appearance of rationality back to him.

When we got him up to ten grains ter die he confessed he had habitually taken ten grains three times daily, but thought that would make no difference with my treatment. After this, in the right light as to dosage previously taken, he was treated to recovery.

I may say here that statements, under the blood and brain's need of the drug, are not reliable and one who treats opium victims should have them under constant surveillance and control and as a rule should have little else to do than attend them. (I am not taking them for treatment now, preferring to advise institutional treatment.) I then had such a place for these and alcoholics. The care of them combined with the practice I was doing them, nearly broke my health and I have since turned them over to others. But I acquired the experience such as I here relate and much more of a similar character.

I have known of virtuous women forgetting what virtue and feminine honor are and high-minded, noble and truthful men to fall from the pedestal of honor, nobility and truthfulness of character of their better days into depths of depravity and degradation under opium's fatal morality enthralling power as the often to be pitied alcoholic drunkard does. The same is true of the cocaine and chloral intemperate habitue, though the degradation of these latter, not so fatally complete, is none the less enthralling and in extreme degrees of their enthralling power alike to be commisserated and to a degree extenuated in case of crime.

The next case I have to relate is one of the killing by an elbow joint wounded toxhemic confederate ex-soldier not fully recovered from blood poisoning, who under the insanity engendered condition of a blood-poisoned brain, fatally shot an old friend who declined to change a five dollar bill for him. He was a farmer and some years after the civil war was over and swords had been substituted by plowshares and pruning

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knives, would leave his plow suddenly and run into the house for his gun crying "the Federals are coming." This outcry led to a brilliant diagnosis by one of the local experts, a pompous medical gentleman of the old school, confident in his diagnostic ability and proclaiming it to the court while he handled a large gold-headed cane which fitly matched his confident manner and double-breasted buttoned up coat.

When asked to define this form of mental derangement he answered, with no lack of assurance, "I would call it Federal insanity," sir. The prisoner was acquitted and the doctor appeared well pleased with the judicial proclamation of the fact based on his expert testimony.

The next case was that of a man whose wife divorced him and married another, causing him, through worry and prolonged insomnia, to become erotomaniacal, so that he continually pursued her, following her in the streets and everywhere even to the door of her sleeping apartments, where he would lie down and await her awakening with the hope of meeting her with a pleading to return to him. On one occasion he went to a dentist, taking from him a decayed molar tooth he had extracted from her, crunching it and swallowing it. Notwithstanding this and other insane vagaries associated with the often physical symptoms of brain disorder, profound sleeplessness, constant nervous agitation, constipation, capricious appetite, indifference to food, irregular and rapid heart action (tachycardia) this man was at the first trial convicted. A second trial was secured on the ground that the jury panel was defective, the jury not being summoned in their numerical order. This final trial resulted in acquittal on the ground of insanity. The man was taken out of the United States to a foreign asylum for the insane and died of terminal dementia.

There are many blood contaminated states, autotoxically engendered and poisoned from without, causing vaso-motor paralysis or arteriole spasm and perverting the mentality of which we can not in this paper take minute account. Among them are the toxhemias of epilepsy, puerperal convulsion and alcoholic poison states whence arteriole spasms, paresis, psychic convulsion and uncontrollable impulses to, and accomplishments of violence of speech or action, or both, form a mental charac-

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ter changed from normal to abnormal. The infanticide of immediately post partum mothers, the homicides of the epileptic alternate equivalent, psychic homicidal or otherwise violent furor epilepticus and psychic ambulatory epileptic automatism and the trance states of the brain poisoned and psychically perverted of the profoundly alcoholized are examples, but we can not dwell on these.

Other Morbid Brain States Before the Law.

Then there are other brain oppressed insanity engendering states to be studied and differentiated from non-insane diseased brain, such as abscesses, cerebral emboli, thrombi, tumors, apoplectic clots, aneurisms, hydrocephalic and blood brain pressures, microscopic alterations in meninges, circulation, ventricular ependymas and cortex psychic areas, etc., which may or may not cause insanity. These are to be estimated as to their causative value in diagnosis by the alienist expert and also the many extra cerebral visceral influences on the brain as causative functional insane disorder to be considered. Brain strain engrafted upon profound neurasthenia causing psychasthenic perversion also.

Some of these cases are obscure and require long, patient and discriminating observation, based upon accurate psychiatric experience. Esquirol thought one should live with the insane to rightly comprehend them, but the observer should at least be an accurate clinical psychiater in order to rightly testify concerning them.

In point is the case of B. F. C., a young man, a somewhat imbecile student, who came under my observation after the shooting of his mother's coachman at the suggestion of his uncle at the breakfast table.

The young man had just come home from school at Heidelberg, markedly egoistic. On his arrival he put up for a few days at a first-class hostlery in St. Louis, sent his card home announcing his arrival and invited his people to call on him. I have reported this case before. I observed this young man and conversed with him on eighteen different occasions and found him self-elated, markedly egoistic and sleepless. For several nights he paced his cell all night. He was greatly

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