

plastic, more conscious of itself, becomes thereby a cause of progress. In proportion as society is better distinguished from every other reality and corresponds better to its definition,—in proportion, that is, as it creates itself—it becomes more completely an object of science; but of a science whose laws are at once objective and ideal, expressing relations between what is already in existence and that which, while not yet existing, has already begun to be.

The most important addition made by (2) to the conceptions above noted is that of the psychological and social significance of action as relating the individual and the social. On the one hand, every state of consciousness is already an action, at least by anticipation; action is a principle of expansion which sets us in some fashion outside ourselves, and would cease to be action if we could make it entirely individual and internal. Thus by action the psychological and subjective life takes on already a social value. But, on the other hand, action is not wholly comprehended within the subjective idea of an internal principle of activity; it exists only by virtue of a sum of objective conditions which give it a body and a form, and without which it would be reduced to a mere potentiality—that is, to an abstract and fictitious entity. Action is thus the most elementary datum of social psychology. It is the bond between subjective and objective, between actual and ideal. It is the concrete fact from which these opposing terms are derived.

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### CRIMINOLOGY.

*Naturgeschichte des Verbrechers. Grundzüge der criminellen Anthropologie und Criminal-psychologie.* H. KURELLA. Stuttgart, Enke, 1894. Pp. 284.

Dr. Kurella, the author of this 'Science of the Criminal,' is the medical director of the insane asylum at Brieg, in Silesia, where he has had good opportunities for the study of criminals. During ten years he has carefully examined many hundreds of cases of insane criminals. He has also carefully studied the somewhat abundant literature on criminology that has been published during the last few years. As a result of his observations and reading he has become deeply impressed by the theories of Professor Lombroso of Turin, and in his introduction declares his enthusiastic adherence to the theory advanced by Lombroso, that there is a certain peculiar and distinct type of irreclaimable criminal, described as *delinquente nato*, who is, so to speak, fatally predetermined to crime, being the genuine born criminal.

The author thinks that sufficient observations have been made and results published to form the basis of a work giving the fundamental principles of criminal anthropology and criminal psychology. He believes that such a work will be specially useful to doctors consulted about criminals, to psychiatrists, judges, and all deeply concerned with the problem of the treatment of criminals. He therefore proceeds to give a summary of the chief results compiled by many recent writers on criminology. He specially mentions Prof. Lombroso, Turin; Prof. E. V. Hofman, Vienna; Dr. Sommer, Allenberg; Prof. Benedict, Vienna; Dr. Mingazzini, Rome; Prof. Dr. v. Tschisch, Dorpat; Dr. J. Karłowicz, Warsaw; Dr. Wesnic, Belgrade. In his register of authors consulted, we find some 162 names, some of whom have been cited as frequently as thirty-five times. A work of 284 pages, giving an epitome of the tabulated results of so many writers, cannot be summarized in a brief review.

To show the need of a more extensive study of criminals, he gives a mass of statistics to prove that crime is greatly increasing. It occurs to one in reading these statistics to ask, Are these conclusive evidence of the increase of crime, or of increased vigilance in the detection and punishment of crime? Do we mean by 'criminal' those who are arrested for crime? And the suspicion arises that statistics are being used uncritically, and that the examination of the meaning of 'criminal' is neglected. We think this distrust will increase as the reader proceeds.

I. *Criminal Anthropology*.—The author first treats of anatomical peculiarities of criminals. Diagrams and explanations are given of methods of craniometry. Tables showing characteristics of criminals in the general shape of the skull and structure of particular parts. Exact measurements corroborate the common suspicion of the low and retreating forehead. A list is given of marks of degeneracy or atavism frequently found. A detailed reference is given to structural varieties of the following: the ear, breast, sexual organs, beard, hair, excess in number of fingers, etc.; arrested development of organs; acquired characters, *e. g.*, tattooing.

II. Under 'biological factors,' he discussed nourishment and digestion, susceptibility to feeling, motor characteristics. Under 'Heredity' he gives interesting tables of criminal families through several generations (or degenerations!), showing the interconnection of nervous diseases, pauperism, alcoholism, insanity, prostitution, suicide, etc. The condensation of the book may be judged from the fact that, after referring to Dugdale's well-known 'The Jukes' as 'the most valuable contribution to criminal heredity,'

its results are presented in little more than half a page. He next discusses the criminal 'milieu.' Then gives a 'physiognomy of criminals,' with illustrations that remind one of Lavater. In nearly every case we notice smallness of head, or at least smallness of the fore part of the head. Frequently we see the following: Large under jaw and high cheek-bones; prognathic, platycephalic, ska-phocephalic, parietal and occipital regions of skull large with small frontal region. Deformities of ears and lips. One particular form of ear is regarded as peculiarly indicative of the criminal. It seems that Mozart had this 'fatal ear.' His aberration from crime to music is explained by saying that this is not the only example of a close affinity between genius and degeneration; adding that the same excessive development of the sense of hearing, indicated by the extra development of the external ear muscle, is common to the musical genius and the burglar who partakes in the plundering instincts of the carnivora with the necessary accompaniment of acute hearing.

III. *Criminal Psychology*.—The author first discusses the theory of 'moral insanity.' He prefers Lombroso's assumption of the born criminal—*delinquente nato*—having the following peculiarities:

(1.) Parasitic tendencies very pronounced. (2.) Honor and truthfulness, regarded by the author as late products of civilization, are utterly lacking in the criminal who reverts to an earlier type. (3.) An interesting account is given of the traditions, codes and vagabond-slang-language of criminals.

IV. Under moral concepts and passions, he says: There is no thought of the future in the criminal; he acts in accordance with the passion of the moment; consequently all attempts to prevent crime by threats or by making an example of convicted offenders are futile. The criminal utterly lacks sympathy and pity. He is reckless, cruel, lazy; despises work as beneath his dignity, prides himself on being a criminal, craves notoriety, and desires to become a 'virtuoso' in crime. The author outlines a psychology of Ethics of Criminology, and quite significantly accepts Mr. Herbert Spencer and Lombroso as his authorities. Everything must be explained by feelings. A sentence will indicate the author's standpoint: "Now, the most superficial observation of children—and no one has shown this more clearly than Lombroso—will make evident that pity and the feeling of right are in the first place acquired, and in the congenital lack of these feelings the criminal is like all children" (p. 250). It is a pity the author did not make even a superficial examination of children instead of giving us the dicta of Lombroso.

Would not a very little observation and *reflection* make evident that the child, not being self-conscious, is neither positively selfish nor positively unselfish, but simply *non-self-ish*. Surely the instinctive actions of the child would be less incorrectly regarded as social than as aggressively anti-social—which is the meaning of lack of pity in the case of the criminal. We confess that we are deeply disappointed with the chapter on Criminal Psychology. There seems to be evidence of a very slight acquaintance with the general psychology, psychology of ethics and theory of ethics of the normal type; not only so, but there are references of contempt for those branches of study. Yet the author has followed recent discussions sufficiently to cast in his lot thus: "The psycho-physiological theory of moral conduct, as also of crime, is dependent on the psycho-physiological theory of 'affect.' The ordinary psychologist devotes altogether too much attention to the examination of the intellectual side of consciousness; the student of criminology cannot thus ignore the passive 'affect'" (p. 252).

In concluding, the author returns to theoretical discussions. He says: All scientific inquiries into man's conduct must necessarily assume the deterministic theory as the correct one. If there can be any scientific account of the criminal's conduct at all, Lombroso's theory should not be objected to on the score of its fatalism (p. 263).

The author describes his work as an outline of methods, results and fundamental principles in criminal anthropology and criminal psychology. He admits that there are two schools, the Italian school, following Lombroso, endeavoring to establish heredity as the full explanation of the genuine criminal, whom they term *delinquente nato*; excluding from the explanation the influence of environment and the results of educative forces; the other, the French school, giving a large place to the influence of environment and the significance of educative forces in their explanation of the adult criminal.

Now, in a general outline of methods and results, we naturally expect to see the results and arguments of both sides fairly and fully presented, and then a decision given in favor of the one regarded as most satisfactory. But Dr. Kurella announces at the outset that he has adopted Lombroso's position, stands forth as an advocate and defender of his assumptions, and then gives tabulated results, mainly selected from Lombroso and those writers who agree with him. This it seems to us, is not giving an outline of criminology, but rather the details of a defense of the theory of one party of criminologists. Almost anything may be proved in this way if one may be allowed to select the facts and neglect everything

that does not fit the theory espoused. It is significant, too, that the cases examined personally by Dr. Kurella were insane criminals. Surely we need a more scientific selection under the term 'criminal.' When we examine the accumulation of evidence and argument brought forward to establish Lombroso's 'born criminal'—*delinquente nato*—we find that it is all based on the examination of adult criminals who have become habituated to crime. Lombroso and Kurella, viewing these adult (and sometimes insane) criminals with settled tendencies and formed habits, conclude that they are impervious to social reformatory influences; then they conclude that they must have been at birth incapable of education to good habits, fatally predetermined from the first to evil and to evil only. Everything in connection with their character is to be explained from heredity, nothing allowed to environment and educative efforts.

This, it seems to us, is a fallacy in the speculative sort which Dr. Kurella is fond of deriding. How can they rule out the influence of environment and education when, as a matter of fact, these criminals have been in an environment and under a training towards vice? If these criminals, tabulated, had been in a contrary environment and under proper social influences from birth, and then in spite of this became irreclaimable criminals, there might be some plausibility in the view that the genuine criminal nature is inborn and is utterly incapable of being essentially modified. When it comes to Lombroso's theory, however, Dr. Kurella seems to be as fatally predetermined to it as the criminal *delinquente nato* is to crime. Bring forward any number of cases of reformation of hardened criminals, he calmly rejoins: we never denied that ordinary criminals might be reclaimed; these were not criminals *delinquente nato*.

In spite of these defects in theory, the work is one that should be widely read, not only by those to whom the author appeals, but also by psychologists and moralists. It will excite many new thoughts, suggest new phases of old problems, and help to indicate how wide a field still awaits the trained psychologist and moralist in the investigation of the psychology and psychology of ethics of the criminal.

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*On the New Use of Some Older Sciences.* CHARLES L. DANA. Reprinted from the Medical Record, Dec. 15, 1894. New York, Trow Directory Co. Pp. 19.

Dr. Dana's article is a summary of the results obtained by Lom-

broso, Féré, and others, from anthropometric examinations of criminals. In addition to the well-known facts about the shape of the skull and the facial expression, he discusses a number of minor marks: the shape of jaw and cheekbone, the ridge along the centre of the palate, the shape of the ear, length of third finger, prehensile foot, etc. The author differs from the Italian school in classing together criminal, insane and neuropathic degeneracy and refusing to consider these as different types. From an ethical standpoint the presence of these marks of degeneracy in an individual "throws an additional responsibility upon him. \* \* \* We do not excuse the cripple who attempts to become a sprinter, nor should we excuse the morally defective who \* \* \* fail to husband the endowments they possess." A few such sentiments as these will go a long way toward justifying this science in the eyes of those who are accustomed to regard it as an example of *fin-de-siècle* morbidity.

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## NEUROLOGY AND BIOLOGY.

*Il Cervello in relazione con i fenomeni psichici.* G. MINGAZZINI.  
Turin, Fratelli Bocca, 1895. Pp. 204.

This interesting study on the morphology of the cerebral hemispheres of man forms the twenty-second volume in a 'Bibliotheca Antropologica-Giuridica,' a series to which the best known of the Italian workers in this field have already contributed. The problem attacked is the one which dates at least from the days of Erisistratus—namely, the interpretation of the gyri of the cerebral hemispheres.

To approach this question properly the comparative anatomy and embryology of the primate brain is needed; and assuming both interest and knowledge, the author attacks his subject without further preface, comparing the fœtal human, with the fœtal primate brain, so far as material will permit. The relation found in the length, angle, position and connections of the important sulci is such that, in those primates more removed from man, there is far more divergence from the human type than exists between man and the highest primates. In ontogeny the similarity in development becomes less with the increasing age of the individuals, and soon any form begins to exhibit those features which are distinctive of it at maturity. Thus the characters of the cerebral surface in man are not superadded to those found in the higher primates when adult, but to cerebral features exhibited by them when still in the fœtal stage.