

motive, or if he assigns a motive, it is connected with his delusion."

Numerous instances are given in which parents have murdered their children, notwithstanding they were strongly attached to them. Nurses have destroyed children placed in their charge, and between whom a warm attachment had grown up. Taylor relates the case of a man named Green-smith, who murdered four of his children and the motive assigned was that he was apprehensive they would be turned into the street. He was a man of industrious habits and an affectionate father. The impulse came upon him at the time of the perpetration of the crime. He shook hands with his children before strangling them and bid them an affectionate farewell. Men living upon the most amicable terms with their families have been known suddenly to be seized with the delusion that their children were conspiring to destroy them, and while under the delusion, have made wills, giving the property to strangers. The fact that a monomaniac acts without an adequate motive is well recognized.

How stands it with the prisoner? Does any one doubt that he committed the crime charged against him, for the purpose of appropriating to himself the money and the property that Gordon had about him?

Another test is found in the fact "that a monomaniac thinks his acts are consistent with reason and the general conduct of mankind, and as a natural consequence of this, he makes no attempt to conceal the crime or make his escape, but openly confesses it."

He cannot be convinced that he has done wrong, and in this respect his conduct differs from mere eccentricity, which is often confounded with insanity, for an eccentric man will be readily persuaded into the impropriety of his conduct.

The prisoner in this case not only attempted to conceal the crime but fled to Dover, where he no doubt supposed he was secure from detection. There certainly is no evidence that he entertained the idea that he did right in killing Gordon.

A further test is "the loss of affection for parents, wife, children and friends." Ray, Taylor and other writers com-