

# **TYPES OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES**

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Types of mental defectives by Martin W. Barr & E. F. Maloney

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**MARTIN W. BARR & E. F. MALONEY**

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DEFECTIVES**



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BARR AND MALONEY



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TYPES  
OF  
MENTAL DEFECTIVES

BY

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1884  
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DEDICATED TO  
Alburtus (Case D, Chap. 9)

Truly one of the "Great Misunderstood"

While his rare musical talent classed him fittingly as an "Idiot Savant," its development not only strengthened his feeble qualities but gave an added charm to the lives of those closely associated with him; and to whom his early "Crossing the Bar" left sweet memories—memories crystallized in these verses by a friend to—

"His Violin"

Thou sad and silent thing!  
Where sleep the strains that gladdened all who heard,  
The joy that poured from every wakened string  
Like song of morning bird?

The muffled pulse of pain -  
The peace, like that of prayer which has prevailed—  
Voices that rang through heart and soul and brain—  
Why has that music failed?

The empty cells and strings  
Give back no answer; but beyond our ken,  
Somewhere in being's range, on unspent wings,  
That music lives again!

(Mary Hilton.)



## FOREWORD

The information most eagerly sought by those entering upon the work among the feeble-minded is naturally how to easily recognize the various forms of mental defect, in order that they may define, and meet promptly, the special needs of those with whom they are brought in daily contact.

To this end, types of various grades are useful as sign-posts pointing the way to successful diagnosis of defect—mental, moral and physical. In defining types many points, such as have been indicated by tests, as well as by the stigmata of degeneration noted in the individual, are to be considered.

Appended herewith will be found the educational classification, which, as the outgrowth of a close study of cases and careful adaptation to needs—indorsed by both physicians and teachers—has proven in a long experience the best one as simplifying the tasks of all engaged in the work.

This classification is arrived at by first separating broadly the *untrainable idiot* from the *trainable imbecile* in asylum, custodial, and school division; next by dividing the imbeciles into grades of mentality for the awakening and further development of power along lines suited to the capacity of each; and finally by indicating possible training for life work in industrial or manual lines according to individual proclivity.