test, $P=0.059$. These results show that the observed difference in the prevalence rate was not statistically significant. Therefore the authors may not conclude that gender is important in the development of delusional jealousy in schizophrenia.

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A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

The feeble-minded

There is a widespread class of people from whom personal sympathy is seldom withheld, but to whom, from restrictions in one way or another, the tangible charity of boards of guardians and other authorities cannot be extended. This is the class of persons who, in the technical sense of the term, are "feeble-minded." Investigations made on children in Board schools, the results of which are to form the subject of the Milroy lectures to be delivered in the course of this month at the Royal College of Physicians, and abstracts of which will appear in the columns of *The Lancet*, have shown that the number of children comprised in this group is much larger than was formerly supposed. But no powers exist whereby boards of guardians can place them in suitable institutions. A deputation introduced by Dr. Farquharson waited upon Mr Ritchie on Feb. 29th to point this out to him, and to ask his assistance on behalf of these poor creatures, who are from natural defects unable to maintain themselves by honest labour. Mr Ritchie is always sympathetic in such cases, and the deputation was assured that their requisition was one of "no complication", but simply implied a small extension of the powers already existing with regard to the deaf, dumb, and blind. Personally, Mr Ritchie has a strong leaning in the direction of rendering whatever assistance he legitimately can to the object which the deputation had in view, and their proposals will no doubt be very carefully considered. Of course there are questions which require thought; for instance, whether it is the best thing for the feeble minded to be grouped together without association with others of strong minds, and, if not, the proposal of some alternative plan. No douby these and similar points will be judiciously considered by Mr Ritchie and his advisers, and we feel assured that in any event the objects of the deputation will be to a large extent realised.

Reference

Lancet, 5 March 1892, 542.

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