

A CASE OF EPILEPSY—APPARENTLY OF NASAL ORIGIN.

BY

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Medical men who devote their lives to the study of a special branch of medicine or surgery, are occasionally accused by the general practitioner of attributing all the ills that flesh is heir to, as being caused by disease or abnormalities of the organs which they treat. In bringing this case before you I do not wish to give the impression that I consider epilepsy of nasal origin is a common occurrence, but the connection existing between the two in this case is, I think, apparent and interesting.

Hack was the first to draw the attention of the profession to the relationship existing between nasal disease and epilepsy, and since his case was published, many very similar ones have been recorded in medical literature by competent and trustworthy observers. The following case came under my observation in April last, being kindly referred to me by Dr. George Fisk.

W. M., aged 19 years, stated that he had suffered from "nose bleed, headaches, and epileptic fits for the past five years." For six months previous to consulting me the fits were becoming more frequent, appearing every alternate month with increasing severity. During the attack preceding the last one the patient was unconscious for seven hours.

Present Condition.—Poorly nourished young man with a sallow complexion, unable to concentrate his mind upon his daily work and inclined to feel despondent. He was suffering from a slight attack of indigestion when he first came under my observation, for which he was receiving appropriate treatment. The organs as far as could be ascertained were normal.

Nasal examination revealed a small ulceration in the right nostril on the anterior half of the septum, associated with a large septal spur extending almost from the anterior naris of the right nostril to the alveolar process, and pressing on the posterior half of the middle turbinate. The left nostril was normal. There was considerable congestion in the naso- and pharynx.

I advised treatment of the nasopharyngeal condition and removal of

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