

of potassium and salicin acting well ; but the Indians themselves have great faith in local treatment, probably theorizing that the rapidity of the cure will be in proportion to the strength of the "rubbing stuff."

*Epilepsy* is a disease to which the Indians are peculiarly subject, and when it is realized that four per cent. of the population are afflicted, the statement is warranted. I must note that 50 per cent. of the deaths that take place at York are of children under five years of age, and those deaths have almost, without exception, been of cases who labored under a scrofulous or epileptoid diathesis. To proceed, there were six cases of idiocy at one time (four in two families), two of epileptoid convulsions and one of epileptoid insanity. The first case of convulsions was a somewhat strange one. An Indian, aged 30, was attacked by the fit *with but little warning*. Perfect prostration ensued for about half an hour ; then violent convulsions followed by his seeming to pass into a condition of acute mania, then seizing hold of the first thing (on more than one occasion an axe), would rush off to the woods and commence felling trees right and left. This individual being a tall, powerful man, was not considered harmless, so he was somewhat expeditiously despatched to Winnipeg.

The next case of convulsions came within my own cognizance. Heavy doses of bromide of potassium (15 to 20 grs. three times within the twenty-four hours) apparently prevented a recurrence.

The next case is a remarkable one of epileptoid insanity, and the instance of recovery must excuse a somewhat lengthy account of it :—An Indian, aged 20, was sent to me as insane. He was confined to a small building, erected for a jail, two keepers having been provided, and everything removed from an inner room of the jail. I examined him, and, possibly from excitement, epileptoid convulsions set in during my first visit. In the afternoon of the same day I again visited him, and having had some experience with lunatics in the Channel Islands Lunatic Asylum, I did not anticipate much trouble, as he was a slightly built man ; but before the door was bolted he had torn down a shelf and leaped at me. I avoided the shelf, as it was a big bit of wood,