

# THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD

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## Editorial.

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### PATHOLOGY OF EPILEPSY.

Among the numerous pathological conditions about which unsettled opinions prevail, epilepsy is prominent. A distinct niche has been made by the labour of Dr. N. Krainsky, physician in charge of the Department of Psychiatry at the Government Hospital at Charcow, Russia, the translation of which appears in the October number, '98, of *The Alienist and Neurologist*.

His work is on the line of an attempt to elucidate the metabolism of epileptics. He refers to the work of Haig, who demonstrates the close connection of migraine and epilepsy with variations in the excretion of uric acid, and that of a number of others who have studied the variations in the toxicity of the epileptic's urine, due to the seizures, and the many statements suggesting intoxication or auto-intoxication as a cause. In 1894 he began researches with a view of investigating as completely as possible the metabolism in different forms of epilepsy and to study metabolism under different forms of treatment. He found the quantity of uric acid markedly lowered before the seizure, but after it was equally increased, but he does not agree with Haig that the seizures are due to the infiltration of uric acid into the blood. In 1895 he began a more exact study of the variations in the