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THE NATURE AND TREATMENT OF THE MORPHIA
HABIT.

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Physician to Sunnyside. A private hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, the
Opium Habit and Inebriety.

Although the opium habit is not known to the people as alcoholic excess is, yet thousands have become infected with this ruinous propensity, which, unless it is pursued to excess or becomes complicated with grave diseases rarely attracts attention, its concealment being generally so successful as to defeat inquiry. The individual who takes opium or morphine, generally begins with small doses and keeps the habit a profound secret from the other members of the family, and it is not until the irresistible craving has been thoroughly established that the patient's sense of shame at the fatal habit to which he is a slave disappears and he becomes lost to self-respect and self control. He is now unable to live without his opium or morphine. His constitution demands it and he is only capable of discharging his duties and occupations by the artificial and temporary health imparted by his customary dose. He has, by taking daily hypodermics, created a new physiological want, a systemic demand, which has become peremptory and irresistible. Each dose restores for the time, the strength and activity enfeebled by previous indulgence, but this effect soon fades away. The fearful craving again appears, the patient soon weakly yields and takes a hypoder-