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Selected Articles.

TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY.

BY WALTER TYRRELL.

Since the publication of my last papers upon this subject, I am pleased to find that the use of strychnia in the treatment of Epilepsy has been taken up with success by many of the profession, both in this country and in the colonies.

In seeking to cure a disease like epilepsy we must look further than the mere stoppage of the attacks; we must produce some positive alteration in the nervous condition of our patient; we must detect and strengthen that weak spot in the nervous system that allows of the involuntary discharge of nervous power; for it is evidently thus that epilepsy arises. Irritation alone will not produce epilepsy. There must exist a predisposition, a hypersensitive condition of the nervous system, coupled with a want of power of control; for we see that similar causes of irritation may exist in a number of persons, but in only a very small percentage of these will epilepsy supervene, and in those few a deficient power of control of the nervous system is evidently existing. This is evidenced by the large number of adult