

ness in the limbs; he also complained of his head and limbs, but he seemed to feel the above mentioned sensations *more in his stomach than anywhere else*. I went into Mr. Rankin's room, and found him lying on a table with his head towards the window, *apparently insensible*.

Samuel Sturton, of Quebec, chemist, being sworn, says, \* \* \* I am the father of Mr. Ainsworth Sturton, who attends to the business in my shop. He is a student with me. Bottles number 1, 2, 3, and 4 were side by side on the shelves; after number four came a bottle containing tincture of iron, then came number five, the latter separated from number six by the stove-pipe. There were five bottles between six and seven, which five bottles could not be mistaken; then followed number seven; number eight was in a corner in another part of the shop. With respect to bottle number four, *tr. digitalis*, it is my firm conviction that no portion of it has been used since three months. I made it about six years ago, and that is all that I made; it was the only *tr. digitalis* that I had in my shop. I made no more than the contents of a bottle. When tincture *digitalis* has been kept long in a bottle a crust or film will form on the inside of the bottle level with the surface of the liquid. On examining the bottle, when I heard of the accident, I found the liquid stand level with the upper surface of the film; this film would take three months to form, the older the tincture is, the longer it takes to form a film. I now distinctly see the film, but see no film about half an inch lower. The *digitalis* and *hyoscyamus*, which are numbers four and six, contain poison; the others do not. *Digitalis* is often given in doses of half an ounce and one ounce to remove the effects of continual intoxication and other diseases.

Robert Henry Russell, of Quebec, Esq., Physician and Surgeon, being sworn, says: \* \* \* It was a narcotico-acrid poison that must have caused the symptoms complained of. *Digitalis* is one of that class of poisons. Peculiarity of constitution, habit or use, age and the particular state of health at the time, very much modify the action of drugs upon the human body. Taking these into account, and from the history and symptoms of the case as related to me by Mr. Scott, and afterwards by Mr. Rankin, I think that such symptoms might be produced by an over dose of tincture of *digitalis*, and I believe that Mr. Rankin and Mr. Scott owe their relief to the fact of their having *vomited the contents of their stomachs*. If I were called to a case similar to this one, my first object would be to empty the stomach; and I believe that mustard, which is in every house, should be immediately used for that purpose if the medical man has not any of the ordinary emetics with him. If I was certain that *digitalis* was the substance producing the symptoms, and that they did not subside after the stomach had been emptied, I would use brandy and opium according to the urgency of the case. Brandy very often produces the desired effect in consequence of *digitalis* having a tendency to produce both purging and vomiting of its own accord. The narcotico-acrid poisons often produce, under modifying circumstances, *symptoms at first sight very much alike*.

Question by Mr. A. Sturton. Will you specify any other acro-narcotic poisons which could produce symptoms similar to those described by Messrs. Rankin and Scott?

Answer. NOT ANY EXACTLY SIMILAR.

Question. Is not strychnine a narcotico-acrid poison.