

have died from it several days after, without taking any in the interval. I do not think the poison could have been taken into the stomach I examined, long before death. There was no inflammation, though there was a commencement of it, in the extremities of the stomach. Some poisons have a cumulative effect. A succession of doses may be given before they take any effect; but the cumulative power may, in the end, produce death. I have known this to be the case with *digitalis*; but never heard or read of it with arsenic.

Re-examined by Mr. Galt. I know of no case wherein arsenic has acted as a cumulative poison. The sixteenth of a grain is about the usual allopathic dose of arsenic. If a succession of such doses had been taken, providing the party lived a short time afterwards, no traces of it would be found. Arsenic administered in large quantities, will produce a narcotic effect. None of the appearances usually attendant on the taking of arsenic were present in the stomach. The absence of the usual indications by no means excludes the possibility of the presence of arsenic. The absence of symptoms is the exception.

NATHANIEL RUSSELL PROCTOR, M.D., examined.—I assisted at the *post mortem* examination of the body of Sarah Anne King. The body was brought to the school house, and placed upon a door. It presented a rather healthy appearance for one deceased. There was considerable fat over the muscular parts. Dr. Gros made the incision, and laid bare the stomach, liver and an impregnated womb. There was a dark appearance on the outer covering, which might have been occasioned by coming in contact with a dark fluid. With this exception, the organs were healthy. We examined the bowels which were coloured, from something, we supposed, which had passed through them. The rectum was also coloured. This we attributed to inflammation. The womb was removed; it contained a *fetus*, which was quite healthy. The placenta was cut through, but we found nothing wrong. We removed the sternum, and examined the heart and liver, which were quite healthy. The lungs presented a congested appearance. I never examined any one before who had died of arsenical poison.

Cross examined.—The congestion of the lungs was not such as was sufficient to cause death. The inflammation of the rectum is, I consider, a sign of arsenical poison. The surface of the stomach was congested—it scarcely amounted to inflammation; it was a state of engorgement; I cannot say to what extent. Taking the stomach as a whole, it did not appear to me to be a healthy stomach. I cannot say how long the inflammation I observed had existed. I did not examine very particularly the whole of the inner coating. Before the Coroner, I did not use the word "inflammation"—"congestion" was the word. I supposed the colouring of the coat was caused by the dark fluid I found inside the stomach. I examined the neck of the womb. There was no trace of disease of any sort. The age of the *fetus* was between three or four months, and presented a healthy appearance. When the skull was removed, the brain contained a little more fluid than is ordinarily the case.

A. E. FIFE, M.D., examined.—I was called in to see the late Mrs. King. I think Dr. King sent for me, perhaps about three weeks before her death. She was vomiting at intervals. I prescribed for her ipecacuanha and camphor. I gave the prescription to Dr. King. He told me that his wife was vomiting at intervals—that she was pregnant, and that she had ulceration of the vagina. I called four or five times afterwards, and prisoner stated to me that the difficulty at the vagina was better. The last time I saw her that she could converse with me was the night before her death. She said to me, in the course of the conversation, "I feel much better than I have any time since my illness." She appeared to me much better. She did not look like a dying woman. The last time I saw her was on the morning of her death. I cannot say how many hours had intervened between then and the time I left her on the previous evening. I called about dusk in the evening, and between eleven and twelve the next