

secondly, that chloroform will extract strychnine from an alkaline solution, but not from an acid one.

In the course of the experiments which were carried on by Mr. Rodgers and myself, we detected strychnine in the stomach, tissues, and even in the bones and urine of a rabbit which was poisoned with five doses of strychnine, one-thirtieth of a grain in each dose, administered at intervals of fifteen minutes. It was also easily detected in the remains of a dog that had been buried twelve months, and the tissues converted into adipocere. In this case it was also detected in the bones, scraped free from other matter.

The fact that strychnine is capable of resisting the putrefactive and fermentative processes, and the action of strong sulphuric acid, indicates that it may be detected, long after burial, in cases where it has been the cause of death.

Strychnine has frequently been detected in the urine of patients when taken in medicinal doses. When looking for strychnine in the urine or in the bones, it is well to take advantage of the phosphoric acid contained in them, and precipitate it as triple phosphate by the addition of sulphate of magnesia and excess of ammonia, whereby a copious deposit of sulphate of lime is thrown down, and also of triple phosphate, both of which materially assist in the examination by carrying down with them a large quantity of organic matter, leaving a clear solution more easy of subsequent manipulation.

Ammonia will throw down strychnine, and it may be said that strychnine should be looked for in the precipitate produced by that re-agent. This would be true if a large quantity of strychnine were present; but in the analysis for strychnine in cases of poisoning, especially in the tissues, only a very small quantity must be expected, and strychnine is soluble in 7000 parts of cold water; hence a filtrate of a pint, which is a usual quantity, would hold in solution, although alkaline with ammonia, a grain and a half of strychnine, which would be lost if looked for in the precipitate, and would be ample to destroy life.

Montreal, July, 1864.

Case of Filaria Medinensis Dracunculus, or Guinea Worm. By
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The subject of this notice served with his regiment in India during the mutiny of 1857. On one occasion, while stationed in a fort which was besieged by the rebels for a period of sixty days, the garrison were