

as in the others, not been diagnosed. We found Lang presenting much the same appearance and symptoms as the others. And sending for his attendant at the same time ordering the same stimulants left for our first cases.

While at William Hauky's house we obtained about three ounces, of the poison, which had not yet been consumed, and on examining, discovered Colchicum Wine. This information gained, we were about as well off as before. No antidote, Nothing better suggesting, the original treatment was pursued. During an absence of about two hours, or less, two deaths had occurred and more threatened to end fatally every minute. Their spiritual advisers were in attendance, and the "Sisters" nursed and cared for all. The house was destitute of wood for heating, and bedding was very deficient. All these requisites had been supplied during our absence. Although all the cases had been deemed hopeless, still stimulants were freely used,—in the hope of carrying some through the danger. Sister Cleary informed me that all desired to be allowed to sit up,—but she had refused permission. The wine was from the establishment of Evans, Mercer & Co., manufacturers, and was made from the "seeds."

From experiments performed with a portion of the recovered sample, the wine was found to be very active. The wine of seeds is much more uniform in strength. As the seeds are only matured once in the year and are then gathered, whereas the Corm is always obtainable, and is very variable in activity in different seasons. In estimating the activity of Colchicum the variable strength of the different preparations must be kept in view. The Corm is most active in July and August; the seeds are more uniform in strength and the flowers and leaves feebler. In some seasons of the year the Corm is almost inert. The seeds are very hard indeed, quite as tough nux vomica seeds. Mr. Mercer, a gentleman of wide experience as a Pharmaceutist, informs me, that it is almost impossible to crush them, and if placed in the mill, without being soaked for