

his fingers." Mr. Scott said that he felt the same, and I think that Mr. Murney said the same. "I was very ill, feeling a numbness at the ends of my fingers, and on the scalp of my head, and the same sensation in my feet—I also felt very sick at my stomach, and I vomited the potion I had got at Mr. Sturton's." "The feeling was of a death-like nature, but without acute pain." "I became insensible; I fainted"—"Remained in a stupid condition until about 6 o'clock." "Inclination to sleep" after leaving Mr. Murney's room.

Mr. Scott's evidence as regards symptoms was of like character.

After this detail of the most prominent symptoms as gleaned from the report of the case, I proceed to examine the symptoms characteristic of poisoning by digitalis and aconite, Drs. Marsden and Russell having declared themselves in favor of the idea, that the tincture of digitalis had been unfortunately added to the mixture in place of the tincture of cardamons, or one of the other tinctures usually employed in such beverages.

The grand phenomena of poisoning by foxglove (*digitalis*) according to Pereira, when given in fatal doses, are the following: "vomiting, purging, and griping pain in the bowels; slow, feeble and irregular pulse; great faintness, and cold sweats; discolored vision at first, giddiness, extreme debility; afterwards insensibility and convulsions with dilated insensible pupils"* Again, in accordance with another author, *digitalis* in poisonous doses produces the following principal phenomena: "cramps in the limbs, convulsions, lethargy, dilated pupils, swelling of the tongue and lips, discharge of viscid saliva, vomiting, suppression of urine, a slow, infrequent, irregular, and intermitting pulse; and finally death by coma."†

Such then are the prominent symptoms of poisoning by *digitalis*. Let us now see what the same eminent authorities declare to be the chief characteristics of poisoning by *aconite*.

"When the root or its tincture is swallowed, the most marked symptoms are numbness and tingling of the parts about the mouth and throat, and of the extremities, vomiting, contracted pupil, and failure of the circulation. The heart appears to be weakened or paralyzed, and a state approaching to asphyxia is produced. Convulsion or spasm is not constantly present, and when it does take place is probably a secondary effect arising from the incipient asphyxia. In neither of the cases which I have above detailed did stupor occur. Yet in some recorded cases it did happen."

* Pereira's *Materia Medica*, vol. 2, fol. 461.

† Stillé's *Therapeutics*, vol. 2, fol. 330.