

neighbor about Sarah's periods, but got no satisfactory answer. I then went out and gave my opinion to Dr. Rattray that, the old lady's case was easily accounted for—that she had had a stroke of Paralysis, produced by the shock of seeing her daughter lying, apparently dead. That as to Sarah, it was very difficult to say—that one might conjecture but could not come to any satisfactory conclusion, unless by an examination after death. Dr. Rattray then said that Dr. Dickinson had said that both were poisoned. I replied that I could see no indication of such being the case. I think I remarked to a bystander that, had I been told as Dr. Dickinson had been told and had I seen them in the first instance and found them both presenting the same symptoms as had been described to me, I would very likely have said they were poisoned, and, as at different periods, different symptoms are presented, as a matter of course, different conclusions must be arrived at—that, so far as I could then see, I could find no indication of poison in either case. I was the more confirmed in that opinion in consequence of having heard that a child of Sarah's had partaken of the same food and had not been attacked—I advised them to keep the cloths, in the event of an analysis, which would likely follow in consequence of the suspicion of poison.

By the Coroner.—At that time I had heard nothing arising in or about the matters vomited—I was told that the vomited matters were the contents of the stomach and that after Dr. Rattray had been there, Sarah Jordan had vomited some greenish colored matter.

By Dr. Dickinson.—Narcotic poisons will produce Coma and Congestion of the Brain, but if Sarah and Anne had taken enough to produce the symptoms I saw, they would not have lived so long. I cannot say what Sarah died of—I do not think it was Apoplexy, nor do I think it was Congestion of the Brain. I can give no opinion as to probabilities or possibilities, my duty is to deal with facts—the facts as I saw them.

*Post Mortem.*—Sarah Jordan's stomach and a small portion of the upper part of the intestine were covered with red patches—the remaining portions were free from them. The uterus (womb) was in such a condition that it was almost impossible to arrive at any conclusion concerning it—the stomach of Anne Jordan was distended, and the large end of it was covered with a round patch of a dark color and appeared to be soft.—I was afraid of cutting into it. I think with Dr. McDonald, that without an analysis the Post Mortem performed would be useless. I could see nothing that gave the slightest evidence of abortion—there was no blood throughout the tissues of the uterus, which would have been the case had abortion taken place, for traces of blood are evident after the organs are decomposed.—the brain was not examined owing to the state of decomposition.