

were formed. The umbilical cord had been divided nine inches from the body, evidently with scissors, and there was no ligature on it. Meconium was protruding from the anus; the testicles had descended; the thighs were flexed on the abdomen, and the legs on the thighs.

*Internal Examination.*—The marks of injury before referred to, were cut into, and the cellular tissue underneath was found to be red with extravasated blood. An incision was made through the lower lip, and down to the epigastrium, in the mesial line. On dividing the lower lip, the tongue was found protruded more than a line beyond the gums. On opening the thorax, the following observations were made:—The apex of the diaphragm was opposite the fifth rib; the lateral portions were well descended; the lungs were of a uniform bright scarlet color, occupying the lateral portions of the thorax, and touching the diaphragm below, but not filling the pleural cavities entirely. The heart and great vessels were nearly in the mesial line, and the cavity of the entire thorax was large for the size of the child; the lungs crepitated on pressure; the lungs, heart, and thymus gland were then removed, and, on being put into water, floated; crepitation occurred under the scalpel; a portion of lung was squeezed under water, and bubbles issued from every part of the cut surface; the same was observed on squeezing a portion in air; nearly half of each lung was removed, and the remainder, with the heart and thymus still attached, was cast into water, when the mass again floated; portions of lung floated in water; the cavities of the heart contained dark blood, slightly coagulated; foramen ovale was closed, but not obliterated.

#### INFERENCES.

- 1st.—The child had breathed freely.
- 2d.—The marks of injury on the right breast and neck were inflicted during life.
- 3d.—They were, in all probability, occasioned by the left hand of an adult grasping the neck of the infant.
- 4th.—The protrusion of the tongue, and position of the hands, are, probably, referrible to strangulation.
- 5th.—Death was not caused by hæmorrhage from the cord.
- 6th.—The child was between seven and eight months of utero-gestation.

The rest of the evidence went to show, that Bridget Cloone had been a widow for some years; that she had carefully concealed her pregnancy; that she had taken powerful emmenagogue medicines, prescribed by an irregular practitioner, up to the day of delivery, and that she was seen, half an hour before my arrival, to get out of bed, stand by its side, take a pair of scissors from under the pillow, and cut something under the bedclothes.

The coroner's jury brought in a verdict of "Wilful

Murder." The bill of indictment founded thereon was thrown out by the Grand Jury. She was then indicted for concealing the birth of an illegitimate child, convicted, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

The above is an exceedingly important case in the annals of Medical Jurisprudence; and cases of the kind are very rare. Under the hope of escaping from the consequences incident to an actual infanticide, of which there is the strongest probability, this woman *persisted to the last that she was not pregnant*, little anticipating that a second child was to furnish its quota of evidence of the birth of a former one a few hours previously. The case furnishes a striking proof of the fact, that a woman may be delivered of one child, of which she may criminally dispose, for the purpose of concealing its birth, and may be afterwards delivered of a second, the life of which may be preserved.

#### GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA.

*Report of Progress for the Year 1844. By William Logan, Provincial Geologist.*—Lovell & Gibson, 1846.

The provincial geologist has prefaced his report of progress for the year 1844 with a descriptive geographical sketch of the field of his observations. This is a very acceptable contribution to our knowledge of that district, of which no previous topographical survey had been made. An examination of this nature was obviously necessary before any account could be given of the geological structure of the country; and this obstruction, if not to the prosecution, certainly to the expression and recording of his specific labours, Mr. Logan seems to have surmounted with equal ability and success. The coincidence of the result of his admeasurements, with that of Capt. Bayfield's, and Deputy-Surveyor-General Bouchette's, is a striking proof of the accuracy of his science in this department of his investigations.

From the mouth of the Chat to the Bay of Chaleur, the majestic mountains of Notre Dame required to be passed over; and these, as they formed the primary object of the geological survey, become, likewise, interesting parts of the physical geography of the country, when drawn with the accurate and not ungraceful outline which we have in the following sketch:—

"From the highest summit we visited, the panorama displayed was of the grandest description. In the northern half of the circle, the waters of the St. Lawrence, dotted with its ships and fishing boats, spread out to the right and to the left as far as the eye could reach. On its northern shore, immediately in front, unaided vision could plainly distinguish the lighthouse of the Pointe des Monts, some fifty miles off, from which the granite hills, rising immediately behind it in the interior, gradually sunk below the horizon as they receded from us, following them down the expanding gulph, to a point where we thought we could discern the Island of Anticosti, one