

ARTICLE IV.

VIOLENT DEATH.

- 38.—DEFINITION.
- 39.—SAID DEFINITION IS ACCORDING TO LAW.
- 40.—ACCORDING TO THE USUAL PARLANCE OF MEN.
- 41.—ACCORDING TO SCIENCE.
- 42.—ACCORDING TO COMMON LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE.
- 43.—DEATHS THE RESULT OF FAR-BACK ACCIDENT IS STILL A VIOLENT DEATH IN THE MEANING OF THE LAW.
- 44.—THERE IS DOUBT IN REGARD TO EVERY VIOLENT DEATH.
- 45.—REASON OF SAID DOUBT.
- 46.—THE DOUBT SHOULD BE REMOVED BY A PROPER LEGAL INVESTIGATION.
- 47.—VIOLENT DEATH GIVES RISE TO THE IDEA OF HOMICIDE.
- 48.—NO VIOLENT DEATH SHOULD BE PASSED UNINVESTIGATED UPON.

38. Violent death is death resulting from other than natural or ordinary causes.

39. Neither the Civil Code of Lower Canada nor any Statute before or since has defined violent death, nor have the legal sources which gave rise to Article 69 of the said Code of Lower Canada afforded any definition of violent death.

Nevertheless what the legislators call "violent death" is called "unnatural death" by the declaration of 1712.

Unnatural death is evidently that which is not the result of illness.

Legislators in abstaining from defining violent death have tacitly accepted the usual definition.

Violent death is defined by the Dictionary of the French Academy (edition of 1879) at the word "violent" as "death caused by the force, or by some accident, and not by a natural and ordinary cause.