

10th.—Is decidedly worse to-day; considerable difficulty in the respiratory act; occasional stridor; complains of choking sensation and severe pain in the larynx; can hardly swallow even liquids; seems indifferent to everything around, but is intellectually clear.

11th, 10:30 a.m.—Found her pulseless and dying, as if in the last stage of croup. She died at 4:30 p.m., retaining her mental faculties almost to the close.

12th, 10 a.m.—Dr. Roddick, House-Surgeon Montreal General Hospital, kindly assisted me at the post-mortem, and furnished me with the following notes:

AUTOPSY EIGHTEEN HOURS AFTER DEATH.

Rigor mortis strong; features pinched, pointing to considerable agony at the time of death; the abdomen was noticed to be flat over its entire anterior aspect, but bulging at either side. An incision through the abdominal walls was made, extending from the xyphoid cartilage to near the pubis, opening at once the abdominal cavity throughout that space. In drawing aside the edges of this incision to gain a view of the cavity, two remarkable looking bodies, cystic in character, were seen to occupy, on either side, a space extending from about the sixth rib to below the crest of the ilium. The liver was compressed against the diaphragm by the right tumour, and was small and contracted in appearance, although normal in structure. The spleen was pressed upward by the opposite body, but normal in every respect. The pancreas was also healthy. The tumours were removed after considerable difficulty and found to be diseased kidneys. They were afterwards carefully examined and found in the following condition:

Left Kidney.—Weight, 4 lbs. 11½ ozs.; greatest length, 10 in.; greatest breadth, 7 in.; greatest circumference, 24 in.; lesser circumference, 17 in. It consists of a mass of cysts tightly packed together in places, and here and there standing out free from the general mass. The capsule is entire and can be best demonstrated as it passes over the sulci between the cysts. It is very strong and covered with the fat usually found about the kidney. The cysts vary in size from the smallest pea to that of a goose's egg, the largest being at the periphery, and especially at the upper and posterior border. Nearly two hundred can be counted with ease, and there are probably half as many more indistinctly seen. The cyst walls are, for the most part, beautifully transparent, and their contents of a rich straw colour; but, again, there are a few cysts here and there having a wall of a dull yellow colour, resembling the appearance of the healthy organ. The body has a firm feel