

serous fluid. The lungs were crepitant throughout; the bases felt sodden; on section both organs were found to be oedematous. Both lungs contained a fair amount of blood; the bronchi were found free from foreign substance; the bronchial mucosa was pale. The heart was small and its ventricles contracted; valves normal. Spleen small in size, normal. Kidneys normal. Bladder contained about 4 ozs. of clear urine. Liver normal, contained a fair amount of blood. Stomach small and nearly empty; contained about two ounces of fully digested food; mucosa normal. Intestines normal.

Microscopical examination of the blood-stained substances found on the plank across the creek showed them to contain brain tissue, recognised in the form of granular detritus and myelin drops. They also contained red-blood corpuscles averaging seven to eight micromillimeters in diameter.

*Summary.*—The only injury found is a severe gunshot wound of the left orbit, entering the skull in an obliquely upward and backward direction, and lacerating the brain in the area through which it traversed. The severity of the injury was in itself sufficient to cause death. That death was probably not quite instantaneous is probable from the oedema of the lungs, but the absence of severe hemorrhage shows that it must have very soon followed the injury. Loss of consciousness must have been instantaneous from the severe shock. The oblique direction of the wound makes it one which could not well have been intentionally caused by a weapon in the hands of another person than the victim, as it would be impossible to take aim so as to produce this wound except under unusual circumstances, leading to the victim being either several feet higher up than the assailant or else lying down face uppermost. The wound is one which could very well have been caused accidentally by the discharge of the gun while the muzzle was grasped by the hand of the deceased.

The condition of the stomach agrees with the hour at which the watch stopped, placing the hour of death and immersion in the water at 6 P.M. on April 20th, the day of disappearance.