

by his wife at about half-past five, in a state of great suffering. At that time he was able to speak, and told his wife that he had swallowed a large quantity of Oil of Vitriol, which drug it appears he kept in stock for the preparation of blacking. W's wife found the bottle of oil of vitriol, on the counter in the shop. It had been recently used, and the counter and floor were burned by what had been accidentally spilled, so that no exact opinion could be arrived at as to the quantity swallowed. According to his own statement he "took about a glass," i. e., two ounces.

Nothing was done for the poor fellow till he arrived at the hospital except that an emetic had been given.

On admission he appeared in a state of collapse—the extremities were cold and nails livid—the skin cold and perspiring—pulse at the wrist thready and almost imperceptible. He could not articulate distinctly, but was quite sensible to what was going on about him. He appeared, restless, turning himself about, and continually by signs and sounds demanded water to quench his dreadful thirst.

Water being offered, with a quantity of carbonate of magnesia, it was evident he had the greatest difficulty in swallowing, though he took it eagerly; and no sooner were a few mouthfuls swallowed than they were immediately rejected by vomiting. A quantity of oil was then given him, but with the same result.

The mucous membrane of the lips was thickened and white. No blackening of any part of the integument was observed. The teeth were of a chalky dead whiteness and had completely lost their polish. The mucous membrane of the tongue and mouth was corrugated, thickened and milky white. His clothes were discolored by the acid which had fallen upon them in several places.

He died about an hour after admission still crying for water, but not appearing to suffer much except from the tormenting thirst.

The *post mortem* examination was made twenty-two hours after death. The body presented a natural appearance. *Rigor Mortis* well marked. The face looked calm and placid. The edges of the lips were dry and of a brown colour. The mucous membrane of the mouth was white, and appeared as if it had been recently rubbed over with nitrate of silver. The tongue was thickened, white and sodden.

On opening the abdomen a large quantity of dark brown fluid covered the omentum. This fluid was intensely acid in its reaction. After sponging it out, the omentum was found to be of a dark olive colour, marked with black streaks corresponding to the course of the veins, the blood in which was coagulated.

When the thorax was opened a large quantity of fat was seen in the