

II. would fall into a repose; but instead of sleep our patient lay speechless and motionless, with eyes staring wide open, no signs of respiration; they opened her mouth to see if she would swallow, but in vain, her lower jaw remaining depressed as the nurse had left it. Attempts were now made to arouse her by calling loudly in her ear, but to which she paid no attention. They thought her dead, and that it was useless to send for medical aid; thus passed away twelve hours, when her husband dispatched a messenger for me. When I arrived and entered the room I was shocked to see what struck my fancy to be a waxen figure or a frozen corpse in lieu of my former patient. There she lay with under jaw depressed, eyes staring and wide open, without winking, the pupils a little dilated; skin cool, almost the feel of a corpse before stiffening; pulse 122, feeble, no sign of respiration. In examining the pulse I raised the arm to see if that would cause any difference in the pulse. There it remained for nearly an hour, when I put it down by her side. There was but slight resistance offered to any change of her limbs or person; but whatever attitude a limb was placed in, there it remained. I now brought her under jaw up to its place, and it remained. I was importuned to do something for the patient. What to do was, with me, a paramount question. The thought occurred to me that I might administer an enema of strong solution of *asafoetida*, which I did to the amount of a quart; and this was very easily done, as there was not the slightest resistance. Still the patient lay as lifeless as ever for about an hour, when a few slight convulsive movements were observed, and she aroused to consciousness. She looked about her, asked what had been done with her corpse, as it appeared to her that her friends desired her to remain for a season, but her judgment dictated to her to again depart and take her infant with her. I gave her several doses of *asafoetida*, fluid extract of valerian, beef tea, &c. She now desired to be left alone, as she said she had an important duty to perform, and the presence of persons, however nearly related, was detrimental to her welfare. She was satisfied for me to remain with her alone, as she said, "from the days of antiquity, deference had always been paid first to the priest and then to the doctor."

She remained quiet for, in all, a period of six hours, taking beef tea, valerianate of ammonia, *asafoetida*, and bromide of potas-