

February last, at the request of Mr. Armstrong, to make an analysis in this and in another case. On the following day, the 8th, I went with Mr. Armstrong to the residence of the Coroner, Dr. Turcotte, there I heard some of the evidence taken at the inquest. I then went to the residence of Dr. Provost, and found him, in company with Dr. Mignault, making an analysis of a portion of the viscera, which they informed me had been taken from the deceased, F. X. Joutras. I asked them what process they had adopted; Dr. Provost replied that he was employing the process of Staas; he gave me the stomach after having first emptied its contents. I cut it into pieces with the assistance of Drs. Migneault and Provost, placed it in a new capsule, and covered it with dilute hydrochloric acid. I applied heat by means of a water-bath, and kept up the heat till the whole stomach was dissolved. This was then put aside to cool, and then passed through a wet filter. I agitated the clear filtered liquid with sulphate of magnesia and ammonia, and again filtered the solution. To this solution I added about one ounce of chloroform and shook them well up in a bottle, I separated a portion of the chloroform and evaporated it to dryness on a clean porcelain capsule. This residue I tested for strychnine, and I was convinced of its presence, nevertheless there still remained some organic matter. I then removed the rest of the chloroform from the mixture, and evaporated it to dryness. To the residue obtained after the evaporation of the chloroform, I added sulphuric acid and applied heat for some time so as to destroy all trace of organic matter, this was filtered after being diluted with water, so as to separate the carbon. The clear filtered fluid was neutralized with ammonia and again agitated with chloroform. This chloroform was evaporated and on being tested yielded strychnine in abundance. Dr. Provost gave me also a gall bladder which he said belonged to the body of François Xavier Joutras. The gall bladder was tied with pack thread and contained a small quantity of bile. There was less than one ounce in weight and it was treated by the same process just described as with regard to the stomach. I again proved the presence of strychnine, I called Drs. Provost and Migneault to witness the test for strychnine in both cases, I also saw the proof of the presence of strychnine in the contents of the stomach which was treated by Dr. Provost. Dr. Provost gave me a white powder which he had proved to be sulphate of magnesia. I also examined this and proved it to be sulphate of magnesia, he also gave me another powder which he stated, he had proved to be arsenic. I also examined it and corroborated his statement. Dr. Provost afterwards gave me a small ball of grease covered on the outside with dust, this was cut into two by Dr. Migneault, and contained a white powder which was proved to be strychnine. From these analyses, I concluded that the deceased swallowed strychnine before his death and lived long enough afterwards to allow the strychnine to be absorbed into the blood, and to circulate in the system, and to be carried to the liver and excreted in the bile, these are my conclusions.

*Cross-questioned.*—I have not the sample of strychnine here that was found in the pellet of grease. The small glass capsule here produced appears to be the same that I used, but as I have not had charge of it I can not swear it is the same. The analyses were conducted with new apparatus brought from Montreal by me. The analysis of Mrs. Dove's body was not made in my presence. I proceeded at once to the analysis after receiving the viscera from Dr. Provost,