

kind occurred in the Greenwich County Court; the party denied most positively that a certain receipt was in his handwriting. It read: "Received the Hole of the above." Upon being asked to write a sentence containing the word "whole," he took pains to disguise his hand; but used the above phonetic style of spelling, even writing the capital "H"; and then he ran away to escape prosecution for perjury: Roger's Expert Testimony, Sec. 146; Taylor on Evidence, Sec. 1669. Note: I Greenleaf on Evidence, Sec. 581, Note.

Some years since, two anonymous letters, together with a number of letters written by several different persons, and the minutes of a scientific meeting written by a party not suspected of being the author of the anonymous letters, were submitted to the writer for his opinion. A careful study of the documents led the writer to the conclusion that the anonymous letters were written by the writer of the minutes above referred to; this conclusion was so much at variance with the opinion of the party who submitted the documents for examination that he was disposed to reject it. The writer, however, persisted in his opinion, and upon confronting the supposed author of the anonymous letters with the opinion, and accusing him of the authorship of said anonymous letters, he broke down and acknowledged himself to be their author. In this case, while the form of the letters in the several documents was not by any means identical, yet the manner of combining the several letters to form the more common particles, such as "the," "and," "of," "to," "for," etc., was identical in every instance, thus demonstrating to the mind of the writer the identity of their authorship.

Perfect identity of two signatures is very strong, if not conclusive, evidence of fraud. No two autograph signatures by the same hand will be exactly alike. In the famous Howland Will case, Professor Pierce, at that time professor of Mathematics in Harvard University, testified that the odds were 2,866,000,000,-000,000,000,000 to 1 that an individual could not with a pen write his name three times so exactly as were the three alleged signatures of Sylvia Ann Howland, the alleged testatrix of the will and two codicils. If, therefore, upon superposition against the light, two signatures exactly coincide, it is morally certain that one of them is forgery.

(4) Another means of detecting forgery is by the internal evidences of fraud, afforded by the writing itself, with or without the aid of comparison with other and genuine writing.

These internal evidences may consist of alterations, such as erasures, additions, etc., above described, or of tracings of the genuine signature by means of a pen or pencil, which tracings are afterwards inked over with a pen; or they may be found in a copy of a genuine signature otherwise than by tracing in the several manners above described. The copy or imitation of the genuine signature may be either freehand or composite, by which latter is meant that the signature is made discontinuously or by piece meal. The detection of frauds attempted in the manner first above described is comparatively easy. A very low power of the microscope will readily reveal the erasures, and not unfrequently the word erased may be made out. When the signature has been traced over a genuine signature,