

## EXTERNAL APPEARANCES.

The body was that of a male infant, 19 inches in length, weight 8 lbs., the testicles were in the scrotum, the finger nails projected beyond the finger ends and the toe-nails were at the level of the toe ends. The umbilical cord was attached. The whole length of the cord was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, of which 1 inch showed an irregular obliquely torn margin. There was no sign of ecchymosis in this margin. There was an ecchymosis over the glabellum, and the upper lip was swollen and showed some marks of bruising. The lower lip and chin were free from bruising. The tongue was clenched between the gums. The surface of the body was pallid and *rigor mortis* was present.

## INTERNAL EXAMINATION.

*Head.*—No fracture of skull. Brain normal. The tongue, with larynx, pharynx, trachea, œsophagus, lungs, heart and thymus gland, were removed *en masse*. The lungs floated in water and had been fully aerated. There were no ecchymoses visible on the pericardium or pleura. The larynx, trachea and bronchi down to the third and fourth division appeared healthy, and there was no reddening or softening of the mucous membrane in any part of the tract.

*The Heart.*—The right side was engorged with black fluid blood.

*Abdomen.*—The stomach was empty. The mucous membrane pale and no ecchymoses noticeable. Small intestines empty. Large intestine contained some meconium.

The liver and kidneys were apparently normal in structure, but somewhat dark in colour, and congested. The spleen was normal. Bladder empty. The verdict returned was that the child had been born alive at full term and that the cause of death was probably due to asphyxia.

## COMMENT.

The first point of importance in this case was how far the mother was responsible for the death of the child, and