

to step over with me to his shop, and show me the bottles out of which he had taken the mixture given to those parties. On entering the shop Mr. Ainsworth Sturton went round the counter. He then laid before me on the counter, bottles labelled with the four tinctures that I have already described. The tincture of cardamoms, marked No. 1; the tincture of cinchona, marked No. 3; the tincture of gentian, marked No. 5; and the tincture of ginger, marked No. 7, were the four bottles shewn; and I did not ask for the ammonia nor did Mr. Sturton show it to me. I then said, "Show me where these bottles stand, and show me their places," and he showed me a vacant spot on the shelf, *immediately facing the door*. The shelves are divided by a little pillar or support at certain distances; and, in addition to the bottle marked tr. digitalis, No. 4, there was another bottle labelled tincture of muriate of iron, and nearly half full. There was a vacant space, sufficient for two bottles, to the left of the pillar facing it, and another vacant space sufficient for two other bottles to the right of those just mentioned, and to the left of the next pillar. On the right of the vacant space, and of the pillar, stood a bottle of tincture of hyoscyamus, which I believe to be the one produced. On seeing this I felt my suspicions as to the poison or wrong drug administered, entirely confirmed, and I said to Mr. Sturton, pointing to the bottle containing digitalis, "there it is." I took up the bottle and examined it, looked through it, and remarked that the shoulder and neck were very dusty, more so than any of the bottles on the counter. I took out the stopper, but could not see by that examination of the neck, that any thing had been taken out of the bottle; but I observed three dots where the dust had been displaced, in a direct line from the outer edge of the shoulder to the neck of the bottle, and I was impressed with the conviction that it had been used, and that the three spots had been produced by the liquid having been recently used, and dropped upon them. I held the bottle up between the light, and distinctly saw, as I do now, a couple of lines, the *lowest one nearly half an inch above the fluid*. I then carefully turned the bottle on one side and I saw a line or encrustation on a level, as near as possible with the fluid, and another one nearly half an inch below that, much thicker and stronger in its character, and showing that the fluid had rested there, at some period, for a long time. Immediately after this, whether Ainsworth Sturton had still doubts or not, as to aconite or digitalis, he went round the counter, and, getting a small memorandum book, about a small quarto size, he opened it, and, running down one side with his finger, he said, "I see I had used the aconite, as I had got only two drachms for a prescription." The next day, in order to satisfy myself, I took down some dusty bottles in my own surgery, about in the same state as was the digitalis I have spoken of, and pouring out some of the contents, found no more mark left on the neck than there was on the digitalis bottle which I had examined at Mr. Sturton's the day before.* I also dropped a few drops of tincture of digitalis from my bottle, which was bright and clean, on to the shoulder of one of the dusty bottles, and found that it left a mark similar to those I have alluded to above, the dust and drop seeming to roll off together. We then returned to the hotel; Mr. Murney seemed to have rallied a little. The stomach rejected the coffee and everything else given to him afterwards. I administered about a teaspoonful of sulphuric ether in water to Mr. Murney. His stomach immediately rejected it. I then hurried home leaving instructions to give coffee and brandy, freely, and returned