

day); he was then down stairs with his clothes on, having been assisted to dress by his brother, and appeared stupified and drowsy. He was sitting on a chair apparently asleep, and his mother awoke him, gave him some senna and cream of tartar, and helped him to go to bed again. All that he had eaten on the previous night was an apple, and during the whole of Saturday he had nothing except a little cold water and some tea. About one o'clock his limbs began to be very stiff; the drowsiness continued to some extent, but not so much as before. The patient continued in bed all day, and complained of his limbs aching; about three o'clock on Sunday morning he was seized with convulsions. I was sent for early on Sunday morning, when I saw him for the first time. He was then perfectly unconscious, the features were sunken, the lips were drawn back, showing the teeth, which were covered with dark sordes, the tongue was dry, parched, and covered with a blackish brown crust, the pupils were fully dilated and quite insensible to the light of a candle held close to the eyes; there was no pulse at the wrist, the sounds of the heart were inaudible, and its movements could scarcely be felt. The patient moaned frequently, was restless, and placed his hand to the pit of his stomach, frequently drawing up his legs, as if he suffered great pain in the abdomen; the head was firmly drawn back, with rigidity of the muscles of the posterior part of the neck. I saw him frequently until his death, which took place on the following Friday afternoon, nearly a whole week from the time when he chewed the tobacco. No important change took place from the date of my first being called to see him. He never became conscious; the pulse improved but remained feeble and thrilling. The pupils were somewhat less dilated, but remained inactive. At times great difficulty of swallowing was present, and there were constantly returning rigid tetanic spasms, the muscles of the back being principally affected.

The treatment consisted in the administration of stimulants, such as brandy, strong coffee, and sesquicarbonate of ammonia, and the application of sinapisms over the regions of the heart and stomach. So completely was the patient under the narcotic influence of the tobacco, that I feel certain he would have died on the Sunday afternoon if I had not succeeded, to some extent, in restoring the heart's action.

The chief post-mortem appearances, forty-eight hours after death, were the following:—The body was rigid and emaciated; there were early signs of decomposition over the upper part of the chest and the lower part of the abdomen, and blueness of the nails. These two latter appearances were noticed by the man who laid out the body, within a quarter of an hour after death. On opening the stomach, I found it to contain about an ounce or more of dark grumous matter, free from any particular