

Faculty of Leipsic, are identical with the vapours from charcoal and lime, and will produce the same deleterious effects.

“If they are discovered,” say Struve and Belloc, “after the gaz has had its full operation, their bodies present the following appearances: the head, face and neck are swollen; the eyes are propelled from their sockets, but preserve their brilliancy often for two or three hours after death; the tongue is protruded, swollen, and inclined to one side of the mouth, the jaws are firmly closed; the face is livid; the lips are of a dark blue colour; the abdomen is inflated; the body preserves its warmth for a length of time, and sometimes indeed is warmer than natural, while the limbs remain flexible for some hours.”

To these marks, Dr. Beck adds that, effusion of serum, tinged with blood, are found, particularly in the ventricles of the brain, and in the bronchiæ, while the muscles are so soft as to be torn by the slightest exertion, and that the epiglottis is always elevated.

*Of Persons found hung.* Dr. Beck continues, the circumstance that actually takes place, in consequence of hanging, is a deep sleep, arising from the cerebral compression, unaccompanied with the symptoms that attend apoplexy, and in no case of recovery, followed by the ordinary termination of that disease, viz: paralysis. On enquiring of the persons who have survived hanging, they all agree in stating that they feel no pain, but immediately fall into a profound sleep. If the person has been suspended after death, the impression of the cord is of a livid colour, instead of being red and accompanied with a suffused countenance. An attentive dissection is, however, essentially necessary in these cases.

In cases of strangulations the external marks will be evident, and those of the cord bear some difference with regard to the absence of weight of the body as in hanging. It is extremely difficult for a person to strangle himself with his own hands, since they lose their strength the moment compression begins.