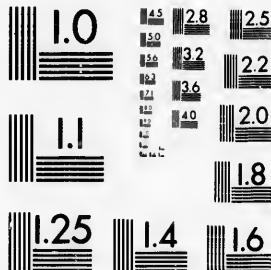
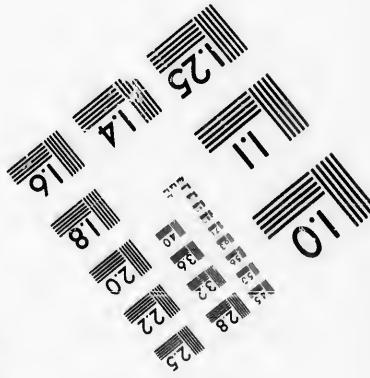


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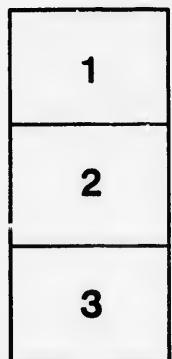
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DR. KING'S  
LIFE, TRIAL, CONFESSION  
AND  
EXECUTION,

Together with the Journal, Prison Scenes

AND PORTRAIT.

(ALSO)

The Causes which led him to commit

THE

AWFUL CRIME.

BY R. DE COURCEY,  
*Author of Man Displayed; &c., &c.*

BRIGHTON, JULY, 1859.

PRINTED BY B. SPENCER, AT THE OFFICE OF THE "BRITISH FLAG."

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## PREFACE.

When the first edition of the Life of Dr. King went to press, the writer was not aware of the exact amount of matter he would receive. The principal amount of information contained in the present volume was then in the hands of different parties who had not decided positively to let the knowledge they possessed go before the public; since then by a great deal of persuasion they have consented to do so.— From the consideration that notwithstanding the many facts that have been published, still rumor is not satisfied without fabricating the most unwarrantable falsehoods on both sides that could possibly be hoped to receive attention. In compiling the present edition we have received our information from documents left by the Dr. himself and from parties whose veracity cannot be doubted, viz: Rev. Levi Vanderburgh and Mr. Alexander Stewart, the Constable who was his constant attendant in the prison during the last eight weeks of his confinement. Other parties equally reliable, viz: Mr. J. B. Young. Mr. and Mrs. Lawson have contributed their quota of information to the stock received from the sources above mentioned. One fact cannot be concealed from the reader which is that in several instances statements made by the friends of the late Mrs. King were denied by the Dr. at the last hour of his life. Again some of the statements which he made in that hour are denied by them and under the present circumstances we do not feel free to decide as to which gives the most correct statements. Here then is a mystery which perhaps will never be solved until the secrets of all hearts shall be made known and every one receives the just retribution for the good and the evil they have done in this present life. Hence we shall endeavour to give to the public the narrative as it has been given to us without comment or coloring, and leave the reader to arrive at his own conclusions.

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## L X F E

OR

# W. H. KING, M. D.

The subject of the following painful narrative was born in the township of Sophiasburg, Prince Edward county, C. W., in November 1833; in 1844 his parents removed to Cramboe, now Brighton, the county of Northumberland. His parents at this time were in moderate circumstances; after their removal to Brighton fortune seemed to turn in their favor, for in a few years by exercising strict economy they succeeded in amassing a considerable amount of property. At the time they made their location, their farm was in a state of nature; but in a few years by persevering industry they became what is generally styled independent. In the meantime they bore under the usual inconveniences common to persons in their circumstances when settling on a new farm in a back neighborhood; such as proper schools for the instruction of their children, and a frequent want of time to send their older children to the school even when there was one, which, however, was not always the case. To add still further to the difficulty of obtaining a good education in his own neighborhood, when a boy, William Henry who was the oldest of the family, had to do the greater part of the work on the farm, owing to the fact about this time his father was taken with dyspnoea, and for several years was entirely unable to carry on his farm. Hence the toil work devolved upon him and his brother (now in California), except the harvesting which at the time referred to, was no small amount of labor, as may be readily inferred from the fact that during the years intervening between 1846 and 1851, their wheat crop amounted to between 500 and 1200 bushels per year, besides other grain, vegetables, roots, &c, although at the last mentioned date, William Henry was only 18 years of age, and his brother some 2, years 3 months young; prior to that age, the opportunities William Henry had of getting an education as before remarked, were very limited, being unable to attend school only about two months during the winter of each year, and then frequently to incompetent teachers. After the harvest of 1851, he went to the Normal School in Toronto, where he remained during the winter months of the two following years. During the summer months he worked upon the farm with his father. From childhood he gave evidence of a very intellectual and persevering turn of mind, which induced his father to confide more to his care than is usually entrusted to boys of his age; as a domestic he was social, kind and cheerful, among his brothers and sisters he acted more by the capacity of a superior than an equal, yet without austerity

as a son he was dutiful and affectionate ; to superiors and the aged he was respectful, always desirous to learn from their experience.— At the age of five he was first sent to school in Sophiasburg, where he gave evidence of remarkable aptness to learn at the age of six years, his teacher used to take him to the adjoining schools on exhibition days to speak pieces on the stage, So says his Teacher As a school mate he exhibited much the same traits of character as in the domestic circle, seldom joining in those low childish sport common to school boys ; to those who were indolent and inattentive to their studies, he often showed a sort of contempt which sometime created him enemies, but to those who seemed desirous of excelling in scholarship, he was ingaging in his manners and easily secured their respect. As it respects the parental instruction he received, it is true he never enjoyed the hallowed influence disseminated by that bond of domestic happiness 'the family altar,' yet few had better precepts given them than he whose unhappy lot we now lament. The character he displayed in youth accompanied him during his short career in manhood; his personal appearance was pleasant and gentlemanly, in his manners he was easy and graceful in height, about 5 feet 11 inches, of a pale countenance, dark hair with sandy whiskers, a small dark penetrating eye and one that would seem to penetrate into the mind of his man. His whole exterior appearance was not only prepossessing but showed the beholder that he was a man of a strong original intellect and determined perseverance; such is the man whose name is spread far and wide, and whose situation has been the principal topic of conversation during the past few months.

As a Physician his practice was attended with great success, and every day increasing. The proceeds of his business was said to be from one to two hundred dollars per month when his wife died. And as he himself said in a letter to a correspondent, that he was rapidly securing both wealth and fame. While he was in Toronto he studied with great assiduity until he obtained a first class certificate. On the 31st of January, 1855 he was married Miss Sarah Ann Lawson, of Brighton, a young lady of about his own age, her parents own a large farm, and are highly respected. After their marriage they went to Toronto, where he pursued his studies until he obtained the certificate referred to. While there, they took boarders, to assist in defraying the expenses of his education. After his return from Toronto he taught school for a few months, when he obtained a situation as a third class Teacher in the Hamilton Central School. About a year after the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. King their first and only child was born which however lived but little over a month. Previous to this time the report was circulated that King misused his wife, which together with the delicate state of Mrs. King's health induced her parents to bring her under their own roof in order that she might receive the more careful attendance. During the time she was with her parents she received letters, from him, accusing her of infidelity he used expressions in them that would do discredit to there author were they published. He how-

ever afterwards apologized for writing them, and at the request of a friend Mr. Lawson gave the original to Mr. King, after copying them; During their stay in Hamilton, they took boarders, the same as they did at Toronto. After his return from Hamilton in the fall of 1856, he went to Philadelphia to pursue his study of medicine which he had previously commenced under Dr. Greenlees in Hamilton.

While he was in Philadelphia, he studied at the Homœopathy Medical College, his father-in-law, (Mr. Lawson) in part assisted him to the necessary funds for completing his studies; he remained there only during the winter months of 56 to 57 and 58. While he was there, his wife remained with her parents in Brighton. During the summer months of the above years her husband taught various schools in the township; in March 1858, he received his diploma and immediately returned to Brighton, where he commenced his profession. Owing to their previous disagreement, it was shown at the trial, that Mrs. King was far from monopolizing his affections, for shortly after his return, he commenced holding a secret correspondence with a Miss Garrett of the township of Murray, whom he had been attending professionally for a short time. And from the tenor of her letters which were found addressed to the Dr. It is evident that their correspondence was of a very improper character. On the 23rd September King also became acquainted with Miss M. F. Vandervoort of township of Sidney, a young lady of about 20 years, she was well educated, of a rather a coquettish turn, though not what would be called handsome; with whom he commenced a correspondence of the same nature as that with Miss Garrett. Miss Vandervoort was on a visit at Doctor King's. At which time from the purport of the letters it seems they became deeply in love. Letters were passed between them. And Miss Vandervoort sent the Doctor her likeness. In his reply to her note which accompanied the likeness, he informed her that his wife was very ill the night before, and they thought she would have died, at the same time holding forth inducements, that if she would remain unmarried another year, he wished her to take the place of Mrs King. Evidence was produced at the trial, however, which proved that at the time the letters were written his wife was in good health. Some time previous to this he sent a note to Miss Garrett, the purport of which was that his wife must soon die and that he wished her (Miss Garrett) to prepare herself with certain studies which would be useful to a Doctor's wife. A reply was returned which contained a threat that she would expose him if he made any further advances of a like nature which led to an apology from him.

On the 14th of October, four days after his letter was written to Miss Vandervoort, Mrs King took sick and remained so until her death. During her illness she suffered the most excruciating pain with almost continual vomiting, Dr. King being her only medical advisor. Her parents and friends supposing until a day or two before her death that as he himself continually asserted he perfectly understood her disease which was ulcerations of the womb and that he was doing for her all that any man could do. Probably one circum-

stance which led them still more to believe him sincere in his endeavour to raise her to health was that he seemed continually praying for the medicine to have its desired effect, every morning when his father-in-law (Mr. Lawson) was absent he conducted family prayer himself. He was unremitting in his attendance upon her seldom leaving the room during the whole time of her illness. She died on the 4th of November, 1858.

In a few minutes after the breath left the body, King fell into a paroxysm of grief which seemed almost uncontrollable, so violent were the convulsions that the friends entertained fears that he could not survive them, and they called in medical aid, after a short time the paroxysms ceased and he slept soundly for two or three hours. The following day he assisted in the necessary preparations for the funeral, and the disinterment of his child. On the following Sunday the remains of the Mother and child were taken to Mr. Lawson's and buried in a place selected by herself, near the dwelling. During the funeral, and while they were going to the grave the Dr's grief was intense, and as a matter of course received great sympathy from those who witnessed the scene. On the following Monday he went to pay some professional visits in the rear of Brighton, and did not return until evening. When he did so, he was told by Mr. Lawson that the authority had ordered an inquest, and they were then holding a *post mortem* examination on the body in the School Room. At which he seemed highly displeased and said that he would go and put a stop to that business; but instead of going there, he got into his carriage and drove to Mr. J. H. Vandervoort's in Sidney.

What gave rise to the suspicion of his poisoning his wife was the circumstance of Mrs. Lawson's finding a likeness in the coat pocket of the Dr., which belonged to Miss Vandervoort, together with some letters which were found, and also the copies of others, which Mr. Clark had taken from some that King had sent to his wife some time before, but which he apologized for.

From the fact that it was alleged that the wife of Dr. King came to her death by poison administered by her husband, the enquiry caused a good deal of attention. A Jury was empanelled on Monday the 8th day of November, and was composed of the following Gentlemen Viz;

John Bowles, J. M. Ferriss, A. C. Singleton, Robert Barker, Robert Clarke, Robert Wynn, William C. Proctor, Peter Davidson, Edward J. Blood, Richard Kellogg, John McAlease, John W. Grems, Wm. Simpson, James Taylor, A. Spence, Richard Delong, John Abraham.

After carefully investigating the matter for several days, they found a verdict of guilty against him.

## THE TRIAL.

While in Jail every effort was made by his friends to ensure his acquittal, the Hon. John H Cameron was employed for the defense, assisted by Mr. Huges; Mr Galt was the Q. C. assisted by the County Attorney Mr. J. A. Armour. Among the witnesses for the defense were Professor C. Hempel and Professor Flanders, of Philadelphia, with Drs. Vantagen, of Brantford, and Nichols, of Simcoe, C. W. Witness for the prosecution were Professor Croft, of Toronto, also Drs. Hodder & Bethune of the same place; together with Dr. Jas. Gilchrist, of Cobourg, and Drs Gross, Fife, Proctor and Barker, of Brighton.

Several persons of eminence both in the United States & Canada sent him commendatory letters testifying to his ability and moral character, while a student in Toronto, Hamilton, and Philadelphia; among whom were Messrs. J. Bruce, A. M. Hamilton, Alex. H. Laidlaw, A. M. Principal of the Lianeock Grammer School, and J. H. Thomas M. D., Professor of Anatomy, of Physiology Medical College, all of Philadelphia; and F. Smith, M. D., of Spring Vale, Hartford County, Maryland.

While King was in Jail previous to the trial, he entertained very sanguine hopes of his acquittal at the assizes, he supposed that his medical witnesses would substantiate his innocence, and prove that Mrs. King died from some other cause than arsenous poison. And it must be confessed that they done all in their power to have him acquitted.

While awaiting trial King held correspondence with several of his friends in which he made great complaint concerning his situation in the prison, he says it is dirty, greasy, and lousy; dark, dreary, and lonely: in the same correspondence he says, if I can get an honest and an intelligent Jury, I bid my prosecutor defiance, for I can prove that the late Mrs. K. did not die from the effects of arsenous poison.

To every one King declared his innocence. When brought into court after the Grand Jury had found a true bill against him, and asked by the Judge if he was ready for his trial, he in a clear firm voice avowed he was not guilty, but would be ready for his trial on Tuesday, the 4th of April.

On the morning of the 4th every street, lane, and avenue, leading to the court house was filled with footmen and carriages, hurrying to obtain admittance into the court room to hear the trial, and although at an early hour when they assembled, it was one of the noisiest crowds I ever saw. The main entrance into the building was kept closed during the day, and persons were admitted only through a private door, yet in a short time the room, which will accommodate about four hundred, was filled to excess, and a much larger number went away without getting in at all. The excitement throughout the country as well as in the town was intense. Several ladies from the town

came up in the morning, but when they saw the crowd at the court house returned again, judging very wisely that that was not the place to wear hoops. It was estimated that there were not less than fifteen hundred persons who came to hear the trial, among them was a large number of medical men, besides the witnesses, and all the students from Victoria College.

King was brought into the court about half-past nine, he entered with a light airy step, and very gentlemanly dressed, in a suit of black broadcloath, with a gold watch chain across his vest. His whole appearance as he entered the dock, much more bespoke a city gentleman than one who was about to be tried for the murder of his wife. After he entered the dock he passed a look of recognition to those of his acquaintance who were near him, those whom he knew to be friends he looked very pleasant, to those whom he supposed to be otherwise, he would cast a contemptuous glance, as much as to say, 'you are beneath my notice. Throughout the entire trial he exhibited an amount of fortitude that not one man in a thousand would have shown under similar circumstances.

The trial took place before Judge Burns, and was opened by Mr. Galt Q. C. Mr. J. H. Cameron for the defence.

The following were the names of the jury:—Joseph Rosevier, William Hoskins, William Humphries, Richard Barratt, William Smith, Jonathan Porter, Levi Dudley, Daniel Ryckman, William Robinson, William Clark, Samuel Haggart, and Henry D. Alger. Seven challenges were made by the prisoner's counsel. None were made on behalf of the Crown.

Mr. GALT opened the case. He impressed upon the jury the fact that it was their duty to divest themselves of any prejudice they might have conceived inasmuch as the prisoner was now in the eye of the law, as innocent as any one of them. He was accused of having murdered his wife by certain appliances within his reach, and with the nature of which he was well acquainted. No person could have been in a more favorable position for carrying out his purpose, for not only was he a physician by profession, but he waited upon his wife as her medical attendant. The learned gentleman then gave the outlines of the events which had led to the arrest of the prisoner and afterwards addressed the jury on those points to which, in trials for murder, it is necessary to direct attention. The first thing it would be incumbent upon them to do was to establish the fact that the prisoner was in a position to accomplish the deed, for the alleged preparation which he was to be tried, and those means by which the deceased had come by her death were within his reach. He (Mr. Galt) would prove to the jury that the deceased, up to the 14th October last, was in a sound state of health, that she was then seized with violent pains, accompanied with retching, and finally died on the 4th November. It would be shewn that, in the opinion of medical men, there was nothing to cause death except poison, and it would also be shown that eleven grains of arsenic were found in the stomach of the deceased. The next thing he (Mr. Galt) would prove was a probable motive for the commission of the crime. This motive would be found

in the prisoner's affection and illicit intercourse with another woman—to pay his addresses to whom, with greater freedom, he had, it was to be feared, murdered his wife. Means and opportunity for working out his designs he had found in the exercises of his profession, and one of the strongest evidences of guilt would be seen in the fact that he had prophesied the death of his wife, while in health and strength. Could anything be more repugnant to humane feeling than the conduct of the prisoner, in assuring his wife and her friends that she could not be safely delivered of the child with which she was pregnant, but that she must cease to breathe before she gave it birth? This the prisoner had done; he had stated that the deceased was suffering under a disease of the womb, which, had it existed, would have inevitably left traces behind it, but of which there were none. It would be proved that the medicine taken by Mrs. King was administered by her husband, the exact description of the medicine could not be proved from the knowledge of the parties who saw it given. Witnesses would be brought forward to tell the jury that the prisoner had given a white powder to his wife, which, would not float in water, and was exceedingly difficult to mix with it. Each dose caused a burning thirst, followed by retching all, as professor Croft would tell them, symptoms of poisoning by arsenic. The accused was an homoeopathic physician and the learned counsel for the defence might take the ground that he administered the medicine for remedial purposes, but that he was the victim of a mistake. If this were done, the whole case would be narrowed down to one of intent, and he entreated the jury to weigh well the evidence which would be given on that point.

SIMON DAVIDSON, was the first witness called. He was examined by Mr. Galt. He said—I am a coroner of this county. I held an inquest on the body of the prisoner's wife, on the 8th of November last. Her stomach was removed, and placed in a clean earthen dish on the first day of the inquest in the presence of the jury. From that dish it was taken and placed in a bottle, in the neck of which I placed a cork, and tied it down with a string. This bottle I took with me to Brighton. I locked it up in a bureau, and put the key in my pocket. Next day—the jury having adjourned over—by their consent, I sealed the bottle, wrapped it up, and sealed the paper; placed this in a case, which was also sealed, and forwarded it to Queen's College, Kingston.

Cross-examined by Mr. Cameron—I was present in the room the whole time of the inquest. I did not leave the room from the time the stomach was taken from deceased until I placed it in a bottle. The bottle was a pickle bottle. I washed it out with cold water. Between the time the bottle was tied up, and the time I got to Brighton, three quarters of an hour might have elapsed. The place where the inquest was held is about three miles and a-half from Brighton. I stayed at Mr. DeLong's tavern in Brighton that night. The cupboard or closet in which I placed it, was behind the bar in Mr. DeLong's. I kept the key in the pocket of my pantaloons, which I did not take off that night, as I sat up writing out the papers

relative to the inquest. DeLong told me there was no other key than the one which he gave me. A man named Squier sitting in the room asked me to show him the stomach. I simply took the bottle from my pocket and let him see it. Next day the stomach was placed in a clean dish, in the presence of the jury, as Drs. Gross and Procter wished again to see it, the *post mortem* examination having previously been conducted by candle light. No one besides the doctors touched it. The table was between me and them. The stomach was in the dish about fifteen or twenty minutes. It was then replaced in the bottle and sealed in the presence of the jury. The stamp I used was a penny piece. I am not sure that a penny was use on the twine that I wound round the box. I rather think I used an ordinary wafer stamp—but I am not confident. I gave the package to Mr. Robert Barker, one of the jury to take to Kingston, on the day it was sealed.

**ROBERT BARKER**—I was one of the jury who enquired into the death of Mrs. King. The bottle containing the stomach was delivered to me. The stomach was secured as described by last witness. I received it on the morning of either the 10th or 11th of November and by the twelve o'clock train I went to Kingston. The package was in my carpet bag, which I kept in my hand all the time. In the evening I saw the professor of Queen's College, who declined to give me a decisive answer until next morning I left my bag in a closet of the laboratory, which I locked up. Next morning I called, took it away and returned with it to Brighton—the package being precisely in the same conditions as when I received it.

**Cross-examined.**—When the stomach was placed in the bottle it (the bottle) was not at once corked. The *post mortem* examination was conducted in the school-house, in the presence of the jury. There were fourteen or fifteen on the jury. No one that I saw, either went near to the body or touched it. I do not think during the *post mortem* examination any of the relatives of the deceased were present. It was not impossible, certainly, for any of the jurors to drop something into the basin which contained the stomach; but I do not think any of them went near it. The mouth of the bottle was not corked on the day the stomach was taken from the body, it was merely covered with paper tied down with strings. Next day I produced a cork, and when the Jury re-assembled the Coroner produced the bottle in the same state as it had been the day previous.

**SIMON DAVIDSON** recalled—I received the bottle from Mr. Barker, the same day that he returned from Kingston. I placed it in a locked closet, and kept it till the morning of the 13th. I then started with it for Toronto. I got as far as Coborne, when, learning that King had been arrested, I determined to return. I gave the stomach to Mr. Keeble, the conductor, to take it to Professor Croft.

**Cross-examined.**—Between the time I placed the bottle in the closet after I received it from Mr. Barker, and the time I took it out on the thirteenth, I did not see it.

**JAMES KEEBLE** examined.—I am a conductor on the Grand Trunk.

On the 13th November last, I received a small box from Simon Davidson. He instructed me not to let it out of my custody until such time as I placed it in the hands of Professor Croft. This was about seven o'clock, A.M. I locked it up in a cupboard of the baggage car used for bonded goods. Upon arriving in Toronto, I gave it to Professor Croft.

Cross-examined.—No one besides myself had access to the cupboard.

HENRY CROFT examined.—I am professor of chemistry at University College, Toronto. I received the box and bottle from last witness. The box was sealed with a common seal. The cork in the bottle had the stamp of a penny piece upon it. The stomach was emptied into a glass with water. The liquid was allowed to settle; the upper part was poured off, and a sediment left. This sediment was found to contain white arsenic. The fluid contents of the stomach were then analysed and also found to contain arsenic. I next examined the coats of the stomach, and found more arsenic in them. The quantity of arsenic I found in the stomach was eleven grains. I wrote to the Coroner to send me the liver and kidneys of the deceased.

SIMON DAVIDSON was recalled and proved the second exhumation of the body; the taking out of the liver, and its delivery carefully sealed to E. D. MOORE, express agent.

E. D. Moore examined. On the 19th of November, I received a jar from last witness, and kept it in my possession until I delivereded it to Professor Croft.

Cross-examined.—I placed the jar in an iron safe inside my car. It was locked up. Next day I delivered it to Professor Croft.

Professor Croft recalled.—I analysed the liver, and found small quantities of arsenic in it. Arsenic cannot be put into the liver after death. It must have been taken in during life—that is the reason I wrote for the liver. I sent to the Coroner, Mr. Davidson, some tubes containing metallic arsenic which I took from the liver. (Six tubes hermetically sealed, containing the arsenic, were produced.) I did not analyse the whole of the liver.

Cross-examined—I did not determine the quantity of arsenic found in the liver. It was very little, not sufficient to cause death. In the stomach itself I found but little arsenic—in the contents of the stomach about eleven grains. The stomach, with the exception of a slight blush at the extremities, was healthy. It is possible to put arsenic in this portion of the body after death. I do not think the paper around the bottle was sealed. The box was sealed. I have no means of knowing whether the arsenic was put into the stomach after death or not. However much might be taken into the stomach, even when it reaches one or two ounces, very little finds its way into the tissues of the stomach and liver. Inflammation supervenes generally about two hours after arsenic had been taken. Much more arsenic is generally taken than is found. Death from arsenic may ensue in six hours after taking it, or extend over eight or ten days. I have read of cases where persons have taken arsenic, and

have died from it several days after, without taking any in the interval. I do not think the poison could have been taken into the stomach I examined, long before death. There was no inflammation, though there was a commencement of it, in the extremities. Some poisons have a cumulative effect. A succession of doses may be given before they take any effect; but the cumulative power may, in the end, produce death. I have known this to be the case with *digitalis*; but never heard or read of it with arsenic.

Re-examined by Mr. Galt. I know of no case wherein arsenic has acted as a cumulative poison. The sixteenth of a grain is about the usual allopathic dose of arsenic. If a succession of such doses had been taken, providing the party lived a short time afterwards, no traces of it would be found. Arsenic administered in large quantities, will produce a narcotic effect. None of the appearances usually attended on the taking of arsenic were present in the stomach. The absence of the usual indications by no means excludes the possibility of the presence of arsenic. The absence of symptoms is the exception.

P. R. PROCTOR, M. D., examined.—I assisted at the *post mortem* examination of the body of Sarah Annie King. The body was brought to the school house, and placed on a door. It presented a rather healthy appearance for one deceased. There was considerable fat over the muscular parts. Dr. Gross made the incision, and bared the stomach, liver and an impregnated womb. There was a dark appearance on the outer covering, which might have been occasioned by coming in contact with a dark fluid. With this exception the organs were healthy. We examined the bowels which were coloured from something, we supposed, which had passed through them. The *rectum* was also coloured. This was attributed to inflammation. The womb was removed; it contained a *fetus*, which was quite healthy. The *placenta* was cut through, but we found nothing wrong. We removed the *sternum*, and examined the heart and liver, which were quite healthy. The lungs presented a congested appearance. I never examined any one before who died of arsenical poison.

Cross-examined.—The congestion of the lungs was not such as was sufficient to cause death. The inflammation of the *rectum* is, I consider, a sign of arsenical poison. The surface of the stomach was congested—it scarcely amounted to inflammation; it was a state of engorgement; I cannot say to what extent. Taking the stomach as a whole, it did not appear to me to be a healthy stomach. I cannot say how long the inflammation I observed had existed. I did not examine very particularly the whole of the inner coating. Before the Coroner, I did not use the word ‘inflammation’—‘congestion’ was the word. I supposed the coloring of the coat was caused by the dark fluid I found inside the stomach. I examined the neck of the womb. There was no trace of disease of any sort. The age of the *fetus* was between three and four months, and presented a healthy appearance. When the skull was removed, the brain contained a little more fluid than is ordinarily the case.

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**A. E. FIFE, M.D., examined.**—I was called in to see the late Mrs. King. I think Dr. King sent for me, perhaps about three weeks before her death. She was vomiting at intervals. I prescribed for her ipecacuanha and camphor. I gave the prescription to Dr. King. He told me that his wife was vomiting at intervals—that she was pregnant, and that she had ulceration of the *vagina*. I called four or five times afterwards, and prisoner stated to me that the difficulty at the *vagina* was better. The last time I saw her that she could converse with me was the night before her death. She said to me, in the course of the conversation, ‘I feel much better than I have any time since my illness.’ She appeared to me much better. She did not look like a dying woman. The last time I saw her was on the morning of her death. I cannot say how many hours had intervened between then and the time I left her on the previous evening. I called about dusk in the evening, and between eleven and twelve the next morning. I was present at the third *post mortem* examination. The mucous membrane appeared as though it had been inflamed. The *rectum* presented a like appearance. They might have been caused by the action of the impregnated womb.

**Cross-examined.**—When I first called on Mrs. King, Dr. King said she was too ill to speak to me, and consequently I held no conversation with her. I think, but I am not sure, that Dr. King once spoke to me about making a personal examination of his wife. One of the powders I prescribed would present a gray appearance; another was a mixture of yellow and black. The symptoms Dr. King described in their general character, I did not consider inconsistent with a woman four or five months advanced in pregnancy. No other physicians were called in, with the exception of Dr. Gross, who was there on the day of her death, when she was in a state of *coma*. I have heard something about an accident she once had, in getting in or out of a buggy. She complained to me of a pain in the head—that was all.

**JAMES GILCHRIST, M. D., examined.**—I saw the body, but found no trace of organic disease. We examined the brain. It was apparently a little softened, but that I attributed to the length of time the woman had been dead.

**P. GROSS, M. D.**—I saw Mrs. King two or three hours before her death. I had not seen her during her illness before that. I was present at the first *post mortem* examination. The stomach of the deceased was placed in a bottle—there was nothing to seal it with.—Next morning when the jury was called together it was sealed.—Ligatures were placed round each of the stomach. The body did not present an emaciated appearance. The liver was hardened. The lower part of the right lobe of the lungs was slightly congested—the remainder was in a healthy state. The heart was healthy, and the womb also. The inner coat of the stomach was slightly discoloured. I saw nothing to cause death. No one had anything to do with the stomach except Dr. Procter. I was present when the liver was taken out for Professor Croft.

**Cross-examined.**—The liver was hardened I think by the absorp-

tion of arsenic. I should think it would take a large quantity of arsenic to produce such an effect. It might be produced by a continuous taking of arsenic. A large portion of poison ought to be found in the liver. The inflammation of the stomach was very slight. I did not discover any signs of ulceration in the neck of the womb. The marks could not have disappeared in three or four weeks.

This concluded the medical testimony so far as the post mortem examination was concerned. The Court adjourned fifteen minutes for refreshment. Upon re-assembling—

E. J. LAWSON was examined.—I am the mother of the late Mrs. King. On the 14th of October I went to see my daughter, and found her very ill. The Doctor met me at the door of the house, and told me that she had been very sick. I went in, and she said she was little better. Soon after, the Doctor gave her a little medicine. It was a pure white. It was mixed in the spoon. She was very sick after it. She tried to prevent herself vomiting. The Doctor said, 'keep it down, Annie.' She tried to do so, but could not. She vomited a great deal, but was better afterwards. The vomit was a dark greenish colour. The vomiting continued fifteen or twenty minutes. During her illness and always after taking the medicine, she was very thirsty. We had to keep a tumbler of cold water by her. I remained with her all night. The prisoner was present, and prescribed for his wife. I went to the house about 9 a.m. The first dose was given soon after nine o'clock; the second about eleven. The next powder had just the same effect as the one previously administered. My daughter told me on this, the first day, that the doctor said she could not get well. She complained that the medicine was fiery tasting. In the presence of the prisoner, she told me that he said she was cankered and ulcerated, and that she could not get well. From that day until the day of her death, I was not absent from the house more than one hour. Dr. King constantly waited upon her, and said frequently, 'I would give any other patient Annie, more of this medicine than you.' I saw the doctor give medicine to my daughter after the visit of Dr. Fife, the evening before her death. He brought something in a tea-cup and said, 'Here's Dr. Fife's good medicine, Annie.' He told me to mix it with some water, and give it to her. She did not take it—She put a little on her tongue, and said it was so fiery that she could not drink it—This was about eight o'clock. In about an hour the prisoner brought some of his own medicine. It was in a spoon—mixed with water. It caused vomiting, and her father, who was there, said she could not live; and that he must have a jury of doctors. He urged upon the prisoner to send for more physician. About twelve o'clock he sent for Dr. Fife. My husband went for him, but found he had gone to Colborne. When my husband came back, my daughter was very ill. Her father wanted Dr. Gross. King said he knew what Gross would give her—opium, or camphor, or something of that sort.—Father asked, would it ease her; and King said it would. He then asked his wife if she would take it. She said she would if it would do good. He then went to his office and fetched something in a

spoon. [He always mixed the medicine in the office] Annie took it, and soon after wanted to vomit. He held her down on the bed, by putting his hand on her shoulder. She said, 'Oh, oh, I cannot, I am dying' He said—'Keep it down, Annie' She vomited on the bed linen something of a greenish hue : with little pieces of skin in it. When she vomited, the Doctor said—'Now she has thrown it off —she may have a little on her stomach, but it will not do her any good—she must have some more.' Father said—'Give her very little.' Yes,' said the Doctor I will not give her a quarter what Dr. Gross would give her.' He went away and brought back about as much as he had given her before. He gave her the medicine, and Annie was going to sleep. I asked if she felt better ; she said she did. She went to sleep, and did not wake again. I recollect of finding a likeness in the coat pocket of the prisoner. I did not tell him that it had been found ; I said it had been so rumoured, and he denied having such a likeness. The coat hung in his wife's room, and was one he usually wore. The likeness produced is that of Miss Vandervoort. I have often conversed with King respecting the pregnant state of his wife. He said she was ulcerated. She had a child about twelve months after her marriage. I asked him what made some black spots on her under clothes. He said it was iron in her blood, that her blood was in a very bad state, and told me that I ought not to wash them, but to burn them, as, if I had a cut in my hand, I might get poisoned.

Cross-examined—She complained of pains as if she was in labor, only after she was taken sick. She did not complain of severo pains only when sick. She complained of pain after having an injection. She was troubled with discharges of a copious nature. About three weeks before she was taken ill, she was alone at my home, and told me that her husband had said her womb was ulcerated and in such a state that she might drop off in the night, and he being alone with her, it might be considered strange. He had told her to tell me this. I recollect some conversation taking place about Dr. Fife examining her. She asked what was the use. She did not positively decline. She did not decline. She said, 'William Henry, you know what is the matter with me—why send for Dr. Fife?' Dr. Fife examined her, but only her tongue. I remember my daughter falling from the buggy ; she did not fall on her head. She thought she did but the Doctor said—'Oh, no ; it was only my arm, Annie.' She was not unwell after it ; she drove down to Consecou the same day. The Doctor administered medicine four or five times a-day. It was always a white mixture in a spoon. The dose of medieine he gave her, at about nine o'clock the evening before her death, was like the rest. We left the room about an hour after she went to sleep, the night before her death. Father and I left the room about 1 o'clock and went to bed ; the Dr. said he would watch her. In the morning we went to her room, and the Dr. said she never had slept better.—Her father spoke to her to wish her good-bye, as he had to go to work, but she did not answer. He said he was afraid she would not wake again. I said I will see if she will awake, and bathed her

stomach with cold water. I said she had no feeling—this is not a right sleep! I tried to wake her, and called her by her name.—She tried to open her dear eyes, but she could not!

Re-examined by Mr. Galt.—The underclothes produced belong to my daughter. There were spots on them, which the Doctor cut out.

The way in which the mother of the deceased gave her testimony was very affecting. The prisoner leaned over the side of the box with his eyes fixed firmly upon her, all the time she was giving her evidence.

NORMAN BETHUNE, M. D., examined—I have been in the Court during the whole of the trial. The symptoms of arsenic vary, but the effects are the same. When taken in large doses, it sometimes acts as a narcotic. The amount of arsenic found in the stomach of deceased was very large. Arsenic does not always produce redness of the stomach. In the case of a servant girl who poisoned herself within the last twelve months at Yorkville, I found no redness of the stomach, at all, although it was full of the poison. The symptoms of poisoning by arsenic are first faintness accompanied by nausea. Then there is a burning sensation at the throat heavy pain at the stomach, constant retching, followed by purgation. I have heard the way in which deceased died described. A large dose of arsenic would produce such effects.

Cross-examined—The fact of excessive vomiting in a pregnant female is the exception: I have heard of cases, but have never been called to treat one. I have heard of the action of cumulative poison—of poison which, administered in medical doses, has a cumulative effect and produces death. Strychnine is one, and *digatailes* another. It used to be considered that arsenic was one of those also but it is now doubted. I have myself never administered more than an eighth of a grain of arsenic at once. In the case I mentioned at Yorkville, death ensued in half an hour. I should not expect to find inflammation, but I should look for it when the poison had been given 24 hours before. Arsenic does not produce headache.

To a Jury man—Continued vomiting would produce headache.

ED E. HODDER, M. D. examined—I agree with Dr. Bethune.—The Symptoms I have heard described are those of an irritant poison, such as arsenic would produce.

Cross-examined—The discharges I have heard the mother speaking of might issue from a female in the earlier months of pregnancy and no disease exist, though I think not so copious. Pregnant females are affected with vomiting sometimes, but not accompanied with the burning sensation, and thirst spoken of. I do not believe that arsenic is a cumulative medicine. I consider it a very safe medicine. I have continued it in doses for two months, with occasional intermissions. I have sometimes had to discontinue it, because it has produced *nausea*. It is not, therefore, a cumulative poison. One grain of ipecacuanha administered will not produce sickness, perhaps, but if followed up, it will do so. Orfila's opinions have now been overthrown by Taylor, who denies the cumulative

powers of arsenic. The trial of Palmer caused much attention to be given to the study of poison.

To Mr. Galt—I do not know that difficulty in passing the urine is a symptom of poison by arsenic.

Dr. BETHUNE recalled.—Chrisiston says that difficulty in passing the urine is a symptom of arsenical poisoning. I knew a case myself, in England, of two week's standing, corroborative of this.

MARGARET A. NIX, an aunt of the late Mrs. King, examined.—She described the symptoms of deceased, and corroborated the evidence of Mrs. Lawson. King administered the medicine generally. Once I gave her some out of his hand. It was a white powder, and settled at the bottom of the spoon. She said it was like fire in her mouth. Twice, I recollect he gave her medicine which had a comforting effect.

Cross-examined.—I did not state that she felt better after the dose I gave her, when I was before the Coroner. It was misunderstood, through my stating that I saw her better on two occasions after the Doctor had given her medicine. When she told me the Doctor said she was ulcerated she said she did not think she was as bad as he said. She did not complain to me of any discharge.

JOHN M. LAWSON—(father of Mrs. King)—I visited my daughter when I heard she was ill. I asked her husband what was the matter with her. He said that she was cankered right through, and that her womb was nearly closed up. He said before her face that her case was incurable—that she must and would die. I urged upon him to get other doctors several times. He at last said he would have Dr. Fife. I did not consider that he (Dr. Fife) did any good, and I wanted other doctors. Dr. King on these occasions would get quite angry with me. The night before my daughter died I said, 'William Henry, if God spares my life, I will have a jury of doctors in the morning.' He asked me who I should have. I said Dr. Gross for one. He said Dr. Gross was the greatest enemy he had, and that he knew what he would give his wife. I asked what Dr. Gross would give, and he said calomel or opium. Witness here detailed the circumstances of the death of deceased exactly as narrated by his wife.

Cross-examined.—The last dose I saw him give her was about one o'clock. He said it was opium.

SARAH H. YOUNG, examined—I saw Mrs. King on the 14th. Dr. King told me that his wife had complicated diseases, and was incurable. She was a healthy looking person and about twenty-six years of age. When I suggested that other physicians should be called in, he objected to it. He said he would not call in Dr. Gross, and as to Dr. Fife, he had called on him. In conversation with him about her, he told me that she was not to his mind—a very good wife to get money, but he would like her improved in many respects.

SIMON DAVIDSON was again recalled, and produced two letters which he took from Dr. King's trunk.

MELINDA FREELAND VANDERVOORT, examined.—I knew the prisoner at the bar. I received the letter produced from him. I sent him the likeness produced and the enclosed note.

Cross-examined.—Mrs. King asked me to send the likeness to her. I never had any improper intercourse with Dr. King.

To Mr. Galt.—I directed the likeness to Dr. King. I thought that when I got the letter it was written for amusement I sent him this letter in answer, for amusement!

Mr. GALT—(severely)—Go down—I must read those letters, but do not wish to do so in your presence!

The following letters were then read by the learned Counsel:—  
(Enclosed with the portrait)

BETHLEHEM,

Dr.—Please inform me if you receive this. I arrived home safe and quite well. Truly yours,  
W. H. KING, M. D.

M. F. VAN.

BRIGHTON, Oct. 10

SWEET LITTLE LUMP OF GOOD NATURE,—I long looked with prudent anxiety for the arrival of the object of my thoughts, but began to despair. Still, I had too much perseverance, and as I walked to P. O. this morning (Monday) and found the most precious thing (except the original) on earth. Better to me than all California. I will not, however, tell you what it was, but could I indulge in the hope that those *wining* and *genial* smiles would ever be found in my possession, all troubles would then cease. It is a perfect infatuation to me. Can you keep from sacrificing yourself upon the hymenial altar for the next year? I wish so. Now I am at a loss to know whether to take it as a token of friendship or—I. Will you inform me which you mean it for, and if the latter it will certainly soothe and refresh my drooping spirits? All you say shall be *perfectly confidential*. You need never have the least suspicion of this *token* being seen or handled by any other than its present possessor. Furthermore, if you correspond with me I will guarantee upon my word and honor that detection shall never happen. You are therefore, perfectly safe; but oh! could I but know whether you could reciprocate my feelings or not. Much would I give to be assured on this point. It might give me the most exquisite joy, or it might cause me bitter pain. Yet this *TOKEN* shall cheer me many a time while riding through the lonely mile.

I must claim your indulgence that your sense of propriety and good taste will adore me for thus punctually giving expression to my feelings. Do not betray the confidence I have reposed in you. O! I would like to say a thousand things to you that flash through my imagination like a panoramic display, but I must not venture for the present. May I hear from that object so dear to my heart? Why is it so you might ask? Well, I would like to tell that some other time.

Please accept ten thousand thanks for such a treasure as I received this morning. It shall always remain in my possession unless called for by its identity.

O! those lovely smiles, so plainly delineated, I must think you meant for something. I cannot possibly be deceptions. I have

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told you enough that you may judge where my h——is, now could you be induced to tell me where your's is? O do!

You will observe that this letter is anonymous for fear somebody might get your keys and read it; as it is, if they should, they would not be wiser, but my name shall be——. You know whom it is from just as well as but my name shall be——. and oc, ec, and ' going to California. Well, when you write sign Van. Do not judge of my literary attainments from the style of these hasty thrown sentences, for I paid more attention to ideas than style. Come and visit us whenever you can. —— is very sick—last night we thought she would die.

Your sincere l——,

SIDNEY Oct. 18th, 1858.

DEAR DOCTOR,—The time has come to respond.

Your's of the 10th instant came to hand in good repair, and exceedingly pleased was I while perusing its contents. It is with much pleasure, but at the same time with a degree of embarrassment, that I embrace the opportunity to write you one. I feel an unusual warmth of friendship for you, and not being in the habit of portraying my weakness by way of the pen, except to find it no easy task—however, hope it will be accepted. I hardly know in what manner to address you, as circumstances are with you, it appears almost in vain for me to think of you only as a friend. Yet something seems to whisper, 'still hope.'

Since I first had the pleasure of an introduction, my heart is constantly with you, and I'm not contented a moment. O! could I forever be with you; I think I should be happy, for indeed I enjoyed myself to excess during my stay in your presence though suppose now I must eradicate such thoughts from my mind; for you are married, and my destiny must be to love and not share your interesting society. We are some distance apart, yet trust our ties of friendship although of short duration are such as not to allow time or distance to sever. Perhaps you'll pardon my familiarity when you come to realize that you have unlinked the tender cord of affection until you have an alarming influence over my girlish nature.

One smile only from your countenance can inspire a depth of veneration in my bosom never felt by me for any individual. Well now Dr. don't you consider it very wrong for me to correspond with you I'm afraid if known it would destroy 'Annie's' happiness, and for, instance, if I was in her position, I would much rather be in my grave than suffer the idea of your intimacy with another, though perhaps you merely express some of your ideas to me for pastime, so I hope you'll not continue them, for I am easily flattered and it may prove to be something very serious. I am very lonely. My 'sister' has not returned as yet. I am pretty well, and hope you enjoy the same blessing.

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Please answer, if you deem me worthy. I hope you'll not criticise.  
Your unwavering,

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While the letters were being read, the prisoner showed no sense of shame; but rather seemed to share in the amusement which could not be repressed.

JOHN H. VANDERVOORT, examined.—The prisoner came to my house in Sidney, about ten o'clock at night, on the 8th of November. I had never seen him before. That was the first time I ever saw him. I was in bed when he came. He knocked at the door. I asked who was there—he said, 'A friend who has a message for your daughter.' I called my daughter, who came down and shook hands with him. He said the message must be delivered in private, and took her into another room. They went into a room and remained there an hour. I went and asked if that message was delivered yet. They said no—By and by they came out. King said to me that his wife had unfortunately died; that they had got her body up, and that in consequence of a likeness of my daughter, which had been found in his coat pocket, a warrant was issued for his apprehension, and for that of Melinda also. He urged me to allow him to take her to her aunt's on the other side. I consented to this, and she went. She returned in about three week's time.

Cross-examined—King did not say anything to me about one of the Lawson's threatening to shoot my daughter.

ELIZABETH VANDERVOORT, wife of last witness, examined—Said she could not swear to the prisoner. The person who took away her daughter told her that he was accused of poisoning his wife and that he was innocent.

CLINTON M. LAWSON examined, I am the brother of the late Mrs. King. I have seen this portrait before. I saw it on the Saturday preceding the Thursday on which my sister died. This in connection with the finding of other letters excited my suspicion. Sister died on Thursday and was buried on Sunday. On Monday I complained to the coroner. I was not present at the inquest. The coroner gave me a warrant to arrest Dr. King. I went to Kingston on Friday, and from thence to Cape Vincent. From information I got at the Post-office. I went six or eight miles up the country to a house kept by a man named Bates. Gorden, the United States Marshal went into the house. I stopped before I got there, so that I might not be seen. He had not been in three minutes when Dr. King jumped out of the window. I ran after him. He ran towards the woods, but as I was after him quick, he turned into a barn. We went in and found him under the straw in a hog's nest.

Cross-examined—I had a revolver; I said he must be shot if he ran. A lawyer told me that I had no right to take him, and told him so too.

Mr. CAMERON—And yet he came.

WITNESS (with great determination).—Well, I guess he did!

Mr. GALT.—Did he come willingly?

**WITNESS.**—No, Sir; no Sir-e !!

J. O. CLARK, a constable examined.—The prisoner told me that he had given his wife poison, but that he had not given her arsenic. He admitted that he had given her morphia and hellebore. I took a number of letters from a trunk of the prisoner's.

Cross-examined.—The conversation took place on the 14th of November. He said he never gave his wife any arsenic; that if it was given to her at all, some one else must have given it to her.

Mr. GALT.—This is the case for the Crown, my Lord.

#### EVIDENCE FOR THE DEFENCE.

Mr. CAMERON was afraid he could not get through that night; he had eight witnesses to examine, and would be glad if his Lordship would adjourn.

The application was refused.

CHARLES J. HEMPEL M. D., was first called. When the oath was administered, several jurymen declared that he did not kiss the book. They, therefore made him do it twice or thrice, to make certain. The episode created quite a commotion in the jury box. He said—I am Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the Homœopathic College of Pennsylvania. I know the prisoner. He studied under me two sessions. The gist of Homœopathic practice is this—for the cure of disease we administer medicines which, if taken by a healthy person, would produce a like disease. We might be called upon to prescribe for a disease which has exactly the very same symptoms as those produced by arsenic, and might be considered by persons who did not know it was a disease, to be a case of arsenical poisoning. Thus, in cholera morbus the symptoms occur, for which a physician would prescribe arsenic: and the symptoms of arsenic if prescribed in a large dose, would be exactly like the symptoms of cholera morbus. The nausea and vomiting might also have been considered as the natural results of pregnancy. These symptoms are generally found to exist five or six weeks after conception: they may exist during the whole term, or the first five or six months of pregnancy. In my judgement I do not think that deceased would have taken so large a dose of arsenic at once as Professor Croft found without leaving more marks of inflammation. The inner surface of a stomach in a healthy state would have pretty much the appearance of cranberry sauce—a deep red colour. In homœopathic treatment I have given as much as one fifth of a grain of arsenic in the case of Asiatic cholera, and have repeated that dose from twelve to fifteen times in the course of forty-eight hours. The patients have done well, and recovered. A dose of arsenic to act narcotically would have to be very great. To produce such a result, I should think not less than ninety or one hundred grains would have to be administered. I should expect to find, after such a dose as that, when analysing the stomach, at least sixty grains I have seen fatal results follow the cumulative effects of *digitales* but not of arsenic. The same effects have followed from medical doses of strychnine. From the evidence heard, I think the deceased might have

died in consequence of her nervous system having become exhausted; or she might have died from the cumulating effects of arsenic. The discharges might have been produced from disease in the neck of the womb, or by local irritation.

Cross-examined—Dr. King was in our college two sessions; he was one of our best students. Arsonic is used in homœopathic practice. The giving infinitesimal doses is not the principle upon which homœopathy is founded. I considered Dr. King was competent to practice after studying for two sessions in our college. There are seven chairs, all of which he had to attend. He satisfied our professors that his medical knowledge was up to its required standard. The prisoner took his degree in March, 1858. It is expedient to give arsenic in some cases of vomiting. I am not satisfied with the *post mortem* examination. From the examination they made, the physicians could not tell whether ulcers existed or not. The womb might be ulcerated in the interior without external inflammation existing. If ulceration existed, the least internal examination would reveal it. Ulceration might have been caused by pregnancy. Three grains and upwards of arsenic will suffice to produce death; but six or ten grains have been taken without this result—much depends on the state of the system. I do not think the deceased died from arsenic in poisonous doses, but from the cumulative effects of several doses. In my opinion, the weight of evidence is in favor of the idea that arsenic is a cumulative poison. Dr. ——, of Paris, a celebrated physician, gives it in cutaneous diseases in large portions. The largest dose given by him is a quarter of a grain, six or eight times in two or three days. I cannot say how long it would remain in the system before it was eliminated. I never heard of giving one-fifth or one quarter of a grain to a woman in a fever. I would give moderate doses of arsenic first in treating a disease which required it. Thirst is very apt to occur in cases of arsenical poisoning. The arsenic may have been given as medicine in the present case. The arsenic in this bottle, containing globules, marked Arsenic 2, is the second trituration. It is produced in this way—one grain of arsenic is mixed with ten grains of sugar of milk. One grain of this in its turn is mixed with ten grains of sugar of milk so that one hundred globules of Arsenic 2 would be necessary to make one grain of arsenic. Arsenic 2 could not remain in the system; it would be eliminated in consequence of the mixture of sugar of milk. Arsenic prepared in this way may cumulate. I never knew of arsenious acid being administered in homœopathic practise without being prepared with sugar of milk. We endeavour to stop short of symptoms of poison. I think some symptoms of the deceased were attributed to arsenical poison. Hellebore might produce vomiting, retching, and nausea. Belledonia might affect the brain; arsenic affects the liver. Deceased must have taken some arsenic.

Re-examined by Mr Cameron—Purging is a usual effect of poisoning by arsenic. The fall of deceased would likely aggravated her malady. The accident might not have any serious results till several

weeks have elapsed, and then have induced vomiting, sinking, exhaustion and *coma*, resulting in death.

To a Juror—Hellebore might be used in pregnancy in cases of vomiting.

A. H. FLANDERS, M. D., of Philadelphia, was next examined. I hold the chair of Chemistry and Toxicology in the same College as Dr. Hempel. I do not know the prisoner. I have been at the College only during the last course of lectures. I practised allopathy for eleven years. I have been in court during the day, and I have heard the symptoms of deceased described. I have never met with a case of arsenous poisoning in humane beings, but have made experiments on cats and dogs in class, and think the symptoms similar. I have used arsenic in doses of one-fiftieth to one-fifth of a grain. I should expect to find a stomach into which large doses had been taken more inflamed than that of the deceased. It is a conceded fact that the symptoms in brute animals are like those in human beings.—Much inflammation usually appears in the stomach of brutes after the administration of arsenic. I should myself in prescribing for a person who exhibited symptoms like those of deceased during pregnancy, have used arsenic. I should expect to find ulceration when copious discharges were made, as in the case of deceased. The symptoms could not be accounted for on any other hypothesis. The ulceration of the neck of the womb, with cancerous tendency, would be very dangerous during pregnancy.

Cross-examined.—The most satisfactory reason I can assign for the death of the deceased was the fall from the buggy. It is a very obscure case. I account for the presence of arsenic in this way—Professor Croft said that it was loose in the stomach, which leads me to think it was put in after death—(hissing in the court, which was suppressed)—otherwise it would be in a state of paste, and would stick to the stomach. The death of Mrs. King might have resulted from medical disease. The toxicologists think that arsenic is a cumulative poison. Purging is a constant symptom of arsenical poisoning—almost universal. Arsenic might have got into the liver from small medicinal doses. It could not come from one large dose.

MR. GALT.—Do you set your opinion against that of Dr. Croft, a man well known in your own country, and has had cases on your side of the water as well as this?

WITNESS.—Professor Croft is not a physician, Sir! I graduated in Philadelphia in 1850. I attended two courses of medicine. I never saw arsenic in a human being at all. I did not understand that Professor Croft said he examined cases of poisoning by arsenic.

Mr. GALT.—You have not seen cases of poisoning by arsenic in man or woman, but you have poisoned cats and dogs?

WITNESS.—Yes, sir. (Subdued laughter.)

Mr. GALT.—And you think it more likely that the fall from the buggy caused the death of deceased, than the arsenic found in her stomach?

WITNESS.—I do think so. (Murmurs.)

**Mr. GALT**—Then I have nothing more to say to you—you may go!

THOMAS NICOL, M. D., of Simcoe, C. W., examined—I have been practising for three years. I have experimented with arsenic upon myself. It is frequently used in homoeopathic practice. I have given one-tenth of a grain in intermittent fever. I do not think the quantity of arsenic in the stomach of deceased was sufficient to produce the symptoms of *narcosis* described. It is quite insufficient to produce *narcosis*. At least fifty grains are necessary. It more frequently takes two hundred than a smaller quantity. A teaspoon might hold fifty grains; a table spoon about five hundred and thirty grains. I believe arsenic to be a cumulative poison. In 1855, I experimented on myself. I took, each day for twenty-one days, three doses of one-third of a grain. I took altogether seven and a half grains. I had no symptoms until the eighth day. The symptoms were thirst and vomiting, accompanied with violent purging, and symptoms resembling intermittent fever. They continued for twenty-one or twenty-two days after I had ceased to take the arsenic. I have tested belladonna, which, after a time, produced symptoms like paralysis of the legs. I consider the cause of the death of the deceased was the shock of her nervous system by the fall from the buggy. If arsenic had been administered twenty-four hours before her death inflammation would have been developed. The stomach should have exhibited a brilliant red, brightening every day after death. Arsenic, administered in several small doses, had antiseptic effect upon a dead body; it tends to prevent decomposition. In one large dose, it induces putrefaction. I was acquainted with the prisoner at College, and boarded with him during one of the sessions which he attended.

Cross-examined.—The fall from the buggy might be an adjuvant, but not a primary cause of death. Enervation might be. If in a stomach where twelve grains of arsenic were found, there was no inflammation, I should look for other causes of death. I am not an analytical chemist; I studied as other medical students usually study chemistry.

The Court then adjourned, at half-past six.

#### SECOND DAY—WEDNESDAY.

The Court opened at half-past nine o'clock.

HENRY BELFORD was the first witness called. He said—I have known the prisoner at the bar twelve or fourteen years. I am the Reeve of the township in which he lived. I would suppose the prisoner to be about twenty-five years of age. In the earlier part of his life, he was farming with his father. Subsequently, he taught school for about four months. After that, he went to the Normal School in Toronto, and then taught in Hamilton. I have formed a very high opinion of the prisoner's character. I have had frequent intercourse with him. He has always been an advocate of temperance and morality.

RICHARD DELONG, examined—I reside in Brighton. I have known

the prisoner since the spring of 1858. He attended my family. I was satisfied with the skill and knowledge he displayed. He was in attendance on my family for about six weeks. His treatment was satisfactory and successful.

Another witness was called to testify to the character of the prisoner, but not being in court, the evidence for the defence was here closed.

His Lordship in charging the jury remarked that the question had been so fully laid before them by the learned counsel, that there remained but little for him to say, beyond reading the evidence and making such few remarks as seemed necessary. It was his opinion that Barker was right respecting to the cork not being in the bottle until the morning when he took it down to Kingston. Professor Croft said that there was but slight signs of inflammation; although it usually followed the administration of arsenic, six or eight hours after death. This was certainly a circumstance in favor of the prisoner, but it must also be taken into consideration that another medical witness said that this would not be the case in all circumstances.—The learned Judge then read on without any remark the evidence until he came to that of Mrs. Lawson, the mother of the deceased, which, he said required much careful consideration. The jury would remember that she having the idea that the prisoner occasioned the death of her daughter, might be expected to entertain some feeling against him. The jury would see how far her testimony was borne out by other witnesses, and how much they could unreservedly accept. With respect to the fall from the buggy, according to the mother, it affected her daughter very little, and she drove on to Concession the same day. She did not complain of any illness until three weeks after this—about six weeks before her death. It was important to note the exact position of affairs, because much stress was laid upon the matter for the defence. Mr. Lawson said that the prisoner had declared to him in the presence of his wife, (the deceased) that she must die; that she could not survive her confinement. This was a strange remark for a husband to make to his wife. Certainly he was her physician and it was the duty of a medical attendant to apprise his patient when in a dangerous condition. Sarah Ann Young swore that the prisoner had declared to her, on the first day of her illness, that his wife did not suit him in many respects. The jury would also notice that the words in the letter of the prisoner to Miss Vandervoort, where he said — 'was very ill last night'—four or five days before there was anything the matter with her, as far as her family knew. The jury would remember King went to Vandervoort's and remained, late at night, closeted with the girl. What passed on that occasion we know not. Neither party examined Melinda Vandervoort, or put any questions with respect to what had taken place, but the interview occurred. It would be seen that these gentlemen who gave medical evidence for the defence were all of the Homoeopathic school, and it appeared that they frequently administered arsenic as medicine. Dr. Hempel agreed with Professor Croft, that arsenic, to find its way into the liver, must be administered during life. It

would be for the jury to consider how they would reconcile this with the statement of the prisoner to Clark the constable, that he had not administered any arsenic to his wife. Reducing the whole question to as few points as possible, they would stand in this way. First, what was the primary cause of death? Was it from the use of poison, or not, that is from poison administered as poison, not as medical preparation? Arsenic was undoubtedly found in the stomach of the deceased, there was no question about that. Then was the stomach which reached Professor Croft, the stomach of deceased? From the evidence given they must say whether they were satisfied that there was no substance put into it; and whether there was any person interested in doing so. If that stomach was the stomach of the deceased woman, than the question arose, how came the poison there? A theory of one of the witnesses for the defence, was, that it must have been placed there after death, because he considered inflammation must have been supervened to a greater extent than spoken of by Professor Croft. But the defense did not rest the cause merely on one theory. Another was advanced—the arsenical treatment was most likely the course to be pursued, and proper to be pursued in the case of deceased. Then again other things were relied on such as the falling of the woman out of the buggy. The fact of there being so little inflammation found, no doubt, strong argument, as an isolated fact. But then the jury had to consider what the doctors said with regard to the time at which inflammation appeared—whether it would appear in all cases of poisoning or not. The liver contained arsenic, which it was admitted on all hands could not have got there after death. Then supposing arsenical treatment were pleaded, what could be said of the witness Clark, the constable, who swore that the prisoner told him he did not use arsenic at all? The two attempts of the prisoner to escape must also be taken into account; but the jury must be careful not to take that as an absolute proof of guilt. His Lordship noticed several other points of importance in the case, and in conclusion, reminded the jury that they had a very important duty to perform, not only to the prisoner, but also to society. Their duty to the prisoner was to see that he was not convicted on mere suspicion; but if they were convinced of his guilt, they must not raise any fanciful doubt in their own minds for the purpose of returning a verdict of acquittal. Society could not exist without a proper administration of the law, and whenever guilt was clear, society required at the hands of jurors that they should enforce the law. But if they did doubt, let them acquit the prisoner, and might God assist them to come to a right conclusion.

The jury retired at three o'clock, but not being able to agree they were locked up for the night. At ten o'clock they returned into court. The clerk of the court put to them the usual question.—'How say you gentlemen, is the prisoner guilty or not guilty?'

The foreman, amidst most profound silence, returned a verdict of GUILTY, with a strong recommendation to mercy.

The prisoner did not appear to have expected the verdict; and it was evidently with much difficulty he suppressed the emotion which

was struggling to make itself manifest. He was immediately removed.

### THE SENTENCE.

It was not until the afternoon of Saturday the 9th of April, he was brought up for sentence. A rumour having obtained extensive circulation that the prisoner was to speak before sentence was passed upon him, the Court Room was crowded in every part. About three o'clock he was brought up from the cell in which he had so long been confined, and placed in the dock. He was of an ashy paleness. The healthy color that tinged his cheeks during the trial was fled, and it seemed that the shadow of death had since his conviction prematurely settled upon his face. He walked into the court with a firm step. On entering the box, he rapidly and anxiously scanned the countenance of those who had seats inside the Bar evidently looking for Hon. Mr. Cameron, who so ably defended him, as if to read in his countenance that all hope was not yet extinct. Mr. Cameron, however, was not present, and we fancied that his absence was keenly felt by the prisoner. Mr Galt rose and said—

'I move, my Lord that sentence be passed upon William Henry King.'

His LORDSHIP—William Henry King, you have been convicted of the crime of murder; what have you to say that sentence of death be not now passed upon you.

The prisoner, amid a hush the most profound, replied in a clear, firm voice,—

'I have this much to say, that upon my most solemn oath I am not guilty of the charge laid against me. I have no doubt of this; my conscience is perfectly clear upon this point.'

His LORDSHIP—After a fair and impartial trial by an intelligent jury you have been convicted of the crime of murder. You have been assisted by able counsel. Every circumstance calculated to induce the jury to give you the benefit of the doubt which is always in favour of the prisoner, has been portrayed; but all has been in vain. It is not my intention to dilate upon the enormity of the crime of which you have been adjudged guilty. As you are a man of education you will know what you have to do for the time you have to live until the sentence of the Court is carried out. In regard to the finding of the jury I must say a few words, else that verdict might hold out to you false hopes. The facts brought out on the trial against you were of so plain and pointed a character, that they carried conviction to the minds of the jury—and they felt that they could not conscientiously do otherwise than render a verdict of 'guilty.' I must say that the facts carried conviction to my own mind, and that I entirely concur in the verdict of the jury in so far it pronounces you 'guilty.' The finding of the jury was accompanied by a recommendation to mercy. It is not in my power to advert from you the punishment which the law inflicts upon those who are convicted of the crime laid to your charge. I will not fail, however, to forward the

recommendation to mercy to the proper quarter; but I must say plainly that I cannot add the weight of my position to it. I cannot see that yours is a case which such a recommendation is justifiable. I am thus plain that you may know your exact position, and how little reason there is to hope for the influence of the Executive in behalf. It is my duty to say that you must prepare to meet death. You are, as I said before, a man of education; and it is not necessary for me to advise you, to make an early application at the Throne of Grace for the forgiveness of your sins, as a preparation to meet your God. It now only remains for me to pass the sentence of the Court upon you, which is, that you be confined in the Common Jail until Thursday the 9th day of June next, on which day you are to be taken to the place of execution, and there hanged by the neck until you are dead. And may the Lord have mercy on your soul.

The prisoner listened to the remarks of the Judge and to the sentence with composure; but in a few seconds after his Lordship ceased speaking, his lip quivered, and burying his face in his handkerchief he wept convulsively. One by one, the props which he had relied were knocked from under him—the Judge had extinguished the last ray of hope. An ignominious death stared him in the face; from it there was no escape. He had assumed a calmness and a confidence during the trial that he did not feel. But nothing now was to be gained by deception. Human nature resumes its sway; and the man of strong will wept. Better so, than that he went to his dungeon unmoved. It gives grounds for the belief, that his heart is not so seared that repentance is impossible or improbable.

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#### A JOURNAL OF DR. KING WHILE IN COBOURG JAIL UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH.

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BY A CONSTABLE.

Thursday, April 14th. Very wet day, entered prison about 11 o'clock, Mr. Bennett the Jailer, took Dr. King from amongst the other prisoners, and put him in an apartment alone, south side of Jail, under ground, fixing our beds for a time. Dr. in very low spirits frequently saying, 'O what an unfortunate man I have been.' O is it possible I must be executed,' after tea more composed. Jailer locked us up by 7 o'clock, I sleep in cell next to Dr. thought it a dreary place.

Friday, 15th. Cells opened by Jailer by 6 o'clock. Dr. rested badly last night. On rising morning first thing said, 'O I wish I could see my mother,' 'If I'm executed it will bring my mother to her grave,' about 10 o'clock Sheriff entered, he told Dr. King distinctly, that there was no hope of the commutation of his sentence, Dr. wished to see his mother. Sheriff granted his request, about 11 o'clock. Mr. Vanderburg, Wesleyan Minister, came in to see him, stayed with him 3 or 4 hours, talked faithfully with him, and prayed with him. After he was gone Rev. Mr. Bredin also called and stay-

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ed a short time, said he would be up again on Tuesday, locked up by 7 o'clock.

Saturday, 16th. Rose by 6 o'clock Dr. rested a little better last night, on rising said first thing 'O I wish I could see my mother.' 'Could she stay with me all the time how I would like it,' had prayers and breakfast, shortly after Dr. Bethune came in to see him, talked and prayed with him. After dinner Mr. Levi Vanderburg came up again to see him, stayed with him till near dusk. Dr. Beatty up also Mr. Vanderburg prayed before leaving, an excellent prayer, after prayer Dr. wept profusely, I talked with him in the evening on the promises of the Gospel. Dr. believed all I said but complained of the want of genuine faith, read and prayed with him. Locked up by 7 o'clock.

Lord's Day 17th. Rose by 7 o'clock, had prayers shortly after about 10 o'clock had prayers again. Dr. prayed first and I followed, seemed very penitent, read to him from the Gospel in Ezekiel, he paid great attention, an excellent book, had dinner. Dr. asked a blessing as he always does before eating, about 3 o'clock Mr. Vanderburg came up again stayed about 2 hours, talked and prayed with him, Dr. paid great attention, if so Dr. Vanderburg speaks very highly of him, before going to bed we had prayers again, Dr. engaged very earnestly and devoutly. Locked up by 7 o'clock.

Monday 18th Jailer opened Dr's. cell by 6½ o'clock, Dr. a sleep, rose about 7, rested middling well last night, washed, dressed, then had prayers, read 2 Chron 33. Dr. prayed very penitently, I followed, had breakfast, Dr. eat hearty, then Dr. read 'Gospel in Ezekiel', walked the apartment awhile, heaving many a heavy sigh, retired to cell to pray, seems anxiously seeking salvation. After dinner a schoolmaster, a relative of Dr called to see him, about 4 o'clock, Rev. Mr. Bredin and Rev. Mr. Vanderburg called to see him, conversed with Dr. King about an hour before leaving, Mr. Bredin engaged in prayer, got a letter from J. R. Clark, evening, took tea, conversed a short time. Locked up about 7 and went to bed.

Tuesday, 19th. Up by 6 o'clock, Dr. rose about 7, much noise and stamping in the cell opposite, disagreeable, read at prayers, Psa. 32. Dr. prayed earnestly and penitently for mercy and forgiveness I followed, had breakfast, then wrote a little, Dr. wrote nearly all day intending to publish it, forenoon a Mr. Connolly an itinerant lecturer came up to see Dr. stayed a short time, afternoon Rev. Mr. Hooper in to see Dr., conversed and prayed with him, shortly after Dr. Bethune in, he also talked and prayed with us, took tea, read Ezek. 18. Dr. and I prayed, enjoyed God's presence with us, Dr. seems more composed and confident in God's mercy, a fine day.— Locked up by 7 o'clock as usual.

Wednesday, 20th. Rose by 6 o'clock, Dr. rose about 7, washed and dressed, walked the apartment a short time, then we had prayers, I read Matt. chap. 27, Dr. prayed first very humbly, earnestly and penitently, I followed, had breakfast, Dr. read a little in the 'Sinner's Friend', said it was a fine little book, in cell to-day, praying a good while, afternoon Mr. Hughes called a short time. Mr. Vanderburg up also, stayed with us till dark. Dr's. uncle and cousin in to

see him told him of the bad success of his petition in Percy and Seymour. Dr. wept, had tea, read Psa. 14, Dr. prayed very earnestly.

Thursday 21st. Rose about 5, Jr. rose about 7, seemed to feel bad that all the world was against him, sighed deeply, said 'seems nothing for me but execution,' had breakfast about 8, read Psa. 146, Dr. prayed very earnestly for mercy and forgiveness. Dr. walked a while, then wrote a spell, Mr. Connely up again to see him, stayed with him about 3 hours—told him faintly to put his trust in God and prepare for the worst. Dr. wrote 2 letters, talked with me a little on the case, said his wife did not die from arsenic, Mr. Vanderburg called stayed with him 2 hours, Dr. said he must look to God, as he expected little from man. Sheriff called this morning a few minutes, Locked up by 7 o'clock. Dr. reading Caughey's lectures in cell to night.

Good Friday. 22d. Jailor opened our cell door by 6 o'clock, brought in our usual quota of bread, being a 4lb loaf each day, a prisoner on the other side released—time up, took out a petition with him for Dr. Dr. rose about 7, said this good Friday, it will be the last I'll ever see', sighed deeply, and he felt worse last night than he ever felt, used such expressions as these, 'O that it could be undone, I grieve that I did wrong, I have ruined my Father for life, &c' At morning prayers, Dr. prayed very earnestly for himself for his father, mother and friends, and for all under sentence of death—forenoon J. R. Clark called and saw him, gave him small hope of a reprieve, Rev. Mr. Earl and Rev. A. Burpee called, talked and prayed with us. Dr. reading in the 'Simiers Friend,' said it was a beautiful little book, talked of the promise the blood of Christ cleanseth from all sins. Mr. Salmon and Mr. Vanderburgh called and stayed till dusk, read and prayed with us. Locked up by 7 o'clock.

Saturday, 23d. Dr. bathed this morning as he usually does on Saturday, shortly after had breakfast, then had prayers, read Psa. 45, Dr. prayed and I followed had much liberty, Dr. expected his mother up to day, disappointed, Dr. reading Caughey's Sermons today, while it snowed he said 'that will be the last snow I'll ever see.' Dr. in cell several times to-day, after tea had prayers, afterwards Dr. wept profusely, said 'O that my life could be spared, must be hanged, what a disgrace it will bring on my parson.' 'will God hear my prayers, how awful if my soul be lost, &c.' Locked up by 7½ in the evening—stormy day.

Lord's day, 24th. Ground covered snow and frost; Dr. said that will be 'the last snow I'll ever see', said in prayer last night something struck him saying, I shall be reprimed, seemed more cheerful a short time, had breakfast then prayers, read Matt. 17, Dr. prayed very earnestly and penitently, Dr. read a tract sent to him by a friend in Percy, then walked a while, I read to him from Meikles Meditations sent to him by Mr. Allan, afterwards Dr. returned to cell for prayer, had dinner, read Acts 12. Dr. and I prayed, after Mr. Vanderburg came up, stayed and conversed till dark. Dr. felt very sad, still clinging to hopes of a reprieve, Mr. Vanderburgh talked

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very plainly to him, then read, prayed with him, read Heb. 10. Looked up by dusk, Dr. reading in cell, Meikle's Meditations.

Monday, 25th. Rose by 6 o'clock, Dr. rose by 7½, seemed more cheerful, took breakfast, had prayers, read Isa. 6, Dr. prayed very earnestly and patiently, I followed, Dr. walked up and down awhile, talked awhile, wrote a few recipes, had dinner shortly after, Mr. Vanderburg came up, I went home 3 or 4 hours, came up to jail by six o'clock, Mr. Vanderburg left, asked Dr. how he felt, said, 'sad, sad,' Mr. Bennett came in to lock up, talked with us a little, told Dr. to make his peace with God, and prepare for the worst, and if he had peace with God, he would have no fear of death, Dr. said that was his daily prayer. A crazy man came here to-day from Bowmanville, made great noise to-night.

Tuesday, April 26th, rose by 6 o'clock, Dr. rose about half an hour after—had breakfast, then read Prov. 28. Dr. prayed shortly, after Bishop Smith came in to see him, he talked very kindly and plainly to him for about an hour, he told him that 'all manner of sin and blasphemy should be forgiven unto men' so says Christ, Mat. 12, 13, he explained to him the three last verses of 1 John 1, then prayed a most beautiful prayer for him, he told Dr. to offer prayer, he done so, after which Mr. Smith bade us farewell—urging the Dr. to seek salvation as it was attainable even to him. After dinner Dr. Beatty and Dr. Powell came in for a few minutes. Dr. wrote a letter to his father. Rev. Mr. Jones came in near evening, talked and prayed with him and gave him a book, Bishop Taylor's holy living and dying.

Wednesday, 27th, Dr. rose about 7½, he had breakfast, then prayers, read Prov. 19, Dr. then prayed very earnestly, I followed in my weak way. The Dr. then walked a while, receiving 3 letters to-day felt sad, after dinner better. Mr. Vanderburg came up and stayed with him till dusk, I went home for three hours, which time the Dr. wrote three letters to the United States. He tries his best by God's help to prepare for death, he never looks at a news paper or talks about the world, but seems deeply serious and concerned for his soul's salvation.

Thursday, 28th. We rose early this morning, after being much disturbed by a crazy man in an opposite cell. The Dr. read and prayed, he can pray like a minister, I followed and enjoyed sweet peace, praise God. Dr. expected to see his mother to-day, she did not come. The Dr. then walked the floor, then read a while, then retired to his room, I believe to pray, he then wrote a letter to his father. We heard that Sickles was acquitted, the Dr. felt very bad and said 'why eant I be freed also' bemoaned his sad condition greatly, we then had tea and then prayers. He then walked awhile, then the turn-key came in with his bunch of keys and locked him up.

Friday, 26th, The jailor brought our bread and water and opened our cell doors, shortly after daybreak. Dr. King said he had a poor night of it fretting about the result of Sickles trial contrasted with his own, we had breakfast, the Dr. eat hearty, then had prayers, he walked and talked awhile, then read and sighed deeply, then took dinner, shortly Levi Vanderburg came in, and talked and prayed with

him. I went home a short time, when I came back I found the Dr. in middling good spirits.—Locked up by 7 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Vanderburg takes great pains to instruct and comfort the Dr's mind, almost every day.

Saturday. 30th, the Jailer brought in our bread and water by 6 o'clock, unlocked cell door, Dr. sleep, best towards morning, rose by 7 o'clock, bathed himself, had breakfast and prayers, read Psalms 51, and prayed very earnestly and I trust penitently, walked awhile. Shortly after—Dr. Bethune came in, talked very faithfully and affectionately to him, gave him good sound advice, then prayed with him, left him a programme of daily exercises and prayers to be used by him. After dinner Mr. Vanderburg up again, talked, read and prayed with him. Three prisoners put in to day—one for peddling obscene books—one for stealing flour, and one named John Farrell from Chicago, for robbery. Locked up at dusk as usual.

Lord's day. May 1st, 1859. Now summer returns, after a long and tedious Canadian winter; but summer and winter are alike here. Mr. Bennett brought two letters, one from a brother in California who heard of his imprisonment and expected to hear of his acquittal, expressed regret to think how it would vex him to hear of his verdict and sentence, my poor Isaac says he how it will wound your heart you used to feel so proud of me, now how fallen! We had breakfast then prayers. The Dr. commenced himself a programme of exercises laid down by Dr. Bethune. Read Isa. 27 and John 14 and fifth Psalm, then prayers of the English Church form, after dinner a short time, our dear friend Mr. Vanderburg came in and stayed a short time, after tea Mr. V., the Dr. and myself all engaged alternately in prayer, trusting God was with us.

Monday, May 2d, Dr. rose by 7 o'clock, read Isa. 64 and John 15, Pro. 9, 10, then engaged in prayer, both of us, he walked and then retired awhile to his cell, he expected his father up to-day, he did not come, the Dr. seemed to feel very sad, after tea we had prayers again, the Dr. read Psalms 46, 47, he and I then prayed. Felt light and liberty, praise God—locked up at dark, no person in to-day.—Prisoner John Farrell escaped to-day.

Tuesday, 3d, had breakfast and prayers as usual Dr. read Isa. 61, Heb. 1, and prayed. Then the Rev. Mr. J. came in' the English Church curate, he talked and prayed with him, he told him he need not build himself up on any false hope of a commutation of his sentence as he believed there would be no change, urged him earnestly to prepare for death as time is on the wing, and the 9th of June was daily getting nearer. After going away the Doctor felt very bad and wept bitterly. He was very sad and sorrowful a long time, we had dinner and prayed again, shortly after Mr. Vanderburg came up and stayed till near dusk. Mr. H. and Mr. B. came in to see him a short time, the Dr. cheered up a little, he talked of the value of the Bible repeatedly and determined to seek the Lord till he found him, giving good evidence of unfeigned repentance.—The Sheriff came in this morning a few minutes, he locked us up at dusk, the Dr. read Mrs. Palmer's works in his cell.

Wednesday, 4th, Dr. rose at 7 o'clock, he seemed in very low spirits this morning, he used the English Church form. He is seeking the Lord earnestly but has not found true peace as yet.

Mr. Vanderburg up in the afternoon as usual conversed and prayed with him. His mother up to see him in the afternoon in with him alone about two hours she gave him some very good advice. After his mother went away Dr. went and sobbed violently, said he would never see his mother but once again, spoke to his brother through the iron door, told him to be a good boy, and to obey his parents, and keep the Sabbath, and never do anything wrong. Locked up at dark. Prisoner found who ran away.

Thursday, May 5th. Jailer brought in our accustomed quota of bread and water, unlocked Drs. cell, then had breakfast and prayers as usual. In the course of the forenoon Rev T. Alexander from Percy came in and talked with Dr. a short time, very appropriately, before leaving, read explained to us the 51st Psalm, a favorite Psalm here with us it seemed as if the Psalmist had just penned it to suit our case. Then he prayed with us and left, Dr. much pleased with his visit, after dinner had prayers again, Read Jonah first 3 chapters, Dr. then wrote to his brother in California, prisoners other side out in yard to-day, first time this Spring, seemed happy to get out to breathe the fresh air—had tea and prayers. Locked up by dark.

Friday, May 6th. Dr. sent away a letter to his brother in California to-day nothing of importance happened to-day, Dr. about as usual, earnestly seeking after Christ, Vanderburg gone to Toronto, Dr. Bethune came to see us afternoon, talked a short time to Dr. then Read and expounded 103rd Psalm then put up a very appropriate prayer, left near dark, had tea prayers and to bed about usual time.

Saturday, May 7th. Waiting still on Dr. King. He bathed again this morning, shortly after we had our breakfast and prayers, Read Isa. 63 and Heb. 9. Dr. repeated the English Church form concluded by prayers, Psalm 51st He engaged with much feeling and earnestness, felt very sad forenoon evidently deep conviction of sin. Said the way of transgression is hard, said I am a great sinner, the chief of sinners, was almost despairing of God's mercy, said he was willing to give himself to Christ, but could not feel that God had accepted him about mid-forenoon we both joined in prayer again after dinner I read Lam. chapter 3 had, prayers again, after a while Mr. Vanderburg came up, he back again from Toronto. He had seen the Governor, cut off all hope of Dr. being reprieved, Dr. cried and wept sore, said, 'I must seek mercy from God, I see I will get no mercy from men, towards evening Dr. more composed, me home 2 hours, Locked by 7, Dr. said 'Sickles freed, me to be hanged.'

Lords Day, May 8th. On rising this morning, Dr. felt very poorly, said he had a poor night of it, slept very little, felt sad, very sad and dejected, Had breakfast and prayers, Dr. prayed most earnestly and penitently, surely such prayers will prevail with God. Read Isa. 40, and Heb. 13, Dr. said he had but a few more Sab.

baths to live, very melancholy to-day. After dinner, we read 107th Psalm, Dr. and I prayed alternately, Dr. said he felt headache, went to bed a short time, after rising walked a while, we then had tea.—Dr. in great distress of mind. Satan almost leading him to despair of God's mercy, said it would be awful if he went to the scaffold unforgiven. He still looked upon God as an angry Judge, did not yet see him as a God reconciled in Christ. I told him that I thought any sinner who sincerely repented of sin and earnestly sought forgiveness could not be lost. Dr. said he wanted to make sure of his sins forgiven before he went to the scaffold. We then had evening prayers Dr. read Isa. 53. We then both engaged earnestly in prayer. I trust God heard us and will answer these our prayers in his own good time. Lord grant that this the time of our extremity may be the time of thy opportunity. Lord save us for thy name and for thy mercies sake. Lord increase our faith. Dr. a little more cheerful toward night. Locked up at dark.

Monday, 9th. Dr. and I rose to-day about 7 o'clock, washed and dressed, then had breakfast, Dr. said 'this is the 9th of May, one half of my time is gone,' seemed very sad, after breakfast had morning prayers. Dr. read Isa. 51 and 1 Pet. 2, also Psalms, then prayed very earnestly and most sincerely, I prayed after, Dr. responding to every sentence, after prayers Dr. walked a while, apparently in deep thought occasionally a deep sigh, Lord have mercy on him and heal his wounded spirit for Jesus sake. About 11 o'clock, Mr. Vandenburg came up, was home, he stayed with Dr. 3 or 4 hours, talked and prayed with him, Dr. very sad, yet earnestly seeking salvation; at evening prayers Dr. prayed for his father, that he might be converted. Locked up by 7 o'clock.

Tuesday, 10th May. Dr. rose this morning a little past 6, said he felt confident that God would forgive his sins, in praying last night he said he felt more liberty. Three prisoners in the cells opposite got their leave this morning—time up—Dr. talked to them through the diamond hole, bid them farewell and gave them good advice, and said farewell Tom I'll never see you any more. You will now taste the sweets of liberty denied to me, said Tom was to him as a brother, said he was greatly reformed since his confinement—has become a praying man. Had breakfast and prayers, about 10 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Bleasdale from Trenton came to see Dr. was greatly cheered and encouraged by his visit, said he had done him more good than any who has called to see him, stayed about 2 hours with him, talked and prayed with him. Told Dr. to look to him whom the brazen serpent typed, viz. Christ on the Cross, sympathized deeply with the Dr. said he would come up again and see him if he wished, would be up at all events on the 9th June or the day before, Mr. Vandenburg up all afternoon endeavouring to comfort the Dr. and lead him to Christ, Dr. not yet restored to liberty, not yet adopted into Gods family, but is I believe an earnest enquirer, Dr. a little more cheerful evening Locked up by dusk. Lord keep by thy servants who put their trust in thee and save us for Jesus sake.

Wednesday, May 11th. Fine day, Mr. Bennett took out our win-

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dows this morning to give us more air, this boing a warm bad venti-  
lated place—very unhealthy. Dr. seeming pleased to get the fresh  
air to breathe. Dr. and I had **prayers** as usual. Dr. felt still *very*  
*sad*, walked and read alternately all forenoon praying all the time  
while walking the Hall, after dinner sometime, our friend and  
Brother Vanderburg came up. Dr. looking long for him to come,  
long before he did come. Poor Doctor thy countenance indicatest  
that deep sorrow and anguish have their lodgment in thy *soul* heart,  
yet what a noble mind thou hast, splendid talents far above mediocrity  
and a more generous heart never possessed a human breast. How un-  
fortunate thou has been 'a brother born for adversity'—John Farrel  
the prisoner shackled and off to Chicago to night.

Thursday, May 12th, Time rolls on, four weeks to-day is the  
fatal 9th of June, every thing with us to-day went on the same as  
usual. Poor Doctor what anguish and sorrow inhabits thy toru  
bosom, many, many a heavy sigh heaves thy tortured breast. 'How  
true the way of transgressors is hard'—yes hard, it is hard work to  
repent and find forgiveness with an offended God. After dinner Mr.  
Vanderburg came up stayed near all afternoon, me out a while.  
After coming in had tea—then prayed—locked up by half past 7.

Friday, May 13th. Mr. Bennett returned again from Windsor,  
where he took John Farrell the prisoner, the Chicago Robber.—  
Dr. rose early, in very low spirits this morning, said he could not  
rest in bed, felt very disconsolate, took but little breakfast, had pray-  
ers, to bed again, heaving many a sigh, surely his broken and  
contrite heart, God will not despise, Drs. head ached to day. About 11  
o'clock Mr. J. came in, and prayed with Dr. after dinner and prayers  
Mr. Vanderburg and Mr. Salmon came in to see Dr. talked and  
prayed with him till near dark, Dr. a little cheered, after retiring to  
cell prayed earnestly for half-an hour, told me he had more confi-  
dence in Gods mercy now than ever, hoped God would forgive him.

Saturday, May 14th. Dr. rose early this morning, said, 'his time  
was precious every moment of it' I will soon be said he is an etern-  
ity of misery or bliss, but the thought of the Gallows Oh ! Oh ! Oh !  
to be hanged by the neck, how dreadful the thought. If it was to die  
a natural death I would give up at once into Gods hands, but Oh ! the  
Gallows ! Dr. and I talked a little of the employments and enjoy-  
ments of heaven, shortly after dinner, Dr. read Isa. 53, and had prayers,  
Mr. Bennett brought us in some meat and potatoes, he is very kind, Dr.  
in cell a good time after, about 3 o'clock Mr. Vanderburg came up  
again, talked a good time with Dr. had prayers, Dr. wept after said  
he was glad, he ever saw Mr. Vanderburg, he believed he would be the  
means of saving his soul, said he could take him by the hand and feel  
he was like a brother, Mr. Vanderburg speaks kind and faithful to  
him, and dose his very best to comfort him with the promises of Gods  
word. Locked up as usual at dark, Dr. said it is a great mercy if  
God saves a sinner like me, and I believe he *will* save me. Lord  
save us, and bless us for thy name and mercys sake.

Lord's Day, May 15th. Spent this day the fore part of in fasting  
and prayer, resolved to seek God till we find him. Satan busy with

tempting us to sleepiness Dr. to think of worldly things, prayed earnestly for light and grace, found help, praise the Lord. Mr. Vanderburg up awhile, Dr. went to bed rejoicing in a sin pardoning God.

Monday, May, 16th. During the past week the Dr. has passed through a painful ordeal, his convictions of sin very deep and urgent. He has been led past the thunders of Sinai, and heard Jehovah from Mount Horeb, proclaiming his fiery law. He has been led to the very verge of Hell, and thought himself almost engulphed in its dark abyss. He has felt indeed 'the arrows of the almighty drinking up his spirit, and has experimentally found that sin is exceedingly sinful' — His is no superficial religion as alas! we have too much of it in our day, but a deep, a real work of Grace. He has felt the pangs of the new birth and tasted somewhat of the miseries of the last, Oh! how terrible tho' unbraiding of a guilty conscience, terrible indeed, as he paced the Hall, the very picture of remorse and despair, surely his most inveterate enemies could they see him would be moved with pity and the hardest heart would melt. To-day we spent the time much the same as usual. Reading and praying, writing, talking &c. Dr. in a little better spirits, said he will soon be where his enemies can't reach him 'On the 9th of June' said he 'I will bid farewell to Cobourg'—said I hope S. you will represent my character in a true light after I am gone.

Tuesday, May 17th. Dr. received two letters last night from Mr. Bennett, one from his Father, another from Rock the prisoner in Belleville, declaring Gods goodness to him in that he had found pardon and urging the Dr. earnestly to seek the Lord. Dr. took it very kind of him. Did not rise very early this morning, disturbed again by the Crazy man, last night screaming, had breakfast and prayers, Dr. writing most all forenoon, had dinner and prayers. Dr. writing till Mr. Vanderburg called near 4 o'clock. Mr. Vanderburg talked very earnestly to him, and prayed with him, Dr. in pretty good spirits, only his faith in Gods mercy not so strong to-day mind wavering. The Devil doing all he can to shake his faith in Gods word and promise O! what an adversary we have to contend with, Lord dethrone Satan from his usurped dominion in our souls and save us for thy name sake.

Wednesday, 18th. Last night a female prisoner brought hero from Port Hope for laneery. Dr. rose in good spirits this morning, said 'when praying in his cell last night he felt more happy than ever he had yet done', felt now assured that God would save his soul, had breakfast and prayers, Dr. read, Jer. 1, Rom. 9, Psa. 90, 91, and 92. Prayed earnestly. Repeating the words of the 51st Psalm, said while walking, 'O, how short is time', 'a day is past and gone and it seems only a few minutes', 'How terrible that moment when the trap will give way under my feet on the scaffold', Oh! Oh! Dr. writing to the Judge forenoon and part of afternoon. Sheriff in a short time in the evening, had prayers, went to bed at usual time. Dr. Bethune's son buried to-day.

Thursday May 19th. How quick time flies? Only 3 weeks to day till the fatal 9th of June—then my dear Doctor must be led

forth to the scene of execution, how painful the thought, the Sheriff and Officers coming in and telling us to get ready, the last farewell to this dismal place, then the scaffold, the ascent to it, the fatal drop, the gazing multitude. Dear Doctor, the Lord strengthen thee in that solemn hour and be with thee on entering the dark valley, may thy last struggle be short, and may angels be commissioned to convey thy ransomed spirit to the realms of bliss. Dr. rose about half-past eight this morning, washed, dressed, had breakfast and prayers, Dr. walking the hall sighing deeply, said "O I wish I had never married," "how many offer themselves for the hymeneal altar that are nothing but vanity," "how many blanks to one prize"—If I had never married how much better it would have been for me and for my parents. Talking on the 8th chap. of Romans, now a favorite chapter with the Dr., said I wish to make an entire surrender of myself to God, If I knew anything more I could do, I would do it, find I can do nothing of myself, Dr. wrote a letter to day to Rock the prisoner in Belleville, in answer to his. About 2 o'clock Rev. Mr V—, up to see Dr. stayed about two hours, talked and prayed with him, Dr. wept, he left shortly after. We took the Bible and prayed to God to direct us to some passage to suit our case. We opened the Bible at 1, cor., 2, 12, the Dr. read the passage, rejoiced, said, "now I know God will save me, will take me to heaven," "the Sheriff may get the gallows ready."

Friday May 20th. Dr. happy now in the love of God, He has cast all his sins behind his back into the depths of the sea, and blotted them out of the Book of his remembrance. Blessed be God! Praised be his holy name, now his sorrow is turned into joy, his language now is that of the Ancient Church, recorded Isa., 12, 1. "I will praise thee O Lord, tho' thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away and thou comfortest me." About half-past ten Dr. Bethune came and talked with Dr. and left with him a beautiful form of prayer, had dinner and prayers, Dr. wrote a letter to J. H. Cameron, Toronto, by three o'clock Mr. V. up to see us, talked and prayed with us, we all three engaged, Dr. more cheerful to night, spoke of his confession being published in the "Star," had tea, locked up for the night, a very fine day, warm.

Saturday, May 21st. Learned last night that Dr. had made a full confession of his guilt to Mr. Vanderburg, he said he had embraced all to God and man Dr. has attained to more peace of mind since his confession than formerly, he in my opinion ought to have done so weeks ago. This morning Dr bathed himself as usual on Saturdays, had breakfast and prayers, writing all day nearly, what he intends published in the "Globe," Rev. M. Salmon came up to see us to day, stayed quite a while, conversed and prayed with us, Dr. writing his confession to the "Globe" for publication, sent off 13 pages full sheets by mail to night, the remainder to be sent on Monday. Dr. in pretty good spirits to day, at prayers to-night expressed himself with confidence and hope in God's mercy. Mr. V. up again 2 hours near evening.

Lord's Day, May 22d. Dr. rose this morning a little past 8

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o'clock, washed and dressed, shortly after said, "only two Sabbath's more to spend on earth and then a continuous Sabbath in Heaven, had breakfast and prayers, Dr read over the form of prayer left by Dr. Bethune, a very excellent prayer, afterwards said, "I feel I am going to Heaven, I feel a dreadful load taken off my shoulders. Blessed be God. Had dinner and prayers, afterwards Rev. Mr. Brechin and Mr. V. came up, conversed with us prayed and administered the sacrament to Dr. and all of us, trust it was a blessed season to our souls, the Sheriff up a short time with the Dr., Mr. V. preaching up stairs this evening, Dr. sat by window and heard most of the sermon, said 'O what would I give to have my liberty again and go to hear sermons. Went to bed by 8 o'clock.

Monday, 23d. Last night Dr. and I sat by our window, the night being calm we heard Rev. Mr. Vanderburg preaching up stairs, Dr. said 'this may be the last sermon I'll ever hear,' O how I could wish to have my liberty again, and go to church, how I would prize it, but no, the law is inexorable, here I am, I for seven long months shut up within bars and gates, not permitted to breathe the pure air of Heaven, admire the beauties of Creation, nor behold the glories of the noon day Sun, liberty gone, reputation gone, once I was counted a credit to my friends and an honour to my profession, but now I am set up as a Mark for the Shafts of Calumny to shoot at. Oh me! how fallen, nothing for me now but imprisonment, ignominy and the gallows! Lord have mercy on my soul. Dr. continued writing his manuscript to-day, nearly all day, wrote altogether some 31 pages large sheets, sent it off to the Globe by mail to night. Dr. in good spirits to-day, more cheerful than I have seen him yet. Rev. Mr. Hooper and Rev. Mr. Vanderburg up after a short time, a fine day, a little frost this morning.

Tuesday, May 24th. Dr on retiring to bed last night said 'I feel very tired writing all day, wrote 10 pages to-day, large sheets' 14 days more after to-day till the fatal 9th of June. Dr. rose this morning about half-past 7, washed, dressed, walking the hall said, 'now if I were in heaven enjoying that eternal rest, it would be much better for me than to be in prison here. After breakfast Rev Mr. Thompson from Napanee and Mr. Lucas, called to see Dr., conversed exhorted and prayed with us, told Dr he believed there was no hope of a reprieve for him, not the least, bade him farewell. Dr. wept profusely, he walked the hall a good deal to-day for exercise, finds it necessary for health, we talked a little on the greatness of Christ's love in dying for us. Queen's Birth Day, Band came past jail playing Music, Dr. said, 'O that I had my liberty again, I would like to give them a speech, I would tell them of the sweets of liberty, what an unfortunate man I have been, O that I had never sinned.'

Wednesday, May 25th. Dr. received a letter from J. H. Cameron, Toronto, informing him that he had seen the Governor and Judge and that there would be no alteration of his sentence, Carpenters here this morning measuring the ground to build the gallows, I told Dr. of this fact. He seemed deeply sorrowful for sometime, and sighed, saw in the 'Globe' the cutting remarks regarding his manu-

script, felt bad about it, said people would not believe him when he spoke the truth, about 1 o'clock Mr. V. came up talked and exhorted him very plainly and affectionately, and prayed with us, left near dark, Dr. determined now to divest his mind of every thing earthly, and prepare for to meet his God as time is short

Thursday, May 26th. On rising this morning I asked the Dr. how he felt, he said he had a very poor night of it, had shed many tears, thinking on his past life, the sins he had committed against God and their consequences, at breakfast Dr. said "if I could be sure of Christ being with me in my last moment, I would not fear death," I quoted the passage Isa. 43: 2, 'When thou passeth through the waters I will be with thee,' Dr. said that was a great promise, He quoted Prov. 28: 13, 'He that confesseth and forsaketh his sins shall have mercy,' I said there was a condition on our part "to confess and forsake sin," and a promise on Gods part "shall have mercy," after breakfast and prayers Rev. Mr. Corson in a few minutes talked and prayed with us. Dr. very solemn and serious to-day, seemed more humble, penitent and prayerful than he had been for a few days past, Mr. V. up again.

The Dr now seems to feel his awful position keenly, how very short his time on earth now, two weeks to day, then his ransomed spirit must take its everlasting flight, we trust washed in the blood of Christ to mansions in the skies, "where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest."

Friday, May 27th. This morning it thunders, dark clouds hover around us and over us, which makes this place dark, now it rains, Dr. rose this morning about 8 o'clock, seemed very solemn to day, said he was very sorry that ever he had sinned against God, prayed earnestly for forgiveness, Mr. V. up a short time afterwards, on sitting down to eat Dr. sighed and said, "I've been led astray by women, women has been my ruin, in trying to get out of a bad fix, I got into a worse one," O my unfortunate marriage has been the cause of all my trouble, much better for me I had never married, said I ought to write an essay on marriage to be a warning to others, Dr. said I'm not the first nor only one led astray by women, the strongest and wisest of men has been led astray by them, my unfortunate marriage has resulted in bringing me to the scaffold, O woman thou art my ruin in time, O woman thou hast cost me my life, Dr. in pretty good spirits to night, locked up by half-past 7.

Saturday, May 28th. Dr. rose this morning about half-past 7, does not generally rise early, cannot sleep after going to bed, sleeps best toward morning, bathed again as usual on Saturdays, speaking of his late misfortunes, Dr. sighed and said, "Women are costly things, They have cost me much, they are dear creatures doubly dear to me," I wish my wife was now alive, she was a good house-keeper, tho' not a person of much education, "I was always an ardent admirer of the female sex, that will prove my ruin," The devil has got me into a snare and left me there," In course of the forenoon Dr. writing a little, he shook his head and said, "this is a serious time" In the course of the forenoon Dr. Bethune called to

see Dr., conversed, prayed with him, immediately after Mr. Vanderburg came in, stayed about an hour with us, in the course of the afternoon Rev. J. H. Poole came in to see Dr., conversed quite a while with him, and prayed before leaving. Dr. very serious now, striving earnestly to find acceptance with God.

Lord's Day, May 29th. Often have I heard the Dr. say, "how short time is, how gladly would I take hold of the wheel of time and hold it back and impede its progress." On rising this morning Dr. said, 'only one Sabbath more on earth for me; 'this is the Holy Sabbath, what a display of the wisdom of God in giving us the Sabbath,' had breakfast and prayers, Reading in Caughey the tokens of evidences of true repentance.

'Not to attempt to palliate or excuse our sin, nor blame any one but ourselves, admit the justice of our God in condemning and punishing us; and never to forgive ourselves for having sinned against and offended God.' These are signs of real repentance that cannot be mistaken.

Monday, May 30th. Dr. rose this morning earlier than usual, having heard that his father and sister had come up to see him, had breakfast and prayers. In the course of forenoon, the Sheriff, Dr. King's Father and Sister came in to see him, stayed quite a while, talking with the Dr., after bidding him farewell and leaving us, Dr. wept profusely for a good while, Dr spoke about his latter end very composedly and confidently after his friends leaving, Mr. Vanderburg came in to see us, conversed religiously with us a while and joined very earnestly with us in prayer before leaving, after being locked up in cell, Dr. said, "I'll have a weeping night of it to night, My friends I may perhaps never see again."

Tuesday, May 31. Dr. said he had wept a good deal last night. He had many things to think of, but retrospection and prospecting, Mitchel must suffer at Hamilton, on the 7th, The Dr. here on the 9th, Rock at Belleville on the 13th, Then following the Brantford murderers, what a number of executions, May it be a warning to others that men may hear, and fear, and do no more wickedly, 9. a.m. Had prayers, Dr. prayed very earnestly, for himself, his parents, and friends, all prisoners, specially those under the sentence of Death, and all sorts, and condition of men, Dr. is now much more composed and resigned to his fate. He has now after a painful and severe struggle with the accusations of a guilty conscience and the powers of darkness, obtained that "peace" promised John 14. 27. and that "rest" spoken of, Matt 11. 28. Rev Mr. Jones in to day a short time conversed and prayed with us, Dr. writing a good deal to day.

Wednesday, June 1. On rising morning, Dr. said "I felt very happy last night in my cell, after prayers I felt as if God had blessed me, said again. This is the 1st of June, the 9th will soon be at our heels, I exhorted him to look to Calvary, and I doubt not but he will yet be enabled to shout."

"Victory thro' the blood of the Lamb."

We are very short sighted mortals I may be mistaken, as God alone can judge the heart, I do sincerely believe the Dr. to be a true

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and sincere penitent. I believe he has been brought thro' Bunyan's Slough of Dispond entered by the wicket gate, and had a view of the cross by faith, the burden of his sin, has fallen off into Christ sepulchre. He has experienced the pangs of the new birth, and is now an adopted child of God. Praise to the glory of his sovereign grace! Hosanna be to the son of David! In course of forenoon, Dr. wife's uncle in to see him, had dinner and prayer, after Rev Mr. Vandenburg in to see us, about 3 p. m. Rev Mr. Davy, City Missionary, Toronto, came in and talked and prayed with us, a good while, a most excellent man, did the Dr. much good, trust in answer to his most earnest prayers, has got a fresh Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Dr. now seems to have no doubt but his soul with go to heaven.

Thursday, June 2. Spent a good part of the day in marking passages in his Bible for his friends to read when he is gone, a short time in writing in his Note Book. We had prayers 3 times as usual, hopes he may be as well prepared as Fleming was when he went to the Scaffold. Mr. Davy told us, he was singing for joy, and had bright evidences of his acceptance with God. In reading Luke Chap. 23; These words "Father into thy hands I commend my spirit" Dr. said "these will be the words I'll use when I'm about to drop into eternity—no person in to day.

Friday, June 3. Dr. rising this morning, said "This will be the last Friday I'll see" "before another week I'll be in the spirit land" I wish I could die as triumphantly as Fleming did. I'm afraid I cant. Spent the whole of this day in fasting and, prayer, near noon I asked the Dr. if I would make ready the dinner for him. He said no. "He would fast all day, he was willing to do any thing to save his soul, In cell a good while to day praying, while walking the Hall praying, Had Worship 3 times to day, as usual. Dr. very earnest to obtain a firm persuasion of his acceptance with God. Reading Gods word a good deal to day, and sermons for Prisoners left by Dr. Bethune, Mr. Vandenburg not up for 2 days, gone to Conference, Dr. wrote a letter to his Father to day. Dr. trying to improve every moment of his time for the best, determined to secure if possible the salvation of his soul. 5 days more and the Dr. is no more.

Saturday, June 4. Sheriff called this morning early. Dr. not up, till about 8 o'clock. Dr. rose, washed, dressed, had breakfast and prayers. Dr. prayed very earnestly, for pardon, and purity, for grace to sustain him in the last conflict and for everlasting life in Heaven above, Afterwards He and I looked over a number of the scripture promises in the Old and New Testaments. Dr. repeated one in Isa. 41. 10. repeatedly, about 10 o'clock Dr. Bethune came in to see Dr. stayed with him about an hour, after leaving Dr. wept for a short time, told me about the arrangements for the 9th June, after dinner had prayers again, surely if over a man was in earnest for salvation Dr. King is, writing a last letter to his Brother Isaac in California, afternoon, about 4 o'clock. J. R. Clark, his wife and Hester Garrett came in to see the Dr. after a short time Hester Garrett who I believe is a Quakeress, commenced and gave the Dr. quite a sermon urging him earnestly to embrace Christ. Not to de-

ceive himself, or rest in any false refuge, or trust to any thing else for salvation, but the merits of Jesus and his righteousness alone, as time was short, make sure work of salvation. It was the most earnest, appeal I ever heard, Dr. wept and I too wept, about 6 o'clock she bade the Dr. farewell, to meet in Heaven, surely we are well privileged with good instructors, and godly ministers, beyond the lot of many. May God bless them all, and make them a blessing to us. Dr. pretty cheerful to-day, seems now to look at death without fear, and as a conquered foe, O! death where is thy sting! O, grave where is thy victory! Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory, thro our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday, June 5th. Dr. on rising this morning said, 'this will be my last Sabbath on earth!' At breakfast he expressed himself strongly in regard to his confidence in God's mercy. At morning prayers he seemed to enjoy more liberty and access to the throne of grace than formerly. About 10 o'clock Rev. Mr. Vanderburgh came up, we had a season of prayer, Dr. seemed very happy afterwards and was rejoicing in God as a reconciled God in Christ. Had prayers again after dinner, Dr. rejoicing now with joy, unspeakable and full of glory. Now the love of God is shed abroad in his heart, now death is divested of its sting and the fear of dying taken away. The Dr. felt as now placed upon a rock, the rock Christ Jesus and his anchor surely fixed within the veil.

Monday; June 6th. The Dr. seems in pretty good spirits His mind apparently composed and calm, seemed to be willing to submit to his fate with a christian resignation, seemed more spiritually minded to-day. Tho Rev. Mr. Bleasdale from Trenton in to see him to day, stayed quite a while with him and gave him some very wholesome advice. Near evening he got his portrait taken—Sheriff in a few minutes near dark. Locked up by 8 o'clock.

Two more days and the Dr. will be no more. He has now caught a martyr spirit. He is now with Moses on mount Pisgah, viewing the promised land, and tasting of the grapes of Esheol an earnest of the Heavenly inheritance.

Tuesday, June 7th. Shortly after eight in the morning the Dr.'s father came up to see him, a great deal of feeling and shedding of tears on both sides; the Dr. arranged some secular matters to-day part of the time he felt tired, at night complained of head-ache. Dr. Burns of Toronto in to see him to-day, also the Rev. Mr. V.

after stayed with us till dark, had a season of devotion before parting. The Dr. seems remarkably calm to-day, so near his end. 'What hath God wrought'. Surely nothing but divine grace could make a man so cheerful composed—calm so near his end.

Wednesday, June 8th. To-morrow is the fatal 9th, then the unfortunate man must suffer the extreme penalty of the law for the awful crime of which he has been convicted. Poor man! how foolish, how unfortunate he has been! What trouble he has brought upon himself, his parents, and friends for nothing! What an expense to the county, all might have been prevented. Bartered life, liberty, character, everything earthly, and endangered the loss of his soul for

what? for a mere shadow of the imagination, a mere nothing, O, how infatuated he has been! how insane! he has become the destroyer of his own peace and happiness, and at the same time he was instrumental as he has confessed in hurrying into eternity her his bosom companion whom he had chosen to be the partner of his hope, peace, joy and sorrow until God seemed pleased to separate him from her by death. One can hardly tell which he deserves most to be pitied or blamed. Let his late wife be what she may, no doubt she was imperfect as all human beings are, still it was God's prerogative not his to take away her life. However much I have done and would still do for his spiritual and eternal welfare I cannot with the word of God before me but admit the justice of his sentence, and would uphold the majesty of the law in his execution.

Other criminals may be punished with greater or less severity, according to the nature of the crime. But according to the Law of God and the laws of our land, to which we are subject. The murderer forfeits his life. Rev. Mr. McKenzie, of Baltimore, in to see Dr. about half an hour this forenoon, exhorted him to look to Jesus and to trust to him alone for salvation, Dr. thanked him very kindly for his advice and expressed his firm confidence in the mercy and grace of God thro' Christ. Rev. Mr. Vanderburg came up to see us about 1 o'clock, had a season of prayer, arranged a little business, Dr. gave us good advice, said, 'I have learned that the way of transgressors is hard,' and 'the wages of sin is death.' There is a reality in religion I could not have imagined weeks ago, that I could be so calm and composed so near my end, had I avoided 'the appearance of evil,' I should not have been here. Had I read my Bible more I should not have been here, but one wrong step led me to another and another, till it landed me where I now am. The grand cause of all my difficulties was an unhappy marriage, had I loved my wife all the women in the world could not have led me astray. I thank the Lord he has taken away the fear of death from me. I have no fear of hell, a little fear of the pain of death, how much better for me that I had not yielded to temptation, a year ago I was in Brighton a free man and had a good reputation, now a poor convict in very humiliating circumstances, about 6 o'clock Dr. Bethune and Rev. Mr. Bleasdale came up stayed and conversed a short time with Dr., made some arrangements for to-morrow, we sat up till near 11 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Vanderburg stayed with us all night, Dr. happy in his cell, slept a little, rose again about 4 o'clock.

Thursday, June 9th. Now the fatal 9th of June has come at last, we rose about 4, had breakfast near 6, Dr. ate well as usual, had worship afterwards, Dr. read Psalm 51 and Rev. 22, then engaged in prayer, like the Saviour in the garden he prayed 'more earnestly,' he prayed for grace, special grace to sustain him in his last moments, for his friends, his spiritual advisers, the Sheriff, Jailer and executioner and all his enemies, Rev. Mr. Vanderburg followed with much fervour and power, We all engaged for about 45 minutes. It was the most solemn prayer meeting ever I was at or perhaps ever will be, after prayer Dr. seemed very happy a heavenly radiance seemed to

be visible in his countenance, he walked arm in arm with Mr. Vanderburg up and down the Hall, conversing on heavenly things, about 2 past 6 Dr. Bethune and Rev. Mr. Bleasdel from Trenton entered, stayed with him till the last. About 8 o'clock the Sheriff came in, all was then ready, Dr. grasped Mr. Vanderburg's arm. They followed the Sheriff and the aforesaid Clergymen up to the scaffold on to the fatal drop. The Dr. read his speech in a firm clear and distinct manner. Rev. Mr. Bleasdel read part of the 14th chap. of Job. Dr. Bethune engaged in prayer, while pronouncing the benediction the drop fell, and the Dr. was soon no more, a crowd of some ten thousand persons it was supposed witnessed the sad spectacle, who preserved the utmost good order during the whole time, for many of them were there by day break, all dispersed quietly and returned to their respective homes, and the unfortunate Dr. I hope went home to heaven.

## CONFESSIO<sup>N</sup> WRITTEN FOR THE TORONTO "GLOBE."

I beg to claim your indulgence for space in the columns of your valuable Journal as a medium or channel through which I can communicate to the external world the influences brought to bear on me, and motives by which I was actuated in the committal of a crime, the penalty, for which, I am shortly to endure.

Having sinned against society as well as God I feel it my duty to confess my guilt to society with deep humiliation and sincere repentance and ask forgiveness for all my offences against my fellow men.

With a keen sense of the awfulness of my present position and the fearful responsibilities resting upon me towards the world and my God. I feel it an incumbent duty devolving upon me now as one who very soon expects (unless the Royal clemency be extended) to be launched into that unknown world from whence none returneth, to show to what extent the public know the *real* facts of my case.

The Press have put me down as being a cold black hearted murderer without cause or provocation. Well I will lay open the facts and allow the world to sit in judgment and then pass its sentence. To begin then, I must confess that I have done wrong and for what I am guilty no man could feel more sorrow, or repent more deeply both before God and man than I do.

My present unfortunate position is the result of an unhappy marriage.

In former life, I have made it a rule never to speak disparagingly of, or say aught against the dead, but justice to myself and an imperative duty to God compel me to unmask the whole tragedy, to lay open to and before the world in as clear lucid and concise a manner as possible the whole chain of events and circumstances which have led to such an unhappy result, however painful the task may be.

Indeed, I approach the subject with the same degree of solemnity

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that I should feel were I standing on the scaffold—I feel that I have, now, no and to attain, by making misstatements, while on the other hand, I would only deceive myself were I to do so, and therefore seal my everlasting doom.

I am one of those persons who cannot hold a 'grudge' against any person for any length of time, but on the contrary if a person abuses me however much, I can forgive them the next moment. Indeed, it affords me much pleasure to feel this moment that I have no hard feeling against any person living or dead. I forgive all who have trespassed against me, freely.

After I had reached the goal of my ambition, I next had to chose some field to practice my profession in. My own parents as also the parents of my wife would not consent for me to locate far away and the consequence was that on the 17th March 1858 I commenced practice in Brighton, and alas! to my sorrow as it has turned out. There seems to be no difficulty in getting into a practice. My success was eminent and in a short time I had overcome all the prejudices of my youth, had inspired the most refined and intelligent in the community with confidence in my integrity and professional skill and found myself in a fair way to acquire both fame and wealth. But a man's prosperity often proves to be the very instrument of his ruin. It was all very flattering to have a good reputation and to see one's self surrounded with the most brilliant prospects in the external world, but while every thing appeared calm and serene without there was a deep chasm or vacuum in my heart unseen by strangers I tried to cultivate a christian spirit, and live a christian life amid all my difficulties.

I made up my mind that I was an unfortunate being in this respect, and concluded to bear it patiently as one of the trials of this life.

It had never entered my cranium to use any means to shorten, or put an end to her life. I was too conscientious to entertain such a thought, for one moment, neither did she ever suspect such a thing. The fact is, the organ of destructiveness, the Phrenologists say in me, is entirely minus, and it is a notorious fact, that I could never kill a hen or any other domestic animal. The very thought of taking the life of a fellow being would excite a perfect horror in my mind. I could never, for one moment, think of doing such a thing even in self defence. All went on as usual; we kept house on Sandford street, and Mrs. K. became pregnant about the 8th of June, and after three weeks "moving sickness" came on and was very troublesome to her. At the same time a state of ulceration of the "os uteri" developed itself which had a tendency to increase the irritability of the Stomach; arising from an impregnated *Uterus*. This state of affairs continued more or less till her death on the 4th of Nov. the symptoms varying according to the different stages of development of the "fetus."

On the 23th of Sept. she fell, while attempting to descend from the buggy, the hem of her dress and petticoats having caught on the button or knob on the arm of the seat and literally hung herself, she

fell on her head, and when extricated could not stand on her feet for some time. This catastrophe was followed by symptoms of *concussion* of the brain and partial rupture of the ligaments of the *womb* on the left side. She never saw a well day after this accident, but continued to be ill until the evening of 14th Oct. when at 1 o'clock in the night, she was attacked with all the symptoms of "*Cholera Morbus*," purging and vomiting &c., and continued to get worse till the next day about noon, when the symptom began to rally, reaction was established, and she came out of the stage of collapse in which she had been for some little time. Her prostration was very great.

It has been suggested that I gave her poisonous doses of arsenic to cause this sickness. Now I must solemnly declare and will do so the moment before I expect to meet my God (and I hope to meet Him in peace) that I never gave her one particle of arsenic until after this Cholera Morbus was fully developed. Here I may observe that the whole Scientific world are deceived in reference to the cause of death. If this goes on record as a case of arachnical poisoning it will be a most lamentable mistake; for I assert most emphatically that arsenic had nothing, whatever to do in causing death. There have been a great many suggestions thrown out as to the real cause of death.

But with all the speculations of our scientific men, none, have yet arrived at the truth, some have suggested that she did not die from arsenic, but from morphine; now what I said in reference to arsenic I would repeat in reference to morphine—morphine had nothing to do in causing death. Here is an important fact to Toxicologists viz: that arsenic is a *Cumulative poison*.

If all the Toxicologists in the world were to array themselves on one side, and agree in asserting that this is not a cumulative poison, I should not believe them; because what I know myself or have seen with my own eyes I cannot be deceived in. I therefore assert most positively (and I know I am correct) that the 10 grs. of arsenic found in the stomach of the late Mrs. King, accumulated there from a repetition of small doses, not larger than those laid down in the pharmacopias. It is not at all necessary for me to assert that it was not given in poisonous doses, for it was clearly proved on the trial, that if it had been administered in poisonous doses then there would inevitably have been unmistakable signs of inflammation but, there was no trace of it to be found.

I do not mean to say that it does always accumulate, but in this case, it most certainly did. There are doubtless, certain conditions of the system which favours its elimination, but this case ought for ever to settle the long mooted question among Toxicologists as to the *cumulative doctrine of arsenic*.

If there are any scientific men who yet think that death resulted from arsenic or morphine, I would take this opportunity of undeceiving them. Those, only, who have laid it down as being an obscure case, have made an approximation to the truth. Alas! how easy it is to be mistaken. However, my own opinion is, that no scientific man,

now, believes that she came to her death by arsenic. No doubt, by this time, the reader is curious to know what *did* cause death. That has always been a secret to me, but now I will make it public. She died from the anaesthetic effects of chloroform and *not from opium or morphine* as many have supposed. Let this put aside all controversy on the *real* cause of death. The next question arises, how did she come to take it? who gave it? and the result.

It becomes necessary for me, here, to make a digression from the subject, and introduce the third actor of the scene, which is the unfortunate Miss Vandervoort, with this sad and lamentable affair; but since she has acted a prominent part in the "drama," it is quite impossible, in order to trace from cause to effect, to leave her off the stage. It is with much diffidence and delicacy and with due regard for her feelings and character that I introduce her name here, but it is unfortunately inseparably connected with my present most humiliating position.

I conceive her to be as fine a young lady as can be found in the Township of Sidney, but poor girl, she has immortalized her name in a very undesirable way. Had I never seen her, I should not be where I am. She has cost me my life, which is all any man *could* pay for a woman. Oh! what a precious jewel. What a *dear* (in a double sense) creature!

I will now proceed to give a short history of our acquaintance—Miss. V. came to my house on Thursday the 23d day of Sept. last. (I had never seen her before.) on a visit to see my late wife, with whom she had been acquainted for two or three years, I believe, I happened to be home, and after having received an introduction to her, we soon engaged in conversation, and finding her a very intelligent young lady, we became quite intimate. She remained about 4 hours until near evening, when I got my horse up and drove her and my wife down to my Father-in-laws, we stayed there about an hour, left her (Miss. V.) to stay all night and I drove home. My wife said to me, "Miss. V. says she has fallen in love with you. She loved you before she ever saw you?" I said that was very singular, indeed, when Mrs. K. went on to say that Miss. V. had seen my likeness while on a visit at my father-in-laws during the winter I was in Philadelphia attending Medical lectures and had fallen in love with me from the picture. This ended the conversation. The next day Miss. V. came back with my wife's brother to our place and remained that night with us. By this time I found out that she was a professed vocalist. She could sing 'Old Dog tray' 'Hazel dell' 'Kitty Clyde' &c., &c., &c., splendidly. I had heard many young ladies sing in Concerts in Philadelphia, and other places, but thought Miss. V. could surpass them all, and I passed some very flattering remarks on her musical taste and attainments.

In fact, her beautiful voice completely intoxicated me, besides, she could perform on the Piano, Melodian &c., What a desirable accomplishment in a companion thought I to myself.

Mrs. K. had no time at all, and I never knew her to sing a word. She had no taste for music, the very thing I was particularly fond

of—I had urged her very strongly to try to cultivate a taste for, and learn music, but it was quite impossible. Here was a great contrast between Mrs. K. and Miss. V. and myself were greatly enamored of each other. Actions speak louder than words, and I knew that she loved me, and that I could not help loving her in return, (it may be considered weakness in me to acknowledge it, but my motive is to tell the truth, and under these considerations I feel impressed to state the facts as they are) She was both *lovely* and *loving*. I looked upon her with all her personal charms, and attracting graces and virtues, her attainments and literary acquirements, her mild and affectionate disposition, her genial smiles and affable manners, her good character and winning ways, and while she perfectly reciprocated all my affections, it was as impossible for me *not* to love her as it would be to fly to the moon. Oh ! how I wish she had not fired the fatal dart into my heart. She knew long before this I did not love my wife, and no doubt on this account she felt more liberty or less restraint in giving expression to her feelings. Oh ! that fatal moment when our hearts met. When I viewed her as above described I just thought I could see, in her, the counter-part, of my own heart, as it were. The picture is not yet complete. My imagination became vivid. I thought what a little Heaven on earth, it would be to have such a help-meet (I think here my insanity commenced for I can call it nothing else, because reason was entirely dethroned and judgement not called into requisition or exercised at all, and by the bye if the jury had acquitted me on the ground of insanity they would only have done me justice) The public may call it what they choose, but now in my candid moments while reflecting on the past, present and future, and viewing everything which I did with all the influences brought to bear on me, I can call it nothing else but an *insane* act ; but this is a digression from my subject. To return then : I thought she was the most precious of Earth's pearls, the star of my existence. Something suggested to my mind what a contrast there would be between the state of bliss I could enjoy with Miss V. and the miserable existence I felt I had for nearly five years dragged out. My doctrine of the philosophy of human nature had always been this; that every heart has the object of its affections some where in the opposite sex, and that when ever we meet that object it will be made known to us as by intuition.

Here then, I had found the object of my affections and the next thing was to get possession of that precious gem I had found, but there presented one obstacle in the way—my wife. It was only now that I allowed the thoughts to enter my mind of doing anything to shorten her life.

If I had loved my wife (as every man ought or else not live with her) all the young ladies in christendom could never have led me astray by all the artifices they could devise ; but here I was completely thrown off my balance—in other words I was operated upon by two forces: viz : a position and a negative. The negative force was the absence of love for my wife (which I could not help if I were to be hanged) thus repelling me away from her and Miss V. a positive

force (and so powerful I could not resist) drawing me away in the same direction of the repelling force.

The law may compel man and wife to live together, but I defy it to compel them to *love* each other. Oh! how lamentable beyond description that so much misery and unhappiness should arise from unhappy marriages—Oh! woman! Oh! wine! Oh! money! Three roots to evil in the world. All useful when properly used, but dangerous when abused. Well when Miss V. returned home she was to send me her likeness which she did in a few days with a short note I answered according to request (my letter was published with the trial) and her letter (published) in reply came to me on the 24th Oct. I will here take my departure of Miss V. for the present and return to Mrs K. I will now proceed to narrate the chain of events and circumstances which seemed to conspire to lead me into this fatal snare: but before doing so I think it may be appropriate to introduce the symptomatology of the 3rd and 4th of Nov.

#### SYMPOTOMATOLOGY OF THE 3RD AND 4TH NOV.

Nov. 3rd Gave patient this morning a small dose of opium—was quite easy afterwards Dr. Fife called at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  A M. Complained of sore throat, fauces congested, difficult deglutition, some hoarseness, tongue coated yellow, and dry, pulse quick and frequent, Dr. F recommended a fomentation of hops to the throat and inhalation of the vapors of hops and vinegar, ordered me to continue treatment and left promising to bring Dr. Clark of Cobourg in at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12, but as Dr C. did not come to Brighton, Dr F. called at 7 in the evening and pronounced the patient better, she took a little nourishment, but did not vomit to day as formerly, felt almost free from pain, was quite harshe. When Dr. F. left he went to the bed and bade Mrs. K. good night, but while we had been in the office a few minutes, she had fallen into a doze and did not recognize him when he spoke to her. She soon awoke and insisted on her father, mother and myself all going to bed as she said we were all dogged out, having been up for nearly three weeks. She said she was quite easy and felt as if she would get a good night's rest, so we all went to bed (the old folks slept up stairs) about 9 o'clock. About 12 a rap came to the door for the "Dr." Her father got up, went to the door and told the man "the Dr.'s wife was very sick" and he cou'd not go, Mrs. K. heard the conversation at the hall door and urged me to go as it was an urgent case, telling me to be quick. The man went then for Dr. F. as I requested him. Her father came in the room, to the bed and did not get up till after daylight. We were awake a little before daylight. Mrs. K. said to me "I did no. love her." I said "why?" She then asked me "if I was engaged to be married to that girl in Sidney". I said "no" She said "our folks are almost crazy about it" "About what," said I. She said you are engaged to her." I said "you are crazy." She vociferated, "Oh! that b——ch," "that b——ch" and then "O! Lord take me out of this world I don't want to live." Can't you give me something?" Now, here was a temptation that I could not resist. It seemed to me as if the *very* thing which I desired had allowed thoughts for the past three weeks to pass

through my mind of trying to shorten her life, yet I would never have killed her by violent means, if the temptations had been a thousand times as powerful as they were; but here was (something whispered to me) just what you want and you will not be guilty yourself. I said "will you take anything yourself?" "O yes" responded she. The Devil said try chloroform. The thought of shooting, or stabbing or using any violent means to cause death would excite a perfect horror in my mind; nay more, I with all my insanity, would never have committed such a deed in the world; neither could I muster courage enough to administer a single dose of poison that I knew would kill. But the evil one said to me "here is just what you want." you can get the means and then your conscience will be clear, you can say you did not kill her &c &c. &c. he went into a very elaborate argument on the subject and finally (he all the time pictured Miss V before my mental vision in the most glowing style) I yielded to his suggestion, got a  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. vial containing about 1 drachm of chloroform which I gave her just day light. She seemed to be rather unconscious I watched the pulse, saw no change in its frequency or volume and thought that in a very few minutes the effects would pass off. I would here remark (and I will say the same thing on the 9th of June) that I did not believe that it would prove fatal I thought it would be an experiment, but I did not feel impressed that it would be fatal. My impression was that before the old folks got up, its effects would all have passed away, but I found myself deceived and after a reasonable time had elapsed I became very much alarmed. To continue the symptomatology; we all got up after daylight Mrs. K. was only partially unconscious at this time her mother and myself got her up by a little assistance and she sat in an easy chair while I washed her hands and face, bathed her neck &c., as we had been accustomed to do before and her mother made her bed she had taken no medicine from the evening before. While sitting in the chair she began to get quite dull and drowsy. We laid her down again and when asked a question she would seem to awake out of a sleep and answer, and fall immediately into the same state again with the eyes closed she continued to be this way until about 10 o'clock a.m. on the 4th when I became seriously alarmed. I now would have given the world, had it been in my possession to undo what had been done. Coma came on the respirations labored and rather sterterous and from 6 to 8 in the minute could be heard all over the house—did not appear to suffer the least pain—pulse soft and easily compressed. She soon got so that we could only wake her by taking hold and shaking her or by pinching the skin. I applied cold water affusions to the surface and caused her to inhale ammonia. She asked for nothing to eat or drink this day—nor took any medicine. cold water, camphor water and alcohol were applied to the surface. But soon profound coma came on and she did not speak for several hours before death except once about 2 hours before dissolution when she raised up in the bed and said The house was on fire Now I would have given worlds to have brought her to. I tried everything but could not succeed. O! what an awful feeling I then felt. How I repented, but, alack it was too late. I just began to realize what had

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been done. Oh! the bitter pangs that I experienced cannot be imagined. The Devil had led me headlong into difficulty, but now came the remorse of conscience. Oh! how sharp, how pungent! I felt like death, and thought I would die.

Dr. Fife called in at 3 o'clock p.m. and Dr. Gross at 4 p.m., but did nothing except feel the pulse. She lay perfectly quiet, eyes closed—pupils contracted and turned up—respirations 6 in the minute—no signs of subsultus tendinum or convulsions of any kind—the extremities were not cold until a few minutes before death. She expired at half past 7 p.m. without a struggle. My feelings at this time cannot be described by words. Were I to attempt it, language would entirely fail. I would have given ten thousand worlds, If I had possessed that much, to have done what was then impossible to do —, But I must here drop the curtain and proceed to notice one point which has done me very great injustice by fixing a prejudice in the minds of the public against me.

I refer to the testimony given on my late trial by the Father and mother of my late wife. Before I got any further I would say that I cherish no malice or ill feeling towards them in any way, but that for all the injustice they did me by their misstatements, I freely forgive them, I love their souls, could extend to them the right hand of fellowship and hope to meet them in Heaven. I shall be obliged to say on the scaffold that their testimony was a complete tissue of falsehood. I will mention a few of the most prominent points! 1st the statement that 'I held my wife down and would not allow her to vomit' God is my judge, and I can with a clear conscience in the moment of my death declare that I did not lay the weight of my finger on or touch her to prevent her from rising up and vomiting. 2d that 'I ordered the linens (chemise) burned because they had stains on them which were poison and which might poison some one' Now then let it be understood that these stains or discolorations were pronounced by the nitrate of silver (caustic) which every physician would be most apt to employ as a local application in treatment of the *os uteri*. These stains were in the linen for more than two months before the 14th Oct. My wife had shown them to me. I told her they were indelible stains of nitrate of silver, but did not mention 'poison'. This was the last I ever heard or thought about them till I were told they would be brought against me on the trial I believe it has been said that I even cut out the stains. The fact is I never saw them at all after my wife asked me what caused these stains (nearly three months before her death) till they were produced in court. Is it not simply absurd to believe such stuff, for they have never been in my reach, because as soon as my wife died my Father-in-law immediately after she was buried on Sunday sent for his boys and came with teams and insisted on taking every thing I had right away to his own place, but for Shamp's sake he was persuaded to wait till dark and then commenced packing and had his teams going all night, and by 9 o'clock on monday morning he had every article of furniture I had in my house, all my offic-

fixtures, and in fact every movable thing, so that all I had was the clothes on my back.

If there had been any thing about the clothes I did not wish seen, most certainly I would have destroyed them, ere they were removed I regret to learn that the jury men on viewing the cloths which were exhibited in court, were heard to remark that 'here is the poison that passed through her' (meaning through the bowels) and because there happened to be a place torn (caused I suppose by the rottenness of the cloth and much handling, though no portion was gone) they said see here he has tried to tear it out! Oh! Oh! Oh! Fatal mistake! Sad in deed!

Gentlemen of the jury did you not observe that the stains were on the front of the chemise, and therefore did not come from the bowels at all, but from the *vagina*? You ought not to have fallen into such a fatal delusion, besides arsenic could not cause such stains. If any one chooses to doubt my statement all they have to do is to send those stained clothes to Prof. Croft, Toronto, and he will soon by chemical test show that it is just what I say it is. If I tell a lie it is an easy matter to prove me a liar.

I should be sending my soul to hell by telling lies now therefore what I say may be taken for granted. 3rd that I sent my wife home to inform her parents that she had a disease of the womb, that she was liable to die very suddenly &c., &c.' I deny in toto ever having had such a thought in my mind, much less expressing it; 4th that 'I predicted my wife's death in her presence.' I did give an unfavorable prognosis of the case, but never said she *must* die, on the contrary I told Dr. Fife the night or two before she died I think in the presence of the parents, that I thought she would get well. 5th that 'I refused to have any other physician called in except Dr. Fife.' I never refused to have any one sent for except Dr Gross and I said if 'Annie' was willing to have him I would not object. I told them they could send and get any Dr. they wanted and on the Sunday before she died my wife's oldest brother got the horse at the door to go to Colborne for Dr. Pugh, and Mrs. Lawson went to the hall and deterred him from going on her own responsibility. I should remark that Mrs. K. would not consent, she said while she had her senses to have Gross called. There are many other statements made by the old man, and expressions coined by and original with himself, time is too precious to me to notice them here,

They swore that the last dose of medicine was whitish and that she never spoke about taking it which they knew themselves is entirely false. The fact is the powder referred to was a darkish colored substance (mer-gol) and produced no change whatever in the appearance or feelings of the patient. Oh! it ulls the blood in my veins almost to think of such false oaths. My earnest prayer to Almighty God is that he may give them true recompence, and pardon all their sins as He has mine and that I may meet them in Heaven. Their statements in reference to the vomiting &c., &c., are entirely incorrect (If my days were not now numbered and so few I would write a pamphlet of 13 or 16 pages on the symptoms, course and termina-

tion of her sickness, showing every remedy that was prescribed, how often repeated and its affects &c.)

With every grain of truth, they incorporated a mountain of falsehood and the crudity of the 19th century being almost infinite, there statements have left the impression on the minds of the masses that I am a man devoid of human feelings altogether. But here I must bid the old foolks *farewell.*

I will recapitulate and lay before the reader a bird's eye view, as it were, of the circumstances over which I had no control and which seemed to conspire to render me an easy prey to the tempter of all men. 1st then my ardent <sup>1</sup> ssions of love for the opposite sex (and of all the violent passions of the human heart, love is the strongest and most difficult to restrain) which nature has implanted in me 2nd that I was to young when I married and consequently easily flattered and deceived by one older than myself. 3rd the development of facts some three months subsequent to my marriage, which break my heart and rendered that which I once loved, now an object of hatred. I thought I had a virtuous wife, but had not, my peace gone—happiness ended for life. Oh! that unhappy marriage. Oh! that I had never married. 4th the unfortunate moment that I was introduced to Miss Vandervoort, which resulted in a union of our hearts nearly as instantaneously as two chemical affinities and resulting in a compound.

5th the absence of love for my wife or the negative force of which I spoke before repelling me away from her (for we are so constructed that we only love that which is beautiful or lovely in our eyes and we *cannot* love anything that appears hateful) 6th my love for Miss V. who, I must confess, led my heart captive—this a positive force tending to draw me still farther off my proper balance and driving me to the borders of insanity for here began my first insane notions. And the way I account for all this giving away to my afflictions is this: as I stated before, if I could have loved my wife after finding out that she was not the virgin I married her for, all the young ladies in christendom could never have infatuated me in the least; but as it was otherwise, it seemed as if all the affection I should have lavished upon my wife during the last four years, had remained dormant till this object presented itself and then completely overwhelmed me and from this dates my *insanity*. 7th. With all these facts I don't think I would ever have indulged in the thought of doing anything to get rid of my wife, if she had been perfectly well, but the fact is she had not seen a well day after the 8th of June before her death, (this can be proved by good witnesses;) so that when Miss V. was there on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th Sept., she was all the time complaining as she said of being 'half dead,' and from what she told of her feelings, I think left the impression on Miss V.'s mind that she (Mis. K.) had some fatal complaint about her. 8th. On the 28th of Sept. she fell from the buggy, striking on her head, as I detailed before, producing *concussion* of the brain, partial rupture of ligaments of the womb, and a whole train of other symptoms which I need not enumerate here, and after this she was not able to be about the house

scarcely at all. The devil would say to me after this 'everything is prospering finely, you will get your wish.' On the 14th Oct. she had the attack of '*cholera morbus*', which caused very great prostration, the moving sickness which had been very troublesome long before this now became more aggravated, the irritability of the stomach continued to within about two days of her death and then ceased. In reference to the treatment pursued I would just say, that I gave remedies according as indicated by the symptoms. 9th, The fact that she desired to die, prayed to God to take her out of the world, and asked for something to do it with the morning before she died, on the 4th Nov. The reader will remember what controversy took place between the devil and myself on that occasion, that he went into such an elaborate and powerful argument with me that I complied with her wishes but at the same time did not *feel* that it would terminate fatally.

Here you have briefly narrated the different successive steps that have led a young man just entering on the threshold of life into the most unfortunate position a human being can occupy. Oh! most fearful! What a fatal snare I have got into! what could be worse? Alas! how frail and weak is man. Oh! that the grace of God had restrained me from yielding to the suggestions of the evil one. I never drank a glass of spirituous liquor in my life. I never went to a house of ill-fame in my life. I never went to a theatre but once in my life, and the thought to swear did not come into my mind, from one year's end to another. I was perfectly honest in my intentions, could not bear to cheat anybody out of one cent. The golden rule of my life was 'to do unto others as I would they should do unto me.' But with all these things I had my weak points in common with all men; I was not without my besetting sins and my temptations were of such a character as to overcome me, and when I glance upon my past short life, I am forced to believe that we are the creatures of circumstance in this world to a very great extent. I feel this moment and shall while I have a being here that I am *the victim of the force of circumstances*. It seems to me and I cannot believe otherwise, that I have been unfortunate and almost unconsciously as it were driven to commit a deed which to satisfy the ends of justice demands my life. Oh! it is *hard*, it is *terrible* to contemplate an ignominious end! How lamentable bed and desirous. But what is my loss, I hope will be other's gain; and I cannot close without offering a solemn warning to the countless millions who now throng the busy pathway of life. To every young man who contemplates marriage at some future time, I would say take a glance over the last five years of my life and see where my misfortune began—in marriage. Remember it is the most important event or epoch in a man's existence, because the most important things result from the marriage contract—upon it will depend your weal or woe—it may not only ruin you in time, but also in eternity. Oh! think of it in all its relations and bearings and don't marry as young as I did.—Let no man sacrifice himself on the hymenial altar before he is 21 at least.

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It is no trifling matter. You can never know its importance until perhaps you find yourself into a miserable fix for life and then you may try to extricate yourself into a miserable pit or prison (for I used to feel as though I were in prison and get yourself into a worse one or on the gallows !

I mean what I say, and I say it for your own good. May you profit by my experience, my you exercise judgement and discretion in a matter of so much moment. The way to avoid trouble is not to get in. Better far, not to marry at all than to do so to your sorrow. To those who are married my parting advice is to pray to God for grace to guard you against all manner of temptation. Love your wives if you can possibly do so and use them kindly (for good women are dear creatures, in fact angels, I was always an ardent admirer of all the grace and virtues that adorn the female character and without them would be no refinement, no good society) and affectionately if you can ; but both men and women have their proper spheres in this life and sometimes they get united and there is no harmony in the family circle ; if you cannot love your wives my advice to you is to separate, for you will either do one of two things ; viz : be tempted to commit a crime perhaps that was the most foreign to your mind before, and that may force you first into goal, then in the criminal box to be put on trial for your life and have the sentence of death passed on you and thence face the halter and die a violent ignominious death amid a congregated multitude and go to a premature grave, or, you will be compelled to live a life of torture and drag out a miserable existence. If I had my life to live over again I should do neither of these things ; if I could not love my companion, as I did not, I should go to some foreign clime and spend my days in solitude.

Oh ! take a warning I earnestly entreat you. It is very important for you to know the rock on which I split. Here I am deprived of my liberty and civil rights, (and oh ! how sweet would liberty taste to me now) my motives impugned ; my character gone ; my reputation which I had labored long and toiled hard (many a midnight) to acquire blasted ; my name an abomination and myself set up as a public target at which the world directs its shafts of scorn contempt and ignominy ; my parents and brothers and sisters grieved, heart broken and disgraced ; nay more, my body confined within the walls of the dark, dreary and lonely prison, kept there by bars and iron gates, with an arched stone canopy over my head, deprived of the pure balmy air of Heaven to inhale into my lungs, nor allowed to behold the beauties of the noon day sun, nor to see the very grass laugh at the radiance of the noon day rays, nor to view all nature as she is putting on the garb of loveliness ; nor to enjoy the pleasures of the social circle, nor to taste the sweets of liberty, nor even allowed to attend public worship to hear the Gospel preached, but on the contrary have to look forward to nothing else but that ignominious and violent death on the 9th of June when I must go hence to be no more, when I must sever all those ties that bind me to my kindred relations, take a short glance at perhaps thousands who will

out of morbid curiosity be assembled on that melancholy occasion, and bid Farewell to earth and then drop into eternity !

Now my dear friends, strangers or whoever you are, take a warning, take a warning and avoid the very appearance of evil, you have above a daguerreotype of just what you might come to or in other words you might look into this mirror and see yourselves only for the goodness of God. Oh ! may God bless all who are similarly situated to what I was and give you his restraining grace to keep you from following my tracks: I have confined myself to a statement of facts without endeavouring to make any display. My time is very short and Oh ! how precious, therefore, I must take my departure of and bid a long Farewell to all those who will not hear the sound of my voice *Farewell ! Farewell !*

Wm. H. KING M. D.

**Letter from G. F. Butler, President of  
the Hahnemannian Medical Insti-  
tute, Philadelphia, to Dr. King,  
while in Gebeurg Jail.**

{ Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U. S. A.,  
{ March 3d, 1859.

To whom it may concern:

At a regular meeting of the Hahnemannian Medical Institute of the Homoeopathy Medical College, of Pennsylvania, March 2d, 1859, Thos Geo. Edwards, M. D., of Texas, arose and laid before the Institute, the unfortunate position of our estimable acquaintance, and former President William Henry King, M. D. of Brighton, Canada West. Where it was unanimously moved that this Institute do forward to the authorities concerned in the trial of said Wm. H. King, a concise statement of the position, and unexceptionable deportment, of said King while a member of this Inst. Mr. King was elected President of this Institution at the commencement of the session of 57 and 58; and retained the chair during the entire session. In this capacity Mr. King displayed eminent talent in conducting the affairs of the Institution : winning from all their respect and esteem for his decision of character and superiority of intellect. As a student, Mr. King had no superiors in his class : as a man he was universally beloved for his amiable manners, and kind and gentle disposition. Mr. King we looked upon as a man of unexceptionable habits ; his seat in the College was never vacant, and his marked attention during lectures stamped him as a student in every sense of the word. Judging from Mr. King's irreproachable conduct while a member of this institution, it would seem that he is more the victim to the force of circumstances rather than any intentional crime of his own. Hoping this testimo-

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nial of Mr. King's former unimpeachable character may receive some attention from your honorable body.

I am your ob't servant,

CHAS. F. BUTLER, Pres Hahn. Med. Inst.  
EDWARD RAWSON, Sec. Hahn. Med. Inst.

## PRISON SCENES.

The object the writer has in view in compiling this chapter is to present the public with facts and sayings of the Dr. which will be found particularly interesting as they show the state of his mind during the last few days of his life.

On Wednesday p.m. the 8th of June, I visited the Dr. in the cell in company with Geo J. of Brighton; after passing through a hall we entered a dark ally, passed through a heavy door which opened into a hall which was used by the Dr. as a sort of reception room for visitors, and to exercise in. When I entered the cell it was under the most distressing circumstances mentally, that could be imagined. I was about to be brought into the presence of one whom I had known under the most promising circumstances in which a young man could be placed, surrounded by wealth and kind friends, health influence and every thing that could render life happy but now Oh, how fallen ! surrounded by gloomy walls, and instead of kind friends was the officers and police men, and outside of the prison was the scaffold erecting the scaffold from which he was to be launched into eternity. Reader imagine yourself entering the prison house of a former intimate and highly esteemed friend now under sentence of death acknowledging the justice of the sentence, and his guilt in the commission of one of the blackest of crimes and if you possess a very sensitive mind you can form some idea of my feelings while passing through those gloomy halls. But when I met the Dr. his remarkable composure in a great measure relieved my feelings from the embarrassment I had experienced. He seemed perfectly composed if not happy. He talked about his execution and funeral with as much ease and freedom as any person outside the prison ; He even spoke of some outstanding accounts which earnestness.

When I first entered the prison he very cordially enquired after my health bid me be seated and commenced conversation upon some general matters respecting my receiving his likeness and the publication of his biography.

I showed him the first few pages of his life already published by myself, which contained an account of his early life, his elopement with Miss V, and the coroner's inquest which he read and commented upon as each sentence came under his observation, which he deemed worthy of notice. I reminded him of his present situation and the object of my visit, requesting him to correct any statements which are incorrect and make any others he wished to go be-

fore the public, stating that I would have them published, as he gave them.

His first remarks were upon the love which he bore to his wife for the first three months after marriage, which was very ardent on both sides.

He said that Mr. Lawson never gave him any money to defray the expenses of his education in Philadelphia, except a fifty dollar Gold piece, which he (Dr. King) had repaid, and unless Mr. Lawson would give up to the Dr.'s father some furniture which belonged to the Dr. the debt would be paid four or five times over. Mr. Lawsons version of the case is, that he (Mr. L) gave him the \$50 and at an other time the late Mrs. King sold a cow which had been given her, and sent the money to the Dr. while he was in Philadelphia, and if I mistake not borrowed more of her friends, making in all a sum of about \$100 which had never been repaid and that the furniture in the house belonged to Mrs. K, as a part of her marriage portion.

He said that the report which was circulated about his disliking his child was false, that no parent ever likod his child better than he did. He said that the child was unnatural in its formation about the abdomen, which caused its death. This statement was corroborated by a Mrs. Allison of Codrington. He denied having held down his wife when she had taken his medicine—Said that he might have touched her, but thought not. He denied having prayed during Mrs. King's illness—said that he never done so after he received Miss Garrett's letter on the 5th of June; but previous to that time he did so. When Mr. Hunt called upon Mrs. K. he merely responded to certain petition which the Rev. Gentleman offered up for the salvation of her soul. He said that Miss Garrett wrote the first letter to him, asking him if he considered her health to be good enough to warrent her in getting married. He replied he did, and asked her if he was not to bold or inquisitive why she referred the question to him, she replied again, that she had an offer of marriage, but yet the gent was not the man of her choice; and if she was to choose for herself the Dr. would be the man above all others to whom she could like to give her hand; this was the first of the correspondence between them, and from that he conceived the first idea of marrying some other woman. He said that her letter was fascinating, but yet he never had any idea marrying her, that he had never had his mind fixed upon any person until he saw Miss Vandervoort, and in her he saw the very counterpart of himself. Her talent for music was what first charmed him.

He said that his wife was a kind good hearted woman, a good house keeper and very economical but very illiterate, and would not try to improve her mind. But that was no excuse for him, he had done the deed and his punishment was just; he said that he was the sole perpetrator of the crime, no other person had any knowledge of his guilt but himself. But the girls had a wonderful influence upon his conduct, but he would not criminate them. During the time of my stay in the prison the Dr. spoke very earnestly about seeing Mr. and Mrs. Lawson, that night by 12 o'clock, not to talk over the past,

but to have a mutual forgiveness passed between them. He solicited Mr. J. to telegraph to them, which he did ; they did not get the telegram until dark, and the reply was that the notice was too short at which the Dr. seemed much disappointed. When about to part he held me some time by the hand, said that before another evening his soul would be in heaven ; then Oh what an unfortunate man ! and several such like expressions—said that he loved all men and wished all to forgive him, as he wished to die in charity with all, said that he felt no fear of death as his sins were all forgiven, said it was extremely painful for him to speak any thing against his late wife, but what he had written was truth, and facts are facts, and truth is truth ; after which he said that Rev. Mr. V. was to preach his funeral sermon, on the 12th, at Codrington, and wished me to be present ; after which I bade him farewell, at 7.15 p. m., again to mingle with the crowd who had come to see the scaffold.

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## ADDRESS ON THE SCAFFOLD.

MY FELLOW CHRISTIANS,—I stand before you to-day in the most awful position in which a human being can be placed—convicted of the most dreadful of all crimes, and sentenced by the laws of my country to pay the penalty of my guilt by sacrificing my own life. It is very hard to be deprived of my life in comparative youth ; but I do not dispute the justice of my sentence, nor find fault with the most righteous dispensations of an all-wise Providence. I have had time to think over the evil of my ways : to bewail my grievous sins and great wickedness with a deep contrition, and to go to the fountain of healing for pardon. I have besought almighty God night and day for forgiveness. I look to the cross of Christ, to the merits of His precious sacrifice as my only stay, my only hope. Unworthy as I feel myself to be of God's comparison, I have a firm reliance upon His gracious redemption, that He will not the death of a sinner. I humbly and devoutly believe that He has pardoned me, chief of sinners though I be, for the merits of Jesus Christ our blessed Redeemer.

I fully and entirely confide in the all sufficiency of His atonement, and I humbly trust, that through the efficacy of His precious blood my Heavenly Father will accept me, a broken hearted penitent, into His kingdom of peace and blessedness.

I entreat my fellow Christians to take warning from my fate, and to beware of the temptations of the evil one. I have been blinded by the evil passions of our corrupt nature, and seduced into the greatest

of crimes through the instigations of the corrupt flesh and the snares of the devil. I affectionately exhort you to guard against this, and to seek steadfastly the grace of God as your only sufficient protection and safeguard. Acknowledge Him in all your ways; live in the fear and love of God; honor his Sabbaths; keep close to Him in prayer and the reading of His word, and maintain communion with Him in the blessed ordinances of religion.

My christian friends, I leave this world in charity with all men and with a heartfelt prayer that God would bless the souls of all my brethren of the human race. I pray that His kingdom of peace and truth may spread everywhere, and that His will may be done on earth as surely and universally as it is in heaven.

In these, my last moments, I heartily thank all those who have shewed me any kindness, especially those who have aided me during my recent trials with their counsel and their prayers, and from my soul I forgive all those who have done me any wrong or injustice.

I beseech you, my dear christian friends, pray for me now; join your prayers with mine, that my faith may not fail at this my last hour,—that no weakness of the flesh, no power of Satan, may separate me from God. Pray that I may experience His full pardon, and that being living as I do heartily and sincerely in the Lord Jesus Christ, at deeply contrite for sins, I shall be saved.

WM. H. KING.

Cobourg Jail, June 9, 1859.



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