

APPEARANCES

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Case of Jessie Beck

Witnesses

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 Mrs. M. Kuhlman X
 M. D. Degge X
 Wm St. Musick X
 A. R. Husskamp X
 Lillie M. Polan X
 Dr. Robert Allin X
 George Gaeleick X
 G. Berg X
 Conner X
 145 St. Louis X
 Wm McCarly (from Degge) X
 Wm F. A. Neel

Jurors

M. Dougherty
 Business B. W. E.
 Charles J. Men
 South East cor. 17
 L. W. Brockmeyer
 Planing mill 1255
 J. P. Diefly Man
 for Lehigh Niederhaus 10
 Franklin ave.
 J. L. Peterson dealer
 in hardware, 911
 Franklin Avenue
 George. Dinn
 Broker. 912 Franklin
 Avenue.

STATE OF MISSOURI,
CITY OF ST. LOUIS.

At an Inquisition indented, taken at

Coroner's Office
36

in the City of St. Louis, on the *August 1887*
of *Susan Beck alias Annie Abbott* before me, *S. L. NIDDELT*, Coroner of the City aforesaid, upon the view of the body of *Susan Beck alias Annie Abbott*

AGE.	SOCIAL STATE.	BORN.	OCCUPATION.	RESIDENCE.
<i>24 yrs</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Indiana.</i>		

then and there lying dead, six good and lawful men, householders of the City of St. Louis, who, being sworn and charged diligently to inquire, and true presentment make, how and in what manner and by whom, the said *Susan Beck alias Annie Abbott* came to his death, upon their oaths do say, *Susan Beck alias Annie Abbott* came to her death at about 4 o'clock, a.m. July 18th 1887 at no. 713 N. Jefferson Ave from the effects of arsenical poisoning and we the jury are of the opinion that the arsenic was administered to her by *Wm Thomas Abbott* Next alias *Thomas Abbott*,

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, As well the aforesaid Coroner, as the Jurors aforesaid, have to this Inquisition put their names, at the place, and on the day and year first above mentioned.

Witnesses:

S. L. Niddelet CORONER, *Seal*

Mc. Dougherty *Seal*

Chas. J. Murr *Seal*

McBreckinridge *Seal*

John C. Peterson *Seal*

Geo. W. Dunn *Seal*

Ind. B. Duffy *Seal*

Inquest held at the coroner's office, City of St. Louis,
on the body of Susan Beck, on the 3rd day of August,
1887, at 3-25 P. M.

J. C. COULTER being duly sworn, testified as
follows:-

DIRECT - EXAMINATION

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is your full name Mr. Coulter?

A. John C. Coulter.

Q. Where is your residence?

A. Chesterton, Porter County, Indiana.

Q. How long have you lived there?

A. I came to that place in the winter of 1853, in the month of
February.

Q. You came over here to see Susie Beck and look at the body at
the morgue, did you identify that body?

A. I did.

Q. Whose body was it?

A. That of Susie Beck.

Q. Alias Annie Abbot, that was the name she went by?

A. That was the name she went by.

Q. By what marks did you identify her Mr. Coulter?

A. First by the general appearance of the body, second by
the hair, third by defects in two of her teeth.

Q. Her front teeth?

A. Yes, sir.

I

Q. How long have you known Susan Beck?

A. Well, I am unable to say just exactly how long, but ever since she was born, she was born I think in our town or near.

Q. She was born in Chesterton?

A. I am not positive whether she was born in Chesterton, but she was either born there or near there.

Q. About what age is she?

A. I should judge her to be somewhere near 24.

Q. Is she single, she is not married?

A. She is single for all I know.

Q. You have seen her every few days for the last 10 years?

A. Yes, sir, I have seen her frequently.

Q. Down at your house?

A. She frequently came to my house.

Q. You saw her on the street?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You saw her at church?

A. At church, yes, sir.

Q. So that you have seen her often enough to recognize her under almost every circumstance?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the condition of her face when you saw her at the morgue, was it swollen much?

A. The condition of the face, it was swollen.

Q. There was no trouble about your identifying this body there as that of Susie Beck?

A. Not a bit of doubt in my mind.

Q. How did you come to come to the City Mr. Coulter?

A. By the request of the citizens of Chesterton.

Q. On what grounds were you requested to come?

A. Because of the information that had been received concerning this Abbot here and because of the ~~business~~ absence of Susie Beck from our place.

Q. When did she disappear from Chesterton?

A. I think it was the 21st day of June.

Q. Do you know about what date West disappeared from there?

A. He disappeared from there some few days prior, some two or three days prior, perhaps I am not positive as to that, but about 2 or 3 days prior to that.

Q. Had she, Susan, any cause for leaving her place of residence?

A. Well, the way I understood it she wanted to go to her brother, she made that excuse.

Q. Where did he live?

A. He lived about 15 miles from Chesterton.

Q. In what direction?

A. In a south-westwardly direction.

Q. And which is the direction of Valpariso from Chesterton?

A. About south.

Q. Would she be on the road to her brother's if she was on the Valpariso road?

A. Yes, sir, she was going that way.

Q. Is that the most direct road?

A. Well, yes, it is the most traveled over, you can go another way by going across the country, but if she would go to Valpa-

riso, she would take the cars and go within 2 miles of where her brother lived, I believe 2 miles or 2 1/2 miles.

Q. Did she go there?

A. Well, report says not.

Q. That is what I am asking you?

A. She did not go there.

Q. What became of her, do you know, after she left Chesterton, I mean according to report?

A. Well, report says she went to Chicago.

Q. She went to Chicago?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Direct?

A. Well, she went on the cars so she said in her letter, so the letter stated.

Q. Who did she leave Chesterton with?

A. She left with a widow woman.

Q. What is her name?

A. Mrs. Letts.

Q. Did Mrs. Letts go through to Chicago with her?

A. Mrs. Letts lived at Valpariso and was down at Chesterton with a buggy, and Susie got in the buggy and started off with her to Valpariso.

Q. Well, did she go to Valpariso with her?

A. She went part of the way.

Q. Where did she change her mind?

A. Mr. West came towards Chesterton in a buggy.

Q. By West you mean this man Abbot?

A. Yes, sir.

- Q. Well, tell what occurred afterwards Mr. Coulter?
- A. Mrs. Letts stated that Susie got out of the buggy and got into the buggy with West.
- Q. Where did they go?
- A. They went on to the town of Valpariso.
- Q. Did any one see them get on the train there?
- A. I don't know that they did.
- Q. This was on the 21st?
- A. On the 21st I think it was, the 21st that was Sunday, I think it was Sunday evening.
- Q. The 21st of June?
- A. Yes, sir, the 21st of June, I have got it ~~in~~ in my memorandum the 21st.
- Q. Did you hear from her afterwards, or her mother, do you know?
- A. There was a letter came to her parents which you have here, I presume, purporting to be from her.
- Q. Do you know the date of that letter?
- A. Not exactly.
- Q. But it was from Chicago was it?
- A. It was from Chicago, yes, sir, I am positive as to that but not positive as to the date.
- Q. Did rumor connect the name of West and Susan Beck in your City or town in a criminal manner, were the names of these two connected in criminal intimacy, was that the rumor of the town?
- A. Yes, sir, there appeared to be a rumor to that effect.
- Q. Had this girl heard it?

A. Well, I believe so, I am not positive.

Q. Was that her occasion for leaving the City?

A. That is supposed to be.

Q. Then the next you heard was a communication from this City, or did you see some publication?

A. The next that I knew anything about it was a clipping taken from the Inter Ocean at South Bend and sent to our place by the presiding elder whose name is Beck --- no --- well, I think it was Beck, I would not be certain, and he underlined the important part of the item and then he wrote on a piece of paper "substitute West for the name of Abbot and you have my suspicions.

Q. That was at what time, what date?

A. Well, it is since the 23rd of July.

Q. Where was West at that date?

A. We don't know.

Q. The 23rd of July?

A. Did I say the 23rd of July?

Q. Yes, you did?

A. He was at Chesterton on that date.

Q. He was at home on the 23rd?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Here are some samples of dress goods Mr. Coulter, look these over carefully and see if these are the samples given you by Susan Beck's mother, as clothes that she should have had when she left home?

A. Well, I swear they are.

Q. Did you see the dress in which she was buried?

A. I did.

Q. Is there a sample ~~XXXXXX~~ among these goods that corresponds to that dress?

A. There is, this piece here. (indicating)

Q. These other samples her mother gave you herself?

A. Her mother gave me these samples, I never saw them on her that I remember, if I did I didn't take particular notice, these others were given to me yesterday afternoon, her father gave them to me.

Q. Did she take away some clothing made of this material? (indicating material to witness)

A. She took away a dress of that material.

Q. And these others were dress goods?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What sort of a conveyance did she have, had she a trunk or a hand satchell, or what?

A. She had a little hand satchell.

Q. Now, do you know anything material in this case that I haven't asked you about Mr. Coulter, that would throw light on this case?

A. No, I don't know any as I know of except the remarks I have heard; I did not talk with Mr. West after he came back, I saw him but once and that was when he got off the train and walked up through the town with his wife, the same evening ~~that~~ that he came back.

Q. He telegraphed to his wife that he was sick?

- A. "Husband sick" I think the telegram said "scandal false,
come immediately" I think is the telegram, signed "Thomas.
- Q. You expected when he came home he would be carried out on a
stretcher?
- A. I did think that, and I was eating supper when the train came
in and I told my wife "I am going to get up and see them car-
ry brother West home" and I went down and behold he was
tripping along by the side of his wife.
- Q. Was that on the afternoon of the day on which she had received
the telegram?
- A. She received the telegram in the morning, the telegram came
in the night and she received it in the morning and went on
the early train.
- Q. And returned the same day?
- A. Returned in the evening at 6 o'clock to our place.
- Q. What date?
- A. July 21st.
- Q. That was the day he came home sick or alleged to be sick?
- A. Yes, sir.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

M A R T H A K U L H M A being duly sworn testified as
follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer,

- Q. Whereabouts do you reside?

A. 713 Jefferson Ave.

Q. Are you keeping house there?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you rent out any of your rooms?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Please tell the jury when and what date, this Annie Abbot or Susan Beck came to you and how she came and engaged the room?

A. She came on the 13th day of July, on the evening of the 13th.

Q. The 13th day of July?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who came with her?

A. Mr. Abbot, he called himself Abbot.

Q. Did they engage the room for any length of time?

A. Yes, sir, they engaged it for a month.

Q. Did they pay you for a month?

A. No, sir, they paid me nothing.

Q. Did he make a promise to pay you?

A. He did.

Q. How was he to pay, weekly or at the end of the month?

A. At the end of the month.

Q. Was he recommended to you by any one?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. By whom?

A. Mr. Yandall, the furniture dealer.

Q. Did he say that he would want this room for one month?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Or longer probably?

A. Perhaps longer.

Q. Did he say that he was working anywhere?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that he would pay you when he received money for his labor?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where did he say he was working?

A. At those plate works.

Q. This electro plate works?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Mr. Degge's place?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was Susan Beck taken sick?

A. She was sick when she came.

Q. She was sick when she came there?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How was she complaining?

A. She seemed so weak and faint and sick at the stomach.

Q. Was she vomiting?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. The first day she came in?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. In the evening?

A. She had not been in the house 5 minutes until she was very sick.

Q. Did she tell you she had been sick any length of time?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did she say anything about her condition at all to you?

A. No, sir.

Q. You noticed only that she was sick?

A. Only that she was sick.

Q. Was she purging at this time she was vomiting?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. At the same time?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. This was on the 13th?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was she taken to her bed?

A. The next morning.

Q. The 14th?

A. She went right to bed when she got to the room.

Q. And did not get out of the bed any more?

A. No, sir.

Q. She was sick then the night of the 13th and when did she die?

A. On the morning of the 18th.

Q. What time in the morning?

A. 2 o'clock.

Q. The symptoms were the same all the time were they?

A. Yes, sir, all the time.

Q. What were the symptoms please Mrs. Kulhna?

A. Vomiting and purging.

Q. With any other symptoms?

A. I didn't notice any at all.

Q. Did she complain of any pain?

A. No, sir.

Q. At any time?

A. No, sir.

Q. What was the character of the stuff she vomited up, did you notice?

A. Well, it looked watery.

Q. Was it like the white of an egg?

A. No, I don't think it was.

Q. Was it greenish?

A. Something like that, of a greenish color.

Q. Did she take any nourishment during this time she was sick?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did she retain it?

A. No, sir.

Q. Vomited it always?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then she went to bed on the night of the 13th and never got up out of the bed and died the morning of the 18th at 2 o'clock

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see her dresses Mrs. Kulhna?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see anything like any of these goods? (goods shown witness)

A. Yes, sir, this one and this one, these two (indicating)

Q. Did you see any like that other specimen?

A. No, sir, I didn't see any like that.

Q. What became of her baggage?

A. He took it away with him.

Q. Were these dresses all taken away?

A. Yes, sir, everything was taken away.

Q. Everything was taken away?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see her dressed for burial?

A. No, sir.

Q. Had she a dress like this? (showing goods)

A. Yes, sir, she had that on when she came there.

Q. She had that on when she came to your house?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he engage the room from you or Mr. Yandall?

A. He engaged the room from me.

Q. What did he say he wanted the room for?

A. For housekeeping.

Q. For himself and whom?

A. His wife.

Q. He said she was his wife?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he wanted the room for housekeeping for himself and wife?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What time did he first call a physician there?

A. Friday.

Q. Well, give the date please?

A. I think it was in the afternoon, I don't remember.

Q. Well, he came there on the 13th and what day was that?

A. It was Thursday evening.

Q. And on the evening of the 14th he called a physician in for the first time?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was the Dr. in constant attendance, there daily?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he change his prescription often?

A. I don't remember.

Q. Did you have any conversation with the Dr.?

A. No, sir, not much.

Q. Had you any conversation with Susan Beck about West or Abbot?

A. No, sir.

Q. You had no conversation with her on the subject at all?

A. No, sir.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

M I S S. L I L L I E M. D O L A N being duly sworn
testified as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. 713 North Jefferson Ave.

Q. Do you reside there with your mother?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who is your mother?

A. Mrs. E. W. Kulhna.

Q. Were you there when Mr. Abbot and his wife came to the house?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you hear a conversation that occurred between them and

your mother?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. He represented himself as the husband of this lady he had with him?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he wanted to engage rooms for a month?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you have any conversation with Mrs. Abbot?

A. No, sir.

Q. You didn't go into the room where she was?

A. I was in there but not to talk with her.

Q. Didn't have anything to say to her at all?

A. I spoke to her but I didn't talk with her.

Q. Did you notice that anything was ailing with her?

A. I know that she was sick.

Q. In what manner?

A. Well, she was weak and faint and sick at her stomach.

Q. She was vomiting was she?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did she complain of any pain?

A. Not to me she did not say anything.

Q. How much were you in the room, how often were you in the room?

A. Well, I was only in there two or three times to straighten up a little.

Q. Only for a few minutes?

A. Yes, sir, that is all.

Q. Did you see any of her clothing?

A. No, sir, only what she had on.

Q. What she had on when she came there?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. See if you can pick out there what she had on when she came to your house?

A. She had on this green dress.

Q. That material?

A. I saw her with this dress, she had that on next morning after she came there.

Q. The next morning?

A. Yes, sir.

By a juror:- Did you understand from the lady that she ~~xx~~ was married to this man West or Abbot?

A. She did not say so but she gave us to understand that, at least he did, she did not say anything.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

D R. E. R. A L B I N being duly sworn testified as
follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. Give your name in full Dr.?

A. Edward Roby Albin.

Q. Where is your place of residence?

A. 2305 Franklin Ave.

Q. You are a regular practicing physician?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were you called at any time to see a sick person at 713 Jefferson Ave.?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When Dr. what date?

A. On Friday morning previous to her death, I think it was about the 16th, I am not positive about that.

Q. About what?

A. It was on Friday morning, whether it was the 16th I am not certain, it was on Friday morning that I was called.

Q. Friday morning would be the 14th?

A. Well, it was Friday morning.

Q. What time in the morning was it?

A. Well, he came in my office and told me that ---- I think probably it was about 7 o'clock or may be between 7 and 8 o'clock, he came into the office and told me that his wife was running off at the bowels and vomiting and that she drank a good deal of ice water the day before, and that he would like me to go and see her, I gave him a prescription right off to have it filled.

Q. Before seeing her?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was that prescription, do you remember?

A. I believe there was Bismuth and Oxide of zinc and a little morphine.

Q. How much bismuth?

A. I expect it was about 10 grains to the dose I think, I cannot say positively but I gave about 10 grains of Bismuth and 5

grains of oxide of zinc and a little morphine.

Q. How much was in the whole mass, how much bismuth; was it a two ounce bottle or three ounce bottle?

A. I gave powders only, it was in powders.

Q. 10 grains, how many powders were there?

A. Well, I am not positive, I may only have given her 5 grains at a dose, I am not certain but I think probably I gave her -- well now I could not tell exactly how much the prescription contained.

Q. Did he tell you at the time you wrote this prescription, what he thought the trouble with her was?

A. Running off at the bowels and vomiting and of course I considered it a case of cholera morbus, that she had been drinking a good deal of ice water the day before; I was going over to see her in a couple of hours afterwards, probably an hour and a half, I had not eaten my breakfast, and I waited until after breakfast.

Q. He did not tell you anything about what caused this running off at the bowels?

A. He said he supposed that she had drank a good deal of ice water the day before.

Q. The Thursday preceeding?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You got over there to see her at what time?

A. I expect it was between 9 and 10 o'clock.

Q. Between 9 and 10 o'clock on Friday morning?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What condition did you find her in?

A. She was vomiting, she told me she had been running off at the bowels and her pulse was fast and I inquired if she vomited up the medicine that he gave her, and inquired how many doses he had given her, and I don't remember how many he said he had given but he said she had thrown it up, I repeated the doses again.

Q. The powders, you had the original powders?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long did she retain them?

A. I don't suppose she retained the powder a minute hardly, then I said I will put a little of this powder on her tongue and that probably would settle her stomach, that was a little powder of morphine, I laid it on the tongue to stop the vomiting.

Q. How long were you in the room?

A. I suppose 15 minutes.

Q. How many times did she vomit during that time?

A. Only once --- yes, I am satisfied it was only once, because I told her if she commenced to vomit to have some ice water to dash in the face and probably that would excite the nerves and she would not vomit, and if I am not mistaken I did it myself there.

Q. What was the character of the matter vomited?

A. It was of a yellowish character.

Q. In quantity?

A. Very little.

Q. Did he say to you that she had been vomiting for several days in that manner?

A. He told me, I believe, that she had commenced the night before running off at the bowels and vomiting, that was on Thursday night, the night preceeding the morning of my first visit.

Q. Was she purging when you saw her?

A. I never saw her have an operation.

Q. Did they tell you?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did she complain of any pain?

A. No, but she said she had pain over the bowels there and also in the small of her back, and mostly complained of pain in the small of her back.

Q. Did she complain of any burning pain?

A. She didn't complain to me.

Q. Any pain in the stomach ?

A. No, sir, right at the bowels and in the umbelical part, towards the stomach.

Q. Did you make any examination of the abdomen?

A. I felt the abdomen to see if there was pain on pressure.

Q. There was no pain on pressure?

A. No, sir.

Q. Was the abdomen swollen?

A. No, sir, I didn't detect any swelling about the abdomen, just natural.

Q. You never saw this vomiting only once?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. In all your time of attendance?

A. Yes, sir, I think it was only once in all the time I was attending her.

Q. Was there any trace of blood in the vomit?

A. I did not detect any trace of blood, I inquired into the color of the stool they said it was watery and I was giving bismuth and I thought it would turn black and I inquired of them and they said it was watery.

Q. Did they say at any time that she had passed blood?

A. No, sir.

Q. She had purged blood I mean?

A. No, sir, they said always watery.

Q. You saw her then Friday morning the 14th, did you see her again that day?

A. I went back Friday evening and saw her again.

Q. She was in the same condition?

A. Yes, sir, if anything it seemed to me, I thought probably she might be a little bit better, that is they told me the vomiting had not been so frequent and the running off at the bowels and she did not complain of any pain then.

Q. Then on the 15th you saw her once or twice?

A. That was the next day, I saw her twice.

Q. On the 15th?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was her condition on the morning of the 15th?

A. On the morning of the 15th I had pretty good hopes, I thought she was going to get well, while her pulse was fast and she

was weak, and on either Friday night or Saturday morning her pulse was 148.

Q. On the 15th, in the evening, was she as well Dr. during your evening visit as she was in the morning visit?

A. Well, from the pulse I didn't think she was so well, and she seemed to be growing gradually weaker, but she seemed to be feeling some better, that was on Saturday, I asked her how she felt and she said she felt some little uneasy some way or another and had vomited, though she was getting along a little better and they said that she had only had 3 or 4 operations on Saturday; I noticed that he was constantly feeling her pulse and saying to her that her pulse was bad --- no that was Saturday evening, and I took him out and I said "see here you quit feeling your wife's pulse and talking to her in this way, you will scare her to death", I told him that she was low enough anyway and that they must try and encourage her.

Q. Did he know how to take her pulse?

A. Yes, sir, he knew how to take her pulse, in fact I didn't want him to do that, I didn't want to let him know that she was so bad but he knew it.

Q. Knew himself?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, then, Sunday morning what condition did you find her in?

A. Sunday morning I thought she was considerable better and I asked her how she felt; on Saturday night I saw her twice, he came over to the office, he thought she was about to die and

he came over to the office again and while he was over at the office I was passing by the house and I stopped in as I passed by the house, so I went over to the office and he was there waiting for me, and I said "no she is not so dangerous as you think, there is some danger but I am not afraid at all, and I told him he must not be so uneasy about her but that he must encourage her, that was Saturday night and on Sunday morning I went over to see her and I thought she was much better, I asked her if she felt like eating anything; she had'nt eaten anything, she had drank some coffee on Saturday and thrown it up, and she said she thought she could eat a little, and I asked her if she would like to have a fresh egg half boiled and she said she could take some of that she thought, then we had a fresh egg half boiled and she took a little of the egg and some sweet milk, and so I told him again that he must encourage her, I went up stairs to another patient and stayed there probably 10 minutes or a little longer and I left orders to have her hands and face and breast bathed in cold water if she felt sick so as to keep what she had eaten down, and before this I gave her a dose of bismuth and afterwards I gave her a dose of pepsine.

Q. After you had given her this egg?

A. Yes, sir, she only took probably between one third and a half of the egg and she said she had enough, and she took a couple of swallows of sweet milk, I went up stairs to see a patient and came down again and she had not vomited, I was also giving her ~~oxalate of cerium~~ ^{oxalate of cerium} because I thought the vomiting was being

caused by her being pregnant.

Q. Well, wait a bit?

A. I think the medicine gave out between 11 o'clock on Sunday morning and 12, probably the last dose was given her at that time.

Q. Did you stop the bismuth?

A. I was giving her some bismuth but I was giving more ~~XXXXX~~ ^{oxalate of cerium} ~~XXXXX~~, that would be about between 11 and 12, something before noon Sunday, and I told him to come and get some more Sunday morning, he didn't come and Sunday afternoon I went over probably about 5 o'clock, she had had then between 3 and 4 operations and he told me just after I left, she had thrown up what she had eaten before with terrible force, spattered it all over the door and side of the house and she got turned against milk, and so I got my brother to come down and see her.

Q. This was Sunday afternoon?

A. Yes, sir, about 5 or 6 o'clock Sunday night I went back again.

Q. Did he go with you Sunday afternoon?

A. He came down Sunday afternoon.

Q. At what time was that?

A. It must have been about 5 or 6 o'clock, some time along there.

Q. That was on the 16th?

A. That was on Sunday, it must have been the 17th, she died on the 18th.

Q. No, sir, Friday was the 13th, Saturday the 14th, Sunday the 15th?

A. I thought she died about the 18th, I am not certain about the date, anyway it was Sunday afternoon he was down with me, my brother and he examined her and asked a few questions and said she would be all right in a few days, and so he told me what medicine to give, he said just continue the medicine, she had a little pain and he said, he advised me to give her a little hypodermic injection of morphine, and I did that and the pain got a little easy, and he also advised me to give her one 6th of a grain of ~~apècac~~ every hour, continuing the bismuth.

Q. The bismuth you kept up right along?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see her after that?

A. No, sir.

Q. This was Sunday evening, what time?

A. Between 4 and 5 o'clock or 6 or some time near that.

Q. When did she die then?

A. Then I was over Sunday night and went over about 9 o'clock and stayed there till say 10 o'clock.

Q. You were there at 10 o'clock?

A. I went there probably at 9 o'clock and stayed till 10 o'clock and went off and it was about half after 1 that they called me on Monday morning to come over, and when I got there she was dead.

Q. How much bismuth do you think you gave her Dr. during this time, you continued these powders right along?

A. Yes, sir, I have some powders in my pocket, the same powders.

Q. Do you know the quantity of bismuth you gave her, whether it

was 5 or 10 grains?

A. About 10 grains, I know it was.

Q. Then you commenced at first and gave her that quantity right along?

A. Right along.

Q. How often?

A. Every two hours, and I would give the ^{oxalate of cerium} ~~oxalide serum~~ in 5 grain doses between that.

Q. That was an alternation between the bismuth?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did'nt they tell you she was not retaining these powders?

A. No, sir, they said no, she was not vomiting so often, and at first she was vomiting right along and that is the reason I prescribed oxilide serum, because I thought that was the best for pregnancy.

Q. You desired that the operations be less frequent, what made you think she was pregnant?

A. They gave me all the symptoms, probably he told me at first, then I asked her how long since she had had her sickness and she said 3 months.

Q. Since she had been unwell?

A. Yes, sir, I asked her if she had morning sickness and she said she had.

Q. Did you ask her when this morning sickness commenced?

A. I think she told me she had that along about the first month, that lasted for about a month I think she told me.

Q. And then stopped?

A: Yes, sir.

Q: You are clear on that point?

A: I am not very clear, it seems to me she said about after the first month, that is when she had morning sickness and during the second month it got better.

Q: Did you make any internal examination?

A: No, sir, not of the uterus.

Q: Did you examine her?

A: Yes, sir.

Q: Was there any discoloration of the breasts?

A: Well, really I could not judge very well about that, my practice in regard to that has not been very much.

Q: When you got there Monday morning at half past I was she alive?

A: No, sir.

Q: She was dead?

A: She was dead.

Q: Did they tell you how she died?

A: He did not tell me but the lady of the house did.

Q: Was the lady of the house in the room with her?

A: She told me that she heard her breathing hard.

Q: Who told you that?

A: Mrs. Kulhna and the daughter, and that they heard her breathing hard and went to the door and he had the door fastened and they knocked on the door and after a time they got him up or they broke the door in, but they got in some how another anyhow they got in with some difficulty, and she was breathing

very hard and loud and Mrs. Kulhma's daughter came over to the office for me and when I got there she was dead.

Q. Did Mrs. Kulhma remain in the room until you got there?

A. I do not really know that for certain whether she did or not, I think I met her in the hallway as I came in or at the door.

Q. She did not say anything about the manner of her death?

A. Not then.

Q. Did she subsequently?

A. She told me about hearing her breathing hard.

Q. Did she say anything about convulsions or spasms?

A. No, sir, she did not say anything about spasms that I can remember, in fact I know she didn't say anything about spasms.

Q. You saw this body at the morgue that was exhumed, is that the same person you attended at 713 Jefferson Ave?

A. Well, I would not have known the person only by the hair, I believe it was Mr. Ryan that was asking me if I could swear that that was the lady, if I could identify her and I said well, I don't know whether I can or not, I have not been accustomed to seeing dead people after they had been buried some time.

Q. Wasn't there a general resemblance in this dead person you saw at the morgue to the one you had attended on Jefferson Ave.?

A. When I saw her she was all opened up and I could not swear to her at all.

Q. Did you see her face at all?

A. I saw her face but it was so mortified that I would not have sworn to it only by her hair, and I am satisfied that that

was the lady that I attended.

By a juror:- You say you recognized her hand did you not?

A: No, sir, I didn't notice her hand at all.

By a juror:- Well, probably I was mistaken and misunderstood hair for hand.

Q: Didn't you say before you left the morgue that you was perfectly satisfied that she was the woman?

A: I was speaking about the hair when I said that.

Q: Were not you then satisfied that was the woman?

A: I was satisfied in my mind I guess but I could not get up and swear that was the same woman, but I am satisfied that it was her, that I would take that to be her hair.

Q: Then she was sick, according to this statement that you got from Mrs. Kulhna, from Friday until Monday morning, with persistent vomiting?

A: Thursday night.

Q: I mean Thursday night, until Monday morning, persistent and continuous purging?

A: Yes, sir, but the vomiting and purging was a great deal better, I think Sunday afternoon they told me she got worse and had three or four operations Sunday afternoon.

Q: And in the meantime she had eaten nothing at all?

A: She had not eaten anything, he told me she had a cup of tea or coffee but she threw it right up.

Q: Were not you a little suspicious Dr. after the first 24 hours had elapsed, that taking no food ~~into~~ into the stomach, noth-

ing to irritate the mucous membrane, were not you a little suspicious about that vomiting?

A. No, sir, you see she had been getting better and I thought this vomiting was caused by pregnancy.

Q. How did you account for the diarrhoea?

A. Well, I thought it a pretty hard case to stop that diarrhoea.

Q. Then added to these two symptoms, later, was that of pain?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. She was not taking any nourishment of any kind, sort or description, there was nothing there to irritate the stomach or bowels; you would not expect the remedies for cholera ^{if} morbus to be of use ~~unless~~ there was food taken occasionally?

A. No, sir, but she did not get well and the medicine ran out, I thought then that she had had a relapse, that was the way I accounted for it.

Q. When did you first notice this rapid pulse?

A. I think I noticed it on Friday morning when I went there the pulse being louder but there was no flush but the pulse was loud.

Q. Can you recall how rapid it was?

A. 148 to the minute; he told me that he had been feeling her pulse and he asked me how much her pulse was and I said it is about 128, and he said it was 137 and a quarter; I knew what the pulse was but I didn't want to tell him the truth because I didn't want to scare him, and he told me what it was, and he was right.

Q. Did you take her temperature?

A. No, sir, I didn't take her temperature, and the Sunday evening the temperature was not high.

Q. Did that pulse alarm you?

A. Yes, sir, it did give me some alarm, but they had given me the history of her disease and that of the family, and I thought she had a weakness of the heart, her pulse was regular and weak and beat fast, and I told him and he spoke of her trouble, and he seemed to be afraid of her, and I said "no, I do not feel uneasy about her, her heart is weak and it beats fast," I said that the woman was naturally weak and her heart got weak.

Q. Did you give the certificate?

A. Yes, sir, I gave her another medicine afterwards for heart trouble, I gave her some tincture of aconite.

Q. How much aconite did you give her?

A. I told him to give her three drops to a dose.

Q. Was it Fleming's Tincture or the officinal tincture?

A. I could not tell you what tincture it was, it was tincture of aconite root which I generally give.

Q. Your hypothesis was that this rapidity of the heart was caused by weakness?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, if you weakened the heart further with aconite, that will add to the trouble?

A. Well, I was going to test that, to see and watch that.

Q. Well, you had no inflammatory symptoms there and you had a pulse of 148?

A. She seemed to have a little fever along and she would sweat too, and he remarked that sometimes after the sweat it was a cold sweat, and I would tell him after he made that remark, I said well the sweat makes them moist and it would make the flesh seem somewhat cooler.

By a juror:- You don't know for certain ---- did you really believe in your own mind that this was the lady that you saw at the morgue?

A. Yes, sir, I thought she was the lady, I think that there is no doubt but that she was the lady I attended.

Q. Did she make any remark to you during her illness, giving a reason for the cause of her sickness?

A. No, sir, she did not give me any cause for it only-- I don't think she even told me about the ice water, I think he told me about her drinking the ice water.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

D R. R O B E R T A L B I N being duly sworn, testified as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is your name?

A. Robert Albin.

Q. Where is your residence?

A. 2801 Olive street.

Q. You are a regular practicing physician?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been in practice?

A. About 20 years.

Q. In this City?

A. No, sir, I have been practicing in this City about 12 years I think.

Q. About 12 years?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you first see this patient, Annie Abbot?

A. I think it was two weeks ago last Sunday evening, that is the only time I saw her.

Q. On the 17th?

A. I don't know the date, it was Sunday evening though.

Q. At whose solicitation did you see her?

A. At my brother's Dr. E. R. Albin.

Q. What time of day was it when you saw her Dr.?

A. Well, it was about 6 o'clock in the evening.

Q. What condition did you find her in?

A. Well, I found her free of fever with a pulse about 125, excited condition of the heart, still I did not think her condition dangerous at the time and told them so, I took her temperature and counted her pulse.

Q. There was no fever?

A. No, sir.

Q. With the pulse at 125?

A. I think it was about 125 or 120.

Q. What is the average ~~temperature~~ of the pulse?

A. The average frequency you mean?

Q. Yes, sir, I mean the average frequency?

A. Well, it would be about 75 or 80 in a woman.

Q. You found her pulse 125 and didn't think there was any danger associated with ~~XXXXXX~~ such a high pulse and no fever?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, what history did they give you, did Abbot or Mrs. Abbot give you her condition preceding your visit?

A. She said that she had been suffering from vomiting and diarrhoea, I believe that was all, she told me she had pain at the time.

Q. At the time of your visit?

A. Yes, sir, she told me she had at the time of my visit but there were no indications of it being severe, I was there I suppose 20 minutes, there was no vomiting during the time I was there or purging either.

Q. Did you question her at all?

A. Yes, sir, I questioned her very closely.

Q. About what Dr.?

A. Well, about the way she felt in regard to pain, in regard to pregnancy and whether she had ever been pregnant before and given birth to children.

Q. And she answered these questions?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did she say about the pregnancy?

A. Well, she did not deny being pregnant but she didn't know whether she was or not, but didn't know but what she might be, and I made a digital examination and examined the breasts

and told her she was pregnant.

Q. Did you make a digital examination with the finger?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did you find after that examination just with your finger

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you examine the breast?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And she gave you a history of her pregnancy did she?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. She told you what about it?

A. Well, the extent of the history of pregnancy was that she had missed her courses for a certain period, I don't remember what the period was, but I think she had missed them for about three months.

Q. Did you see the patient after she was exhumed, at the morgue?

A. No, sir, I never saw her but once.

Q. You didn't go out and take her up again from the grave?

A. No, sir.

Q. Well, how do you predicate your opinion that it was a post mortem parturition without your seeing this woman at all?

A. Well, I predicated my opinion in different ways, my opinion might be changed very easily in regard to it.

Q. Your opinion then is not settled on that subject?

A. No, sir, it is not confirmed.

Q. You formed an opinion without seeing the woman or knowing anything of her condition &c.?

A. Well, I formed my opinion from what I read concerning the case.

Q. Well, what was that which led you to form this opinion?

A. Well, I heard nothing in regard to a miscarriage previous to her death, and if there had been any evidence of a miscarriage previous to her death and ~~nothing~~ said so far as I was aware of, that is something that would be extremely difficult to hide from the attendants and members of the family where she was residing, it would have been impossible for a miscarriage of three month taking place without the bed being despoiled in some way with blood.

Q. Now let us go back to this subject of pregnancy, I want ~~the~~ to establish that plain to this jury so that they can see some motive for this and I don't know how to get at it unless I call upon your well known ability.

A. Is it with the latter view that I am to be examined, for the benefit of the jury?

Q. No, sir, not on that latter cause, I want to establish to this jury that this woman was pregnant.

A. I expect it would be very easy to establish that in another way without questioning me closely upon it.

Q. In what way?

A. There was stronger evidence.

Q. How many cases are there on record of post mortem parturition?

A. I don't know that there is a single case on record.

By the Coroner:- Yes, sir, there are 4 or 5 well authen-

ticated cases. The fact of this foetus being buried with this body does not prove that this woman had a child, it may have been put in there by other parties.

A. I thought the womb was found enlarged.

Q. We have not come to that yet, we want to approach that in a proper manner in the post mortem?

A. All right.

Q. You only predicate your opinion that she was pregnant from a digital examination and an examination of her breasts?

A. Well, I predicate my opinion on the digital examination of the womb and on the examination of her breasts, and her statement in regard to when she last missed her courses with no other appreciable cause for missing them.

Q. This morning sickness, did she tell you that, she told your brother that she had morning sickness, did she tell you?

A. I questioned her in regard to that, I don't remember whether she said she had morning sickness or not, I am not clear on that point but I don't think that she said that she had morning sickness, now in regard to the if you wish me to state anything in regard to that, I will do so.

By the Coroner:- I don't want any medical lecture, I want to get at the fact whether this woman was pregnant or not.

By a juror:- Is it your opinion now that she was pregnant at that time?

A. Yes, sir, it is my opinion now.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August

1887.

D R: B L I C K H A H N being duly sworn, testified
as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. You have been sworn to that post mortem made Dr. on the body
of Ammie Abbot or Susan Beck?

A. Yes, sir.

(post mortem read)

Q. What was the condition of that woman Dr. when you held the
post mortem at the morgue on the morning of July 29th?

A. Her general condition?

Q. Her general condition and her external appearance?

A. That of a body well advanced in decomposition.

Q. The facial expression?

A. The face was very much puffed and would not allow me to be
able to see what her face looked like.

Q. Was that face so swollen that one acquainted with her for
years would have been able to recognize her?

A. I think so, I think they might have recognized her.

Q. The hair was still remaining on the scalp?

A. Yes, sir, she had a very large growth of hair of a reddish
color.

Q. Did you see those teeth removed from the upper jaw?

A. I did not observe that.

Q. Did you see them subsequently taken out?

A. No, sir.

Q. Were you there when they were taken out?

A. No, sir.

Q. Was she much swollen about the abdomen?

A. Not to a great extent, there was some swelling but nothing to amount to much.

Q. There was no matting, no glueing together of the intestines about the womb? A. No, sir.

Q. So in your opinion there had been no criminal abortion at all?

A. No, sir.

Q. You secured the stomach, when and how did you secure that?

A. By ligaturing the stomach at the easophagus and to the pyloric orifice, taking with it a part of the duodenum and taking it out and placing it in a jar.

Q. Was there any chance for any foreign substance to get in the stomach?

A. No, sir.

Q. In other words the stomach was not opened?

A. No, sir.

Q. Tied up and put in a jar?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was done with the jar subsequently?

A. The jar was sealed up.

Q. And delivered to whom?

A. Dr. Ludeking.

Q. Who is Dr. Ludeking?

A. He is at the Washington University.

Q. Is he a chemist?

A. Yes, sir.

Q: You put some other specimens in that jar, what were they?

A: Part of the liver and heart, the heart complete and part of ~~the~~ the liver.

Q: Did you use any disinfectants to deodorize while you were at work on that body?

A: No, sir.

Q: There were none around the table where you were working?

A: There were later on, but not at the time.

Q: When you secured the stomach and the piece of liver and the heart, there was no disinfectants there to kill that smell?

A: No, sir, none but vasaline on my hands.

Q: They passed into that jar just as they came from the body?

A: Yes, sir.

J. S h e e h a n ,

being duly sworn testified as follows:

D i r e c t E x a m i n a t i o n

by Coroner Frazer .

Q. What is your name?

A. J. Sheehan .

Q. What is your business?

A. Livery and Undertaking business. .

Q. Where abouts are you located?

A. 2620 Morgan Street .

Q. Did you bury a body from 713 Jefferson Avenue, or did you take
a body from there for burial?

A. Yes sir .

Q. What time were you called there?

A. About half-past 2 Monday morning .

Q. About half-past 2 Monday morning?

A. Yes sir .

Q. Who called you?

A. The undertaker of the establishment, he came for me .

Q. The undertaker of your establishment?

A. Yes sir .

Q. Who summoned him?

A. There were some ladies came up to the stable and said there
was a lady dead at 713 Jefferson Avenue and they wanted us to
take charge of the remains .

Q. Did you know either of those ladies?

A. I was not there I gave you the name I believe of one of them
the other day.

Q. Was Mrs. Kuhlman one of the ladies?

A. No sir I think not.

Q. Was Mrs. Callahan one of them?

A. I think that is the name.

Q. Well did you go immediately to 713 North Jefferson Ave?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Who was in the room where this dead woman was laying?

A. Dr. Albin and Mr. West.

Q. Mr. West?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Or Abbott?

A. Yes sir or Abbott.

Q. Did Abbott say anything to you?

A. No sir he had made arrangements to lay the body out in the
house, and after everything was arranged to do so they had
changed their minds and ordered the body to be taken to the
undertaking room.

Q. To your undertaking room?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you remove the body?

A. Yes sir.

Q. To your undertaking room?

A. Yes sir.

Q. What time was it when you got there?

A. I guess it was in the neighborhood of quarter to 4 in the morning.

Q. Did you wash her at once?

A. The other man with me washed her.

Q. Did you put a dress on her?

A. Yes sir.

Q. At that time?

A. Yes sir.

Q. After washing her?

A. No we did'nt put a dress ^{on} at that time.

Q. How long afterwards?

A. I guess it was about 3 hours.

Q. 3 hours after washing her you put a dress on her?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you put that dress on yourself?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Was the dress anything like any of these goods? (some pieces of cloth shown witness)

A. Yes sir this is like the dress I put on her. (indicating)

Q. You are sure about the class of these goods are you?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Was she put in the coffin then after she was dressed?

A. When we took that body up to the undertaking room we did'nt put on a dress or anything, the body had nothing on but a chemise and she had wrapped around her a white sheet which we put around her and I asked Mr. Abbott whether he was going to

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have a shroud, or how he was going to dress his wife. He told me that he was going to get a white dress that she had, I think he said it was at the laundry, and about 8 or 9 o'clock he came back with the dress.

Q. With this dress here?

A. Yes sir and if I am not mistaken he told me that was the dress she was married in and he wanted to have her laid out in it.

Q. How long did she lay out in your undertaking room before she was put in the coffin after she was dressed?

A. Well after she was dressed she was put in the coffin and remained in from 10 o'clock until 3 o'clock.

Q. Was the coffin closed?

A. No sir it was open.

Q. How long did she lay in the coffin before the lid was fastened down?

A. From 10 o'clock in the morning until 3 in the afternoon.

Q. Was Abbott about there at this time?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Was he in that room with her alone?

A. Well there was Mrs. Degge and some ladies came to fix up the body and they were around, and certainly while they were fixing the lady we were down stairs and when we came up-stairs to where she was laid out Mr. Abbott was at the head of the coffin with his head in this position (indicating head down)

Q. Do you know whether he was alone at any time in the room with her?

A. That I could not exactly say.

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Q. He was in and out a dozen times?

A. Yes sir and he came to the conclusion that he was not going to bury her until 9 o'clock the next morning, and when he got back from down town he said somebody had told him to bury her that afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Q. You started to bury her at what time?

A. At 3 o'clock.

Q. Where did you bury her?

A. At Wesleyan Cemetery.

Q. How far out is it?

A. That is about 9 miles out.

Q. On what road?

A. On the Olive Street road.

Q. Did you receive an order from this office to take up the body recently?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Where did you go for that body?

A. To the Wesleyan Cemetery.

Q. Was it the same body you had buried there?

A. Yes sir.

Q. You furnished the coffin for this burial?

A. Yes sir and I had the breast plate taken off the coffin at the cemetery to be sure it was the same body we were taking away.

Q. You took that off?

A. Yes sir, the eyes and the mouth were a little decomposed.

Q. You recognize this as the body you buried on the 18th?

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A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you take that body from here, from the Morgue subsequently

A. Yes sir.

Q. Took it out there and buried it out there again?

A. Yes sir.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August 1887.

A. R. H u i s k a m p,

being duly sworn testified as follows:

D i r e c t E x a m i n a t i o n

by Coroner Frazer.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. At Woodland.

Q. Whereabouts is Woodland?

A. That is about 8 miles North of St. Louis on the Wabash road.

Q. Do you know this man West who represented himself to be Abbott
here?

A. I met him at my place.

Q. At your place?

A. At Woodland.

Q. Please tell the jury how you met him and all the circumstances.

A. I suppose if I can recollect rightly it was the last day of
June, he came to the Station and was introduced to me in the

morning about 7 o'clock, I have a factory there.

Q. Did he come there on the train?

A. No sir he walked from St. Louis.

Q. Walked from St. Louis?

A. He walked from St. Louis and arrived early in the morning and my carpenter is the station agent, and they were sitting there on the platform and he pleaded, he had slept in a corn or a wheat field during the night and he wanted to get something to do, that he had'nt had anything to eat during the past 12 hours, they represented to the carpenter that they had'nt had anything to eat in the night and that they had slept in a corn or wheat field, and the carpenter gave them something to eat and in the morning at 7 o'clock took them to my office to the factory and asked me to give him some work. I told them to go and see the superintendent, and if there was any work to give him something to do. The superintendent employed him there that day in packing dry plates, the next morning I understood from him that he had found some work to do at Judge Giles', a gentleman who lives there, for papering two rooms. I told them to come to the City, he stated that he was a silver plater, and I have friends in St. Louis and I gave him a letter of introduction to F.E. Durgan. I did'nt see him any more that day, and in the evening when he came to my factory he said he had found a very good position from my introduction ^{that} with this Mr. Durgan had referred him to Mr. Degge, where he found employment. I asked him if he had any money and he said no, so

I gave him some money to go to the City. His wife as he represented that lady to be remained at Woodland to wait on my foreman's wife.

Q. Remained in your family?

A. No sir not in my family but at Woodland , my foreman's wife was about to be confined in a few days and she agreed to stay there until she was confined, and to stay there until her husband had found some employment. She remained there several days.

By a Juror:

Q. Is the witness talking about West or Abbott?

By the Coroner:

A. Yes sir.

Q. Go on and speak a little louder so these gentlemen can hear.

A. This Abbott came again the next day to me and said he was going to work for Mr. Degge, and that he was going to take his wife to the city and in the meantime he remained at Woodland and took a very active part in the prayer meeting that was taking place there during that night, in fact he took a very prominent place there and every body seemed to be delighted with him, he took himself and his wife to the prayer meeting and then he went to the city or intended to go to his boarding house, the next morning he came to the city and stated he was looking for a boarding house and took his wife down to the city.

Q. What day was this, the first day you saw him?

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A. That was the last day of June, it may have been a day previous
I could not exactly tell.

Q. How long was he around Woodland himself?

A. Well he came in the morning and I believe that same day he
was papering those two rooms.

Q. That same day?

A. I believe it was the same day.

Q. You say that you put him to packing those dry plates that
first day?

A. Yes sir it was the first day that we put him to packing dry
plates, and the next day he was papering those rooms.

Q. That would bring it about to the 2nd of July?

A. Yes sir I suppose it was I didn't take any notice of it.

Q. He left your place you say after that?

A. The next day after the papering of those rooms he came in the
city he came to my office.

Q. Came to your office in the city?

A. Yes sir in the city 1202 Washington^{Ave.} that is my office and I
asked him if he had any money and he said no, and I said well
perhaps you will have to pay your board in advance and I gave
him \$10. Then in the evening I understand he remained at Wood-
land, he came home by the evening train and I suppose he worked
that day for ~~Mr. Degge~~ Mr. Degge but I could not tell.

That is what he stated. Then he came over to our place again
and my foreman Mr. McFessell at the place where his wife re-
mained a couple of days and Mr. McFessell told me that about

10 or 12 o'clock he was talking to his wife who was then staying with Mrs. McFessell at her house.

Q. Was that the same day he got the 10 dollars?

A. That was the day after or the same evening it might be. It was about 12 o'clock and Mr. MC Fessell wanted him to go to his boarding house, he slept in Woodland and he went out of the house and remained about 5 minutes and came back, and said to him that the boarding house was closed, it was too late and then his wife commenced to cry and begged him to stay and not go to the city, he wanted to go to the city because his boarding house was closed, and she begged and cried in the most heart-broken way and said if he was going to the city at that late hour she would go with him, and Mr. McFessell didn't know but what they were husband and wife never dreamed of anything of that sort and he said well you can stay here for tonight and he stayed there. Next morning he went to the city again, and I cannot exactly tell the date but he came and told me his wife was very sick.

Q. Well she was still at Woodland?

A. No sir his wife had gone back to the city.

Q. I want to find out whether his wife was sick at Woodland?

A. No sir she was not.

Q. You heard no one say she was sick and vomiting?

A. No sir.

Q. Heard no complaint of her being sick?

A. No sir, and he told me he was going to leave his wife at

McFessells' until Mrs. McFessell was confined.

Q. How long did his wife stay there?

A. Not more than 2 or 3 days.

Q. And he came and told you that he had brought his wife to the city?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did he say what disposition he had made of her?

A. No sir he said he was hunting for a boarding house and Mr. Degge was assisting him and I believe Mr. Degge referred him to some place I don't know exactly the place.

Q. Do you know Mr. Yandell?

A. No sir.

Q. Well then the last time you saw him previous to his wife's death was when he came to see you and told you that he had brought his wife to the city and was hunting for a boarding house?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And she was very sick with cholera morbus at that time?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Cannot you recollect the date?

A. I cannot very precisely.

Q. Cannot you approximate it?

A. That must have been 2 or 3 days afterwards.

Q. 2 or 3 days after he was in your office when you gave him the \$10?

A. Yes sir.

Q. That would be about 5 or 6 days?

A. It must have been Friday or Saturday at must have been about that time.

Q. He told you his wife was very sick with cholera morbus?

A. He told me that Mr. Degge told him, that perhaps she had been drinking the city river water and perhaps that made her sick.

Q. Did you see him any more before his wife's death or subsequent?

A. After the death of his wife he told me something that he thought his wife died of.

Q. Did he make a communication to you in a confidential manner that his wife had died and what he thought she died of?

A. After the death he came over in the morning and he seemed to be very heart broken, and told me that his wife died of heart disease, and told me that it was in the family; that the sister of his wife had heart disease and that there more of the same family suffering on that account, then he handed me a letter which he had written to his mother-in-law and said that she lived in Canada and wanted me to read that letter. He opened the envelope, it was already closed, he tore open the envelope and gave me his letter, and in this letter he spoke about the sudden death of his wife of heart disease and comforted her by saying that she was in a better place now, and he hoped he would soon be with her and so on. I don't know exactly the particulars. I told him to put his letter in another envelope for he had torn up his envelope so I gave him

my desk and he addressed another envelope and closed the letter. I said Mr. Abbott you can leave that letter in the box and I will mail it when my letters are mailed, no he said I have to put a card in the letter. Of course I didn't pay any more attention, but after he was gone I looked for the envelope which he had torn, the original envelope but I didn't find any signs of it at all.

Q. Have you heard from him since he left the city I mean direct to you have you heard anything of him as to his whereabouts?

A. I have not heard nothing more then what Mr. Degge said, the next day he came over to the office and asked me if I knew Mr. Abbott and I said yes and I told him how I met him and he said read this letter and he gave the first letter which he said he had received written to him.

Q. You didn't see him after that?

A. No sir.

Q. Or since that time?

A. No sir.

By a Juror:

Q. You didn't know anything about this man until you met him first at Woodland?

A. No sir, I did not, I never saw the man before.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August 1887.

M. D. Degge,

being duly sworn testified as follows:

D i r e c t E x a m i n a t i o n

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is your full name?

A. Middleton D. Degge.

Q. Where is your place of business?

A. 113 South 8th Street.

Q. What kind of business is it?

A. Foundry and electro-plating.

Q. Did a man by the name of Abbott present a letter of introduction to you, or solicitation for business from Mr. Durgan?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did he make personal application?

A. He made personal application.

Q. Did he say he was referred to you by anyone?

A. No sir he said nothing of that kind to me.

Q. Did he say he was an electro-plater?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And that he wanted employment?

A. That is what he said.

Q. Did you give him employment?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Do you remember the date you engaged him?

A. I engaged him on the 2nd of July I think he was there the day before and spoke to my partner Mr. Musick, but we engaged him

on the 2nd of July.

Q. Please tell the jury what he said to you when he came to you and what occurred at that time.

A. Well sir I cannot remember what he said at that time he had been up and down and come back to the place and found me in conversation with Mr. Musick. Mr. Musick introduced him to me and told me that he was the gentleman that he had spoken to the foreman about, and the gentleman shook hands with me and I left him with Mr. Musick to make arrangements with him. Mr. Musick employed him.

Q. When did you see him again the next time?

A. He engaged him to come to work on the 5th of July Saturday was the ~~second~~ 2nd, and he didn't turn up on the 5th but came on the 7th.

Q. On the 7th of July?

A. Yes sir he came in the office and said to me "I suppose you had almost given me up had'nt you?" I said "no" well he said he had been to the country with his wife that she had been sick there, and that he had been with her on the 5th and 6th of July and left her out there and come in on the 7th, and that afternoon he started in to work for us.

Q. On the afternoon of the 7th?

A. Yes sir.

Q. How long did he work for you?

A. Well we considered him in our employ up to the time he left there but he worked--I think the 7th was Thursday, he worked

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, after that he did no work for us except to come down there I think it was probably 3 quarters of an hour Thursday morning

Q. He was there daily up to that time?

A. Yes sir up to Wednesday morning he was there daily, on Wednesday morning he came down and he said that the lady where he obtained the rooms had rented the rooms over his head, thinking he was only a temporary boarder and she had found permanent occupants and she had rented the rooms over his head.

Q. Did he say where he was living?

A. Yes sir on Olive Street opposite the Exposition building.

Q. Did he say his wife was with him?

A. His wife was with him that morning he brought her down that morning.

Q. That was Wednesday morning?

A. Yes sir.

Q. What date was that Mr. Degge?

A. Well I don't know if I had a calendar here I could tell. (calendar handed witness) that was on the 13th of July he brought his wife with him that morning he then went out to hunt for rooms, I told him to go ahead and hunt for rooms and he went out and hunted for rooms, and secured rooms at 713 Jefferson Avenue I saw no more of him that day.

Q. Did he come to work Thursday?

A. Thursday morning he came down and stayed at work for probably

a half or 3 quarters of an hour I think, and then he came down and told me that his wife was very sick the night before, and had been sick all night and there was nobody to look after her but him, and he felt it his duty to go home and attend to her. I told him by all means to go; that they were strangers in town and had no acquaintances, I told him to go.

Q. Did you see anything of him after he left there Thursday in the character of an employee any more?

A. Yes sir, on Friday he sent me word to call up to his house as I went out, that his wife was very ill and he wanted to see me. I didn't call as I went out but went there after supper. I found his wife sick apparently very ill, she was vomiting incessantly during the time I was there. Dr. Albin was present and when I went in I found her in that condition he told me he said she has been in that condition for 24 hours vomiting in that way. I inquired as to what was the matter and was told it was cholera-morbus.

Q. Who told you?

A. West told me that it was Cholera-morbus and I think Br. Albin also remarked it was cholera-morbus.

Q. How long were you there on that visit?

A. I think I stayed there probably 3 quarters of an hour.

Q. Did she vomit while you were there?

A. Yes sir very much.

Q. How many times could you remember 2 3 or 4 times?

A. No sir I could not remember exactly, several times, she was

throwing up almost incessantly and the Dr. was giving her medicine trying to stay her stomach.

Q. Did she complain of any pain?

A. I heard her complain of no pain, Abbott made the remark that her pulse was very quick that day accelerated very much and he placed his hand on her breast and I was standing by the bed and I picked up a palm leaf fan that he had been using, and he asked me to place my hand on her breast and feel her heart. I didn't do that, but I stepped around the bed and took hold of her pulse, her pulse was running 120 to the minute and her skin felt cool and very natural it felt as though she had no fever, and he said his wife was troubled with heart disease.

Q. You were there 3 quarters of an hour, when did you see him again after that visit?

A. On Sunday evening I called again about 5 o'clock to see how they were getting along, and what the prospects of her recovery were. and at that time there was nobody there but Mr. Abbott and his wife. As I went in the room she was speaking to him, and he looked up as I went in and repeated her words to me, he says, she says she has nothing to fear, he said I was speaking to her about dying; that her case looked very serious although she appeared better. And I took him to task about it, he said 2 or 3 times this afternoon I thought she was gone. I took him out and took him to task for speaking to her in that way, I said she was very ill and he had to keep her spirits up, and I said if you want to kill her that is

about the best thing you can do or the best way you can take.

He said after that he would not speak to her in that way he would try and be cheerful.

Q. How long were you there Sunday?

A. I think I stayed there about an hour.

Q. Did you have any conversation with Mrs. Abbott about her condition?

A. None whatever.

Q. Did't she say about how long she had been sick?

A. No sir not a word.

Q. Nor any symptoms she had had?

A. No sir she did not admit anything while I was there.

Q. During the hour was she vomiting?

A. No sir.

Q. You know by hearsay that she died that night or next morning at 2 o'clock?

A. He came to my house at 6 o'clock next morning and he told me that his wife was dead, I was shocked. Of course I didn't understand anything about the case but I felt very badly over it I got him to my house to breakfast that morning and he wanted me to go with him to look for a Minister to attend the funeral. I got him breakfast and afterwards went over to see the Rev. Dr. Hammond with him. I asked him when he proposed to inter his wife, and he said next day, Tuesday, and I asked him if he thought it would not be better to inter her there on Monday afternoon; It looked hard but I said as an argument to him that she was there lying at the undertakers (and I was

astonished when he told me that she was at the undertakers) and he then told me that he had been compelled to remove her to the undertakers; that the ladies were alone in the house and objected very much to the fuss of a funeral there. He gave me that as a reason for taking her to the undertakers, but he objected strongly to burying her that day saying that it was inhuman. I told him that she was lying there at the undertakers on ice, and he didn't have the melancholy pleasure of looking at her face, and I thought it would be better for him to get through with it and get it off his mind and get to work and relieve himself in that way. I advised him to inter her that afternoon.

Q. Did he say anything to you about the manner in which she had died?

A. Yes sir--well no hardly that. He told me that he was sitting at her bedside fanning her, and that being weary he dropped off to sleep; that he was worn out with watching and waiting on her for the last 3 or 4 days, and unconsciously he dropped off to sleep and he was awakened by the ladies coming in the room, and they said they were attracted by his wife making considerable noise in breathing and he said that they had tried to wake him up but had failed to do so. that was the only account he gave of her death.

Q. Did you see him after the funeral more than once?

A. I attended the funeral and rode home with him.

Q. After the funeral?

A. Yes sir and after that I didn't see him until the next morning.

The next morning he came down to work. As I left him in the back I told him, I said be sure and be down to work tomorrow morning, it will be ~~xxxxxxxx~~ a relief to you to have your mind occupied.

Q. You told this as you were coming home from the funeral?

A. Yes sir.

Q. Did you come home in the same carriage?

A. Yes sir there was but one carriage.

Q. Did you have any conversation with him in the carriage about his wife's death?

A. No sir there was no conversation about his wife's death.

Q. Did he volunteer any statement?

A. No sir.

Q. What was the ^{Subject} contents of his conversation in going and coming?

A. Well coming in in the carriage I tried to lead the conversation into a more cheerful strain, and our conversation was on other subjects.

Q. He didn't discuss his wife's death at all?

A. No sir.

Q. You saw him then the next day?

A. The next morning he came to work and went up into the plating room, and I think it was probably 9 o'clock when he came down and asked the privilege of writing a letter, he said he

wished to write to his wife's parents and I told him certainly.

★ He sat down at my desk and I gave him envelope and paper to write the letter with to his wife's parents. After he had addressed it I was standing near the desk and when he finished writing it he handed the letter to me to read and I read it.

Q. He gave you what?

A. He ^{wrote} ~~read~~ the letter to his wife's parents ostensibly and then gave it to me to read. I didn't take much notice of it, the fact of the matter is I was not much interested in reading the letter and when I had gone through I laid it down, it was a very plaintive letter, full of consolation, just such a letter as a man in that condition would write to his wife's parents, gave account of her death. He said in the afternoon she had spoken of her home and parents, and in the evening and during the times of delirium she had called for her sister and that was about the extent of it.

Q. To whom was that letter addressed?

A. I cannot tell you sir, I didn't notice I think it was just addressed to his parents.

Q. ~~My~~ To My Parents, or My Dear Parents?

A. My Dear Parents or something of that kind I would not be sure about that I was busy with some matter at that time and I didn't take notice of the address.

Q. Was he still occupying the room where his wife died?

A. Well when we come home from the funeral I advised him to go to the house of a friend of mine who sympathized with him in

the matter, he said " why let him come and stay at my house he will be very lonely out there by himself, and his loneliness will be far greater when there alone by himself" and Abbott said no, he said that he had better go home and have his sorrow to himself and he stayed that night in the room there .

Q. Then he came to you in the morning?

A. The next morning he came to work .

Q. About what time did he come? .

A. I could not tell you the time he left there .

Q. Did he have a grip-sack with him?

A. No sir he was ~~waxed~~ in his working clothes and had nothing in his hand, and he wrote that letter to his wife's parents, and he wrote another letter, I don't know who that was to and sealed them both in the office and went away and that was the last time I saw him.

Q. You didn't see him after he wrote these letters?

A. No sir--yes sir I did, he came as I say, he came back a second time but what he came back for I don't know as I went out of the door just as he was coming in, I went on the street just as he came back again.

Q. When did you come in possession of these letters you had from him?

A. Well Tuesday, let me see, Tuesday past by. He told me when he left the office that morning---the man looked very badly, he looked all broken up both mentally and physically, and after

writing these letters he told me he didn't feel as though he could work that day; that he would like to go home and rest himself, and that he felt totally unfit for work and I believed him, he looked as though he was not fit for work and I told him to go home and come to-morrow morning and work. The next day he didn't make his appearance all day, and I was thinking about him wondering if he had taken sick, and though I would call on him and see if he needed any assistance.

Q. That would be Wednesday?

A. That was on Tuesday.

Q. On Tuesday he came down to the office?

A. Yes sir, it was Wednesday, Tuesday was the 19th and in the afternoon about 4 o'clock the mail came in and in opening the letters I came across this letter addressed to the Firm, I opened it and it was a strange note it was a strange thing to me when I saw it, I was perfectly astounded when I read it. I read his wife's letter; we received that letter about 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

Q. Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock on the 20th?

A. Yes sir, I noticed the postmark on the letter showed that it was received here about half-past 3, either 3.30 or 3.20.

Q. It was a St. Louis postmark?

A. Yes sir it was sent out of the office at half-past 3, the letter was stamped on the back received at the office at 20 minutes past or half-past 3 o'clock.

Q. Had it any other postmark on? ..

A. That was on the back of the envelope.

Q. What was on the face where it was sent from?

A. The face of the letter was stamped but I could not distinguish the place, all I could distinguish was Illinois on the postmark.

Q. Well he left your place Tuesday morning about 9 o'clock?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And you never saw him after that?

A. I think it was about 9 o'clock when I saw him.

Q. You never saw him subsequent to that time?

A. No sir except when he went up the street a little distance and then came back and entered the door as I went out.

Q. What became of these letters?

A. These letters were turned over by me to a reporter of the Missouri Republican/sir, I cannot call his name just now-- it was Dr. Horsnby.

Q. When you read these letters, did you see any similarity in the handwriting?

A. No sir they were entirely different so far as I could see.

I made no particular analysis of the writing, I was shocked, that was just it and the writing appeared so dissimilar that I noticed no similarity in the writing at all.

Q. You didn't compare the individuals letters?

A. No sir.

Q. Where do you buy your chemicals from Mr. Degge?

A. We buy our chemicals from two parties, one is a druggist on 7th, I think 7th and Spruce his name is Feerg, when we want some small quantity we send there for it.

Q. Did you ever deal with the Mallinckrodt chemical Co?

A. Yes sir we deal with the Mallinckrodt Chemical Co.

Q. Do you buy many goods from them?

A. No sir not a great quantity all we do buy in quantity we get from them.

Q. Look over that bill please Mr. Degge (bill shown witness) and see if that is the character of chemicals made up from the Mallinckrodt Chemical Co; whether it is your custom to buy these chemicals?

A. I recognize that as a copy of an invoice that we bought of them. I know that we buy sulphuric acid and we purchase ammonia, I think we buy nitric acid and I think we buy salmiac but the arsenic and oxalic acid I know nothing about. The fact of the matter is that I am not sufficiently acquainted with the chemical properties of these solutions.

Q. You know that you paid these bills?

A. Yes sir.

Q. You are not in the habit of buying oxalic acid and arsenic?

A. Those articles I never remember to have purchased ^{at all} ~~these~~ these.
1
Voric acid or oxalic acid.

Q. You paid the bills did you?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And if you had paid for these articles you would remember having bought them?

A. I may have bought them and not remember them.

Q. Are you a practical electro-plater?

A. No sir, I am not ^{qualified} ~~able~~ to testify on that subject.

Q. Then you don't know whether they use arsenic in their preparations or not?

A. I could not say whether they use it in these preparations or not.

Q. These letters that you got on Wednesday afternoon, who were they from, to whom were the letters addressed?

A. The letters were addressed to me and the letter inclosed was addressed, what purported to be the woman's letter was addressed to her dear husband "My Dear Husband" it was commenced and the letter sent to Thomas Abbott, that is the name we knew him by.

Q. What was the purport of that letter addressed by the woman to her husband?

A. The purport of the letter was, that deeming herself a burden upon him and of considerable trouble to him, she wished to relieve him of her presence, and had purchased arsenic and had taken it to end her life.

Q. That is about the epitome of what the letter contained?

A. Yes sir.

Q. And as to you?

A. His letter to me was, that he had discovered her letter as he

inclosed. He began by stating, " When I received that letter he would have made way with himself he would be beyond the environments of life", I believe that was his language and that he could'nt stand it because he had discovered the letter of his wife and the cause of her death which he inclosed, saying that she had died because she deemed herself a burden on him and he proposed to destroy himself and go to her. He stated in that letter that his parents were residents of New York that he had deceived ^{me} ~~him~~ some-what in stating that they were residents of Canada (he had never stated that to me); that they were will to do and would liqudate all debts he left behind him; that he had been disinherited on account of a clandestine marriage with this girl against the will of his parents, he said that I would hear from his father; that he had written to his father and if I would hear from him to answer him back, and say that he had died the death that his father had driven him to. It also contained a postscript sending to Mr. Huiskamp thanking him for his kindness, and stating what disposition he had made of the money that had been loaned to him, and stated there also that he was going to his wife. And then there was a second postscript saying that he did'nt care to live any longer and that his body would be found in the river.

Q. Did you give him any money on Tuesday when he was at your place?

A. No sir.

Q. Did you know whether he had any money?

A. I did not sir.

Q. Have you paid him his salary for the work he had done?

A. I had advanced him his salary right along.

Q. More than his salary?

A. No I didn't advance him any more than his salary except in paying for the grave, that was on advance in his salary that he had earned.

Q. So when you read this letter that she had suicided, and he contemplated suicide it shocked you very much, so you didn't think for a moment that these letters were written by the same person?

A. No sir.

Q. Did you subsequently at any time?

A. Yes sir.

Q. When you got quiet and cooled down you examined the letters carefully?

A. Well it was sometime after that.

Q. How long before you gave the letters to the reporters?

A. Yes sir before that.

Q. Before you gave the letters, you had come to the conclusion that they were both written by the same person?

A. Yes sir, a man by the name of Mr. L. S. Saener an editor here in town called on me Saturday, and a personal friend of mine I showed him these letters. Last Saturday night a week ago, he asked me if I had examined the writing of these letters and

I told him no I had not, I didn't think it was necessary; that they were so dissimilar, and he said the matter had been worrying him and he thought there was room for a great crime to have been committed. I invited him up into my room and I said Saener while you are waiting you can just satisfy yourself about these letters, and he took the letters and began to critically compare them and he became very excited over it, and after I got ready to go with him, I sat down and examined the letters carefully and became fully convinced in my ~~own~~ ~~own~~ mind, that the same one had written both.

Q. Would you recognize from that cut whether that was Abbot?

(Cut of Abbot, sent out by chief of police, shown witness)

A. I see his face there but I would scarcely recognize it, I see on this paper that he wore a moustache and he had no moustache when he was here, he had a long lip, he had no beard at all, but that is evidently his picture, I can see his features.

Q. But you would not recognize him now from this as you saw him last?

A. No, sir, I would not recognize him.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

H. H. T E M M being duly sworn, testified as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. Where is your place of business?

A. Jefferson and Franklin Ave.

Q. Did you put up some prescriptions for Dr. Albin, containing bismuth, about the 15th, 16th and 17th of July?

A. I did, one.

Q. Of bismuth?

A. Yes, sir, it had bismuth in it.

Q. Bismuth and anything else?

A. Oxide of zinc, that is my recollection.

Q. Is that a sample of the bismuth, the original stock?

A. No, sir, that is the new stock.

Q. Have you any of the original package?

L

A. No, sir, I brought what I was requested to.

Q. This is all a new stock?

A. Yes, sir, this is new stock purchased since the prescription was put up, of course the bismuth is all right, we have been using it right along.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

W I L L I A M Mc'Carthy being duly sworn testified as
follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is your name?

A. William Mc'Carthy.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. Between 8th and 9th on Walnut.

Q. Where do you work?

A. At the Missouri Plating works.

Q. Who is the proprietor of these works?

A. M. D. Degge.

Q. How long have you been working there?

A. A year and three months.

Q. Were you there when Abbot came to work?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Working with him, on the same table?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. At the same bench?

A. Not at the same bench but he was working around and taking

~~The work out while I was doing it.~~

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- Q. You are learning a trade there?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. You have been working at this trade a year and three months?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Are you pretty familiar with the names of the different medicines needed in that business?
- A. Not much.
- Q. Do you know what amonia is?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Do you know what boracic acid is?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. Did you ever see it used?
- A. I have seen it on the packages.
- Q. On which packages?
- A. On the packages.
- Q. That they used there in that business?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Have you ever seen any arsenic around there before Abbot came there?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. Do you know whether he ordered any arsenic?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. Did you see him have any arsenic?
- A. No, sir, I did not see him have any.
- Q. Do you recognize this package as having been in the labaratory there at the works?
- A. Yes, sir.

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Q. Did you bring it here?

A. No, sir.

Q. Who brought it here?

A. I don't know.

Q. Did the firm bring it?

A. I don't know.

Q. You don't know how it got here?

A. No, sir.

Q. How do you recognize it?

A. Well, I have seen it when the package was off and I saw him bring it up here, Mr. Degge.

Q. Mr. Degge had it with him when he came up here?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Look at that package closely and see if you have ever seen it before?

A. Open it out.?

Q. Just take the string off and be careful and don't spill any of it. (witness takes string off package)

A. Yes, sir, I have seen it before.

Q. Where did you see that package last?

A. The last I saw of that package it was sitting on the bench.

Q. What bench?

A. Up in the shop in the establishment of Mr. Degge.

Q. Did you ever see Abbot or any of the workmen have hold of that package?

A. No, sir, I never saw him have hold of it.

Q. Did you ever see him use it?

A. I have seen all the packages open but I never saw him use

any.

Q. Did he take any of this out in your presence, out of the package?

A. No, sir, he never touched it.

Q. He never laid his hands on it?

A. No, sir, he never had it in his hands.

Q. Did you ever see him putting anything out of this package into a bottle or receptacle of any kind?

A. I have seen him put it into a jar.

Q. A jar that they use for electrotyping?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he ever take any out in a phial?

A. No, sir, I never saw him.

Q. Or in a powder box?

A. No, sir.

Q. You never saw him take any out in a phial or bottle?

A. I never noticed him taking any out, I always had my back turned to him.

Q. You never saw him get the powder and put it into a bottle?

A. I saw him put some in a jar but not in a bottle.

Q. What do you mean by a jar?

A. One of those eight gallon jars.

Q. Did you ever see him take any of these chemicals away from your place in a bottle?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever hear a bottle drop that you thought came from his hands, on the floor?

A. No, sir, I saw him have a bottle in his hands.

Q. What was he doing with it?

A. He had some wire around the head of it and he put it down in the lye tank to clean it out, then he took it out and dipped it in the water and laid it down amongst the packages.

Q. Had he any of these packages at any time there where the bottle was?

A. No, sir.

Q. Had he it near them?

A. He laid the bottle down near by and he went away and walked off to the tank.

Q. Did the bottle have anything in it?

A. No, sir, it was empty.

Q. Did you ever see that bottle again?

A. No, sir, I have not seen it since.

M R. D E G G E recalled

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. In looking over this bill Mr. Degge, I forgot to ask you whether you authorized the purchase of these chemicals?

A. Well, I know very little about the purchasing of them, the purchasing of these chemicals is generally done by my partner, he is in charge of that part of the establishment.

Q. What is his name?

A. William H. Musick.

Q. Does he act in the capacity of foreman or superintendent of

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th the works?

A. He is in charge of the plating works, yes, sir.

W I L L I A M H. M U S I C K being duly sworn testified as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is your name?

A. William H. Musick.

Q. Where do you live?

A. 2324 Cass Ave.

Q. What is your business?

A. Foundry and plating works.

Q. Electro-plating?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Whereabouts are your works?

A. I am a partner of Mr. Degge.

Q. You are working now at the Missouri Electro-plating works?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are a member of that firm?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are superintendent also of the shop?

A. Of the plating department.

Q. Are you around among the men all the time?

A. Well, very much of the time.

Q. Do you remember a man by the name of Abbot applying to you for work?

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A. Yes, sir.

Q. What date was that?

A. Well, the first time he came around was on the evening of the 1st of July.

Q. The 1st of July?

A. Yes, sir, he came very late one evening and I had just gone home and he asked my foreman if I was in and the foreman told him no and that he was to come around in the morning and he would find me in, he came around the next morning and he inquired for me and they showed him to me and he told me his business, I told him my foreman had spoken of him coming the previous night, I had a long talk with him, he said that he was a silver plater and also a nickle plater, I told him that we did all ~~nickel~~ plating but we did not do much nickle plating, well, he said he had worked at several places where they did not do very much nickle plating, one of the places he mentioned was Stenzenbacker, then he got telling me what he was capable of doing, he told me a great deal which I don't remember, but judging from what he said he could do I came to the conclusion that he was able to do the work that we required of him, so I told him probably we could give him a job but I would like to see my partner first before I engaged him, so he wanted to know about what time it would be and I told him to come in about noon time, and he came around about half past 11 and while I was talking to him I told him we had decided to hire him and give him employment, and I introduced him to my partner and told him that this was the man that we

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intended to hire; so we talked and talked for some time longer and I asked him if he would come to work in the afternoon, this was on the second of July, and he said he would go down and see how his wife was and he would come back to work in the afternoon; I went out to dinner and after I got back he didn't come, but late in the afternoon he came around, about 4 o'clock and walked around up stairs a while and looked around, and he said he wanted to see how everything was getting along and that he would be at work on Tuesday morning, Monday was the 4th; so on Tuesday morning he didn't show up so I kind of thought he had changed his mind or something had happened, and I thought no more of him until he came around, I believe the night of the 6th or 7th and he stated that his wife was sick and out at Woodland or someplace out there and that he could not get around but that he was ready to start in; I told him all right and to come around in the afternoon, this was on the 7th and he came and looked around and him and I had a talk, he said "I see you have not got any sulphuric acid and Nitric acid" and he said "we ought to have a little bit" and I told him that things had run down and I said that we could very easily get them, I said you just make out a list as to what you want and we will send to the Malinkrodt Chemical Works and get them.

Q. That was the first day he came in, the 7th?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you make that order out that evening?

A. Yes, sir, I didn't make the order, I told him to make out

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the list of what he needed and he said he would do so -- now I am mistaken with reference to the 7th, it was the 8th, in the morning, so he came down, I believe it was about 10 or 11 o'clock, with the list that he had made out and showed me what he wanted, I said leave that here I will give that to my partner and he said when will these things be down, and I said the order will be here to morrow and he said he would like to have it here this afternoon, I said it was impossible to do that unless we ordered it by telephone.

Q. Did he seem to be anxious to get the order in that morning?

A. He seemed to be anxious to get the order in that afternoon.

Q. Had he any material to use?

A. Yes, sir, plenty.

Q. Such as you had been in the habit of using?

A. The only material that we had not was nitric acid and we could have got along without it, I was making out tickets and I said "you wait a minute and I will call up Mr. Malinkrodt and we will order the goods by telephone, and I called him up and I said "Abbot you step in the box and tell them what you want," I told the people up there our nickle plater would order what he wanted, and he stepped in the box and called off what he wanted.

Q. Is this list he gave you what he wanted?

A. Well, I didn't look over the list what he gave to me, because just as soon as I took it in my hand, when we found out what he wanted I told him to step to the telephone and order it.

Q. Did you look over the articles and see what they were?

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A. No, sir, but in calling them off I heard him call these articles, that is part of them, in fact Nitric acid he ordered in a large quantity and we don't use more than three gallons and I countermanded the order for this article, I see we got every one of these, we got all the articles about 4 or half past 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and he said we will get to work on that solution so as to be ready for work.

Q. Did he open the packages when they came from Mr. Melinkrodt's?

A. Not to my knowledge that afternoon, but the next day I saw him fooling around the chemicals, whichever one it was I don't know, I saw him busy and I saw him preparing something there, in fact what he was preparing was nothing more or less than amonia.

Q. Just run over that list and see if that is what you daily employ in nickle plating, or in any part of your work?

A. This sulphuric acid we use quite a lot and this salmoniac we very seldom use, this amonia we use considerable of that at times but this boracic acid we never use, not to my knowledge since I have been in the business and I have been in the business II years; the arsenic is something we never use not to my knowledge and the oxalic acid we never use, the nitric acid we have used in plating.

Q. You are a practical silver plater?

A. Yes, sir, I am.

Q. How long have you been working out of your time?

A. Well, I have had charge of the different shops for about 9 years.

- Q. You have bought a good many of these chemicals?
- A. Yes, sir, but I never bought arsenic or oxalic acid before, we never had any arsenic.
- Q. Did you ask him why he bought this?
- A. No, sir, I never asked him simply because he claimed he had an idea that he could fix nickle work as white as silver, and that is something very desirous to have around nickle platers for the whiter the work the better, and from the way that he talked about chemicals I thought he was an exceptionally smart man and I naturally gave him full swing, I thought he would make the work superior to what I had ever seen before.
- Q. You only saw him fix this nickle material that he boiled down?
- A. That is all.
- Q. Did you see him handling any of the packages that afternoon at all?
- A. Well, I saw him standing around but I could not say that I saw him handling them.
- Q. Did you see him open them the next day?
- A. No, sir, but I saw him handling them while they were open.
- Q. Did you ever see this package before? (package shown witness)
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Well, did you carefully examine it, tell me where you saw it last?
- A. Well, I will tell you about this package, I saw the package up there after the outside wrapper was taken off and left just like this (showing package) and one day there was a reporter down at the shop and they were talking about the

case, and during the conversation I said "I don't know but what there is something up stairs that may throw a little light on the case" I told them we had a little arsenic up there and I went and picked up the package, it was not tied up one end was open, and the reporter said that did throw quite a light on the case, since then we have had it in the office.

Q. Did you ever see this package in Abbot's hands?

A. Well, I could not swear to that package particularly, I saw him handling different packages, there was some 4 or 5 packages there.

Q. Did any of the employees tell you they saw him handling this?

A. I don't suppose they could swear to that identical package.

Q. Did they report anything mysterious that he had done, out of the ordinary way?

A. The boys in the building remarked and said that whenever they would look at him or ask him anything, or ask him what he was fixing up, he would say a little solution, and if they asked him what he was putting in that solution he would not give them any information, and whenever the boys would look around, they would sometimes walk around to the tank and take out some nickle work.

Q. You have an apprentice, a boy named William Mc'Carthy?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he report to you that he saw Abbot holding one of these packages and emptying some into a bottle?

A. No, sir, he did not report that he saw him emptying it he reported to me that he saw him take a bottle that we had cas-

tor oil in and clean it out and go over by these packages and have a bottle in one hand and one of the packages in the other.

Q. Did he walk over towards where he was at work?

A. No, sir, he said himself and another one of the boys were turning around and saw him and he put the things down again and walked over where the solution was.

Q. He left the bottle lying there?

A. Yes, sir, lying among the packages.

Q. What became of that package of oxalic acid?

A. I believe it is down at the shop yet.

Q. Is it perfect?

A. ~~XXX~~ It has been opened.

Q. How much of it is gone?

A. I could not say, I never weighed it.

Q. Is there much of it left?

A. Yes, sir, probably more than what is used.

Q. It is much lighter than this?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. It would make a much larger package?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. It had been opened you did not see the original package before the outside wrapper was broken?

A. I saw it as it was taken off the wagon.

Q. Did these packages come separately or were they all in one box?

A. Separately.

Q. Each package by itself?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You say this and the oxalic acid and boracic acid packages, they came in the wagon?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you check them off?

A. No, sir, I did not.

Q. Did you sign the drayman's receipt?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. That package is down at your place, the package of oxalic acid?

A. Yes, sir.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

G E O R G E D. B E R G being duly sworn testified
as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is your name?

A. George D. Berg, Jr.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. 1519 Bremen Ave.

Q. Where are you employed at?

A. At the Malinkrodt Chemical works.

Q. Do you take these orders that come through the telephone and
is it your duty to fill them when they come either by tele-

phone or mail?

A. It is my duty to fill orders.

Q. From the stock?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you get an order of that description from Degge & Co.?

(Order shown witness)

A. Yes, sir, I did except with the difference of the arsenic, at first 5 pounds was ordered of arsenic and then it was changed to 2 1/2.

Q. They corrected the 5 pound order to 2 1/2 ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long was that after the original order went in?

A. About half an hour afterwards.

Q. You fill these orders frequently for Degge & Co.?

A. Yes, sir, I fill them occasionally, yes, sir.

Q. Have you ever had an order similar to that before which you remember?

A. I had an order for amonia but I never had an order for boracic acid or arsenic and I do not remember of oxalic acid.

Q. You don't remember of having an order for these three that you have mentioned before?

A. No, sir.

Q. You put these up yourself?

A. Yes, sir, most of them except the creosote.

Q. Do you weigh these packages very carefully?

A. Yes, sir. ~~XXX~~

Q. Very correctly do you?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ever have an order for these three articles, boracic acid, arsenic and oxalic acid from other concerns of a similar character to this who make these plating solutions?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. You sell all to manufacturers?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Describe them?

A. Wholesale drug houses.

Q. I mean the manufacturers?

A. I don't know anything about it.

Q. You never have any orders from manufacturers of metal?

A. No, sir.

Q. I see your name signed to a certificate signifying that a certain package of white, said to be pure arsenic contained 2 pounds, 4 ounces and 6 drachms? averdupois?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is this the package referred to?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You rendered this package to Mr. Kressus?

A. Yes, sir, the other gentleman handed it to me.

Q. Mr. Ryan?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. But you were present when it was weighed?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is this 2 1/2 pounds of pure arsenic, is it averdupois or apothecaries weight?

A. Averdupois.

Q. Then two pounds, 4 ounces and 6 drachms, how much difference would that be between the original package?

A. It would be a difference of about three ounces and two drachms

Q. And reduced to grains how much would that be --- well that is not material, you didn't see any of these other packages?

A. No, sir, not after they left the place.

Q. This was handed to you by Mr. Ryan from the office was it?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You did not open it?

A. I opened it after I had been to the drug store.

Q. And after it had been weighed you opened it?

A. We opened it and put it on the scale.

Q. You say there was none of it lost?

A. Yes, sir, there was none of it lost.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

J O H N F. R Y A N being duly sworn, testified as
follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is your full name?

A. John F. Ryan.

Q. And your business?

A. Clerk for the coroner.

Q. Is this your signature to this paper?

A. Yes, sir, I signed that.

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Q. Where did you first see this package of arsenic?

A. I got the package from Mr. Degge, he brought it up here at my request.

Q. He brought it from his establishment at your request?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was this the package as he handed it to you?

A. It was not in that condition when I received it, I left it in that condition, it was wrapped in a newspaper and I asked this gentleman here, the chemist of the Malinkrodt Co. how he weighed it when he sent the arsenic and he explained to me that it was weighed with the inside wrapper, I had the package in that condition when I got to the drug store.

Q. Did you see this weighed?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there any of it lost?

A. No, sir.

Q. It was put back in this package just as it was on the scale?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Mr. Coulter testified here that he identified Susan Beck by a defect on the inside of two of her front teeth, do you know anything about that?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How did he get them?

A. Well, when Mr. Coulter came in during the post mortem, the post mortem was going on at the time and was hardly completed and Mr. Coulter had left and come back and stated to me that he wanted to make the identification thorough, he said that

she had two front teeth that were defective upon the inside of the teeth, we at that time had the girl confined for re-burial, I had the coffin opened again and removed those teeth myself.

Q. From the upper jaw?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Front teeth?

A. Yes, sir, two front teeth, showing each of them to Mr. Coulter, he said "that answers what her mother has told me about the defect in the teeth" I replaced the teeth and closed the coffin.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

G E O R G E G O E R L I C H being duly sworn testified
as follows:-

DIRECT - EXAMINATION

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. What is the No. of your residence?

A. 3711 North 9th street.

Q. What is your occupation?

A. I am secretary of the Malinkrodt Chemical works.

Q. Did you receive an order on the works, or do you receive orders as they come in?

A. I did not receive the order myself, but one of our employees did.

Q. Is it your duty to take orders over the telephone, do you open the mail and send them out to the works, is it your duty

as secretary to receive the orders?

A. I open the mail and receive them by mail, or if they come by telephone any one that is at leisure takes the order by telephone as the case may be, it just depends upon who is near the telephone at the time.

Q. Is that your writing? (paper shown witness)

A. No, sir, that is our bill clerk's writing but I am familiar with that order and I know all about it.

Q. You remember that the order was filled as it is there?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did some of these chemicals being ordered from Degge's electro-plating works cause remarks?

A. No, sir.

Q. You are accustomed to receive orders for this class of chemicals?

A. Well, we had no occasion to question.

Q. You had never received a similar order from Degge & Co. for arsenic and oxalic acid and boracic acid?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You had received such an order?

A. I believe so.

Q. Boracic acid is used in solutions for metals?

A. Yes, sir, to a large extent.

Q. You had never received an order from them for any arsenic of any sort, kind or description, or any such combination?

A. We received an order for one ounce on the 11th of June 1886.

Q. One ounce of arsenic?

A. Yes, sir, you will find it on the back of these bills.

Q. June 11th 1886?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Chemically pure?

A. Yes, sir, chemically pure.

Q. Oxalic acid, was that supplied them?

A. Never before.

Q. Oxalic acid is a very virulent poison?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Much more powerful than arsenic?

A. Not so powerful as arsenic I think, I never tried them and I cannot judge.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

'M R. C O U L T E R being recalled testified as follows:

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. Was this girl, Susan Beck employed in any capacity outside of her home at work or anything, or was she working out from home or did she live at home?

A. She worked out occasionally from home.

Q. Where was she working when she left Chesterton, do you know?

A. She was not working anywhere at that time.

Q. She was not engaged anywhere?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know the last place she had been engaged in?

A. The last place she was engaged in was at West's.

Q. How long previous to her disappearance from the City or town?

A. Well, I am not positive but I should think within 8 or 10 days of her disappearance.

Q. She had been living at West's house in the capacity of a servant?

A. Yes, sir.

By a juror:- Have you any of the lady's hand writing?

A. If you have any of the lady's hand writing there I will pick it out, I think you will find it in that envelope. (paper handed witness) that is Susan Beck's hand writing, at least it was some time ago.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

M R. M U S I C K recalled, testified as follows:-

DIRECT - EXAMINATION

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. This article of arsenic, do you remember the arsenic order that had just been testified to?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What use did you put that arsenic to?

A. I will tell you, I found a receipt in an old book for making a brass solution, and there was about one eighth of an ounce of arsenic to be used to about 5 gallons of solution, we used about one eighth of an ounce for that brass solution, one day I had occasion to make up a brass solution and I tried it and it didn't prove successful and I have got all but that

eighth of an ounce in the shop yet.

Q. Of that same arsenic?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. So you never had occasion to use it since your experiment?

A. No, sir, I have never had occasion for using it for anything except the brass solution, and that is something we don't follow now, at present we have no occasion for brass solutions.

By a juror:- When did you make that test of the brass solution?

A. That was probably about a year ago.

Q. That was the first arsenic you ordered?

A. Yes, sir, of course I had to order an ounce in order to get the one eighth of an ounce.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

M R. C O U L T E R recalled, testified as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. Do you identify this as the hand writing of the girl, Susie Beck?

A. I identify that this was what her father gave me yesterday, these two pieces of writing and said they were her writing.

Q. This letter is from her and the other from a copy book?

A. This was taken from a copy book and this other is a letter she wrote in 1874.

Q. Did you bring any of these?

A. They were all here.

By Coroner Frazer:- These are specimens of her hand writing and you can see how different they are from the letter which she was alleged to have written.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

D R. E. R. A L B I N recalled, testified as follows:-

D I R E C T - E X A M I N A T I O N

By Coroner Frazer.

Q. I want you to make the statement to the jury you made to me just now about the question asked by West, if arsenic was a poison?

A. The question came up, I don't know how it came up, I was a little bit surprised because when I wrote that prescription the first morning, he told the ladies in the house that he knew all about that medicine, but he didn't know just what medicine to give, and when I was there he asked me why I had given her an astringent medicine, I said the medicine was astringent, it had bismuth in it and that was given for the purpose of quieting her pulse, and also that I was giving her oxide of zinc and that that was an astringent also, and he told me that he knew all about bismuth, he said I have made it he said I was in the drug business once.

Q. And he subsequently asked you if arsenic was a poison?

A. On Saturday the question came up some way, he wanted to know if arsenic was a poison, I told him it was, that one 42nd of a grain was an ordinary dose and that it would poison a person, he seemed to want to know all about it and I never

took a second thought about it after I heard him mention arsenic.

Q. Did you ask him why he asked the question?

A. No, sir, but when we were going to the funeral, I went to the funeral, and in the carriage was Abbot, Mr. Degge, Dr. Hammond and myself, and Abbot he was telling Dr. Hammond I believe that is the minister, something about a prescription containing arsenic, it seems to me I heard him speak of arsenic another time, I cannot remember when that was.

Q. This was in the carriage coming home?

A. I think that was going to the funeral.

Q. What did he say?

A. I don't know, he was talking about some prescription.

Q. These were the three occasions on which he spoke about arsenic?

Q. There were two occasions that I am sure about and another occasion I am satisfied he spoke of arsenic.

By a juror:- Did you not think it strange that a man with such intelligence as that man had, that he should ask you about that?

A. I didn't take a thought, I didn't think for one moment about it and as I told the reporter, I could not think it was a poisoning case because I had attended her myself.

By a juror:- You didn't see anything around the house that would make you suspect anything, any bottles or anything of that kind?

A. No, sir, I didn't notice anything at that time.

Q. All the medicine you gave her was in powders?

A. I think they were all in powders except a little tincture of aconite.

Q. She had that in a bottle?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You did not see anything else to excite suspicion around the room?

A. No, sir, I did not.

By a juror:- Was there arsenic mixed in the powders?

A. Of course it could be mixed up, these powders that I gave her they were lying there and I took some home, I thought they were there until the man came this morning and I told him I had some of the original powders there, I didn't look at the medicine to see whether it was the same medicine or not.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of August
1887.

VERDICT.

That the deceased, Susan Beck, alias Annie Abbot, came to her death at about 2 o'clock A. M. July 18th, 1887, at No. 713 Jefferson Ave. from the effects of arsenical poisoning, and we, the jury, are of opinion that the arsenic was administered to her by William Thomas Abbot West, alias Thomas Abbot.

Dr. W. L. Blickhahn being duly sworn testifies:

I am a regular practicing Physician of this city and at the request of Dr. S.H. Frazer Coroner of the City of St. Louis to day July 29th at 7.30 A.M. made a post Mortem examination of the body of Mrs. Abbott and found as follows:

The body is that of a woman about 5ft 2 inches long, weighing about 125 pounds.

Body well nourished -- face puffed and cracked; skeleton strong, well developed.

Body in an advanced state of decomposition -- skin (scorff-skin) peeled off at the slightest touch -- tissues emphezema-tions, crepitating. A wealth of reddish hair graced her head.

On reflecting skin from abdomen and chest the tissue was very moist and easily torn.

The costal cartolages were very easily cut through they also showing evidence of decomposition.

The attempt to examine skull contents was rewarded by having the contents trickle out along the track made by the saw like so much thick soup -- brain so soft as to be liquid.

The abdomen was opened and organs appeared in their relative positions, the gut being distended and hiding liver which was small and soft and had retracted.

The chest cavity was next observed -- right lung partly adherent -- lung very much decomposed -- very soft (pulpy) and no strictun discernible. Left lung in a similar condition.

The pericardial sack contained no fluid -- walls juxtaposed

2.

but not adherent. The Heart small, emphysematous, soft and so decomposed as to be almost impossible to dissect it. No disease of Aortic or Mitral valves, which were yet demonstrable.

Abdomen

The intestines were moved to one side and (probably) two ounces of fatty fluid were found in most dependant portion of the body (Cul de sac Douglas).

* The stomach was carefully isolated, the oesophagus ligatured and the Duodenum and the stomach removed with contents undisturbed and it with a portion of the liver and heart sealed and sent to Prof. Leudeking for chemical examination.

The liver as before said very soft and much changed.

Post Mortem. Pathological change could hardly have been observed such was the decomposition.

* Kidneys both soft but in a better state of preservation than the other organs--the left kidney showed evidence of localized inflammation in various portions--Nephritis purulenta circumscripta.

Spleen soft and friable--nothing discernible.

Intestines--no evidence of inflammation of the serous covering--Post-mortem changes so great as to render it very doubtful as regards pathological changes of mucous surface--ulcerations were not found--some enlargement of the normal mucous folds--emphysematous condition here too. Contents in upper portion yellowish then blackish, very small in quantity--The mucous membrane in lower portion of ilium was pigmented

and to my mind showed evidence of mitation but a microscopic examination might have disproved that; this however was impossible as tissue was too far decomposed for microscopic demonstration. The large bowel had more contents, blackish mostly, some small amount of yellowish matter.

While making the external examination, the thighs were moved apart and tissue resembling a sack, noticed between the thighs- it looked like a scrotum- this was seen in the vulvar opening and not disturbed but allowed to remain until later on. After finishing the abdomen internally, all but the bladder rectum and sexual organs, these were next looked to- the rectum and bladder were found but uterus seemed missing- a little search disclosed the fact that the uterus had prolapsed and inverted and that it was in the vulvar opening between the thighs. The internal or mucous surface was the exposed surface.

Rectum, Uterus and Vagina, and bladder moved together.

Uterus closed about the size of a small pig bladder -

Tissues very soft and in an advanced state of decomposition. The fundus (mucous surface) was dark in color over a circumscribed area- cervical canal dilated to admit the under finger easily-- -- vagina cervical canal and uterine cavity laid open. The above mentioned dark coloring observed-- no evidence of any tear about cervix or vagina. No inflammatory process observed -- don't think that had there been any it would have been demonstrable under the circumstances.

4

Nothing discovered in bladder or rectum.

After the close of the examination the clothes of the deceased were examined and a faetus and membrane (about 2 months or $2\frac{1}{2}$) were found. This had been removed unobserved in undressing the subject. It confirmed the conclusion arrived at that of pregnancy.

My observation sums up that deceased certainly was pregnant but there is nothing discovered thus for post-mortem as to the cause of death. Any pathological condition have been destroyed by putrefaction. The chemical analysis may throw more light on the subject.

W. L. Blickhahn M. D.

Report on analysis of the viscera in the Abbot Case.

The samples used in this work were handed me in a sealed glass jar, by Dr. Blickhahn, with instructions from coroner Dr. Frazer to examine for arsenic. They consisted of the stomach ligatured at both openings, a portion of the liver weighing 50 odd grains, and the heart, opened for post mortem inspection. All parts were in an advanced stage of decomposition.

Analysis of samples of the liver.

The entire sample was finely minced, placed in a new dish of best german porcelain and treated by the method of Mess. Chittenden and Donaldson described in Vol. II page 235 of the "American Chemical Journal". Their method is a modification of that of Gautier, described in Bulletin de la Societe Chimique, Vol. 24 page 250.

To the samples of liver in the dish were added 12 c.c. of pure concentrated nitric acid, and the mixture heated by means of a Bunsen burner to 150 160 C. with occasional stirring. After about 1 1/2 hours the thick mass had assumed a deep yellow colour. The heat was then removed and 2 c. c. of pure concentrated sulphuric acid added and the mixture vigorously stirred. Thereby the mass became brown and emitted volumes of nitric oxide gas which were immediately followed by dense white fumes of a suffocating odour. After this reaction had ceased the residue in the dish resembled tar in

consistency and colour. Then heat was again applied for a few minutes and the temperature of 180 C attained. While still at this temperature 4 c. c. of pure concentrated nitric acid were added drop by drop with constant stirring. After this the dish was heated to 200 C. for 15 minutes and then allowed to cool. A hard carbobaceous residue was thus obtained which was powdered and thoroughly extracted by repeated and prolonged boiling with water. The arsenic is present in the solution as arsenic acid. This solution was mixed with pure dilute sulphuric acid and introduced into the Marsh apparatus in which zinc and sulphuric acid had been generating hydrogen for some time. The Cohemi on glass tube was heated to bright redness over a space of 4 inches just before the contracted part. A good strong mirror brownishly transmitted light was thus obtained.

The construction of the Marsh apparatus was the usual one, the gas being well dried by a chloride of calcium tube, in which were also some fragments of caustic potash. The contracted parts of the tube containing the mirrors was cut out and the weight total of the deposited mirrors found to be 7 1/2 milligrams. These mirrors were proven to be arsenic by 1st. being wholly soluble in hypochlorite of Sod. 2nd. by giving off on oxydation the characteristic garlic odour. 3rd. by yielding a sublimate of octahedra in the open tube. 4th. which gave a yellow precipitate with nitrate of silver. 5th. and a green with copper sulphate. 6th. and a yellow with sulphuretted hydrogen soluble in ammonium sulphide.

All these tests go to confirm that these mirrors were arsenic. The human liver weighs from 1500 to 1800 ~~grams~~ grms. Taking it at 1500 we would by simple calculation find that in the liver examined there must have been 30 X 7 1/2 mg. equal to 225 mg. of arsenic which is equal to 3.47 grains of metallic arsenic or about 4.5 grains of white arsenic. This exceeds the usual maximum medicinal dose of white arsenic many times. All other organs of the body must of necessity also contain arsenic, but it will not be necessary to enter into the estimation of the total quantity.

Examination of the stomach.

The stomach was ligatured at both openings. It was found to contain a dark brown slimy mass over its entire inner surface, interspersed with bright yellow specks. This mass was washed on a plate and a heavy residue, dark brown in colour obtained. There were also floating particles of the same colour. A portion of the residue was dissolved in strong nitric acid, the solution evaporated nearly to dryness and a drop let fall into water. The characteristic precipitate of basic nitrate of bismuth was obtained. The solution in Nitric acid was after dilution precipitated by sulphuretted hydrogen and a dark brown precipitate of sulphide of bismuth was obtained. The solution in nitric acid was precipitated also by ammonic hydrate and a white flocculent precipitate obtained. All these reactions, together with the blow pipe test lead me to conclude that a dose of bismuth (subnitrate?)

had been taken shortly before death. The blackening must be ascribed to the evolution of sulphuretted hydrogen in the process of decomposition.

Another part of the washed residue was examined under the microscope and found to contain numerous clear crystals. Some of these were selected and found when heated in a closed tube to be entirely volatile yielding a sublimate of octahedral crystals. These same crystals when heated in a tube with carbon yielded a fine mirror. All confirmatory tests described under the examination of the liver were applied to these sublimates and it was thus established positively that there ~~was~~ was arsenic in form of arsenious acid or white arsenic in the stomach.

The heart I did not examine. All reagents used were vigorously tested and found to be free from arsenic.

Very Respectfully,

Dr. C. Luedeking,

Labaratory Washington

University.

D. C. L. (Richardson being duly sworn & testified:
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W. L. Dickinson M.D.

St. Louis Aug. 1/87

Report on chemical analysis
of viscera in the Abbott case

respectfully submitted
to Coroner Dr. S. H. Brown

by
Chas. L. Leake M.D.

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Very respectfully
Dr. C. Lucke King,
Laboratory Washington University.

Green Beck / aka / W-F CAC 358
Anne Abbott

7-18-1887

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Box 52

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