

WILLIAM TIERNEY on his oath further saith :-

To Mr. Garnett - I came into Gymbowen about Seven on the night of the social to the best of my belief. I cannot say the date when I bought the strychnine. I always buy my poison from W. T. ^{Hoare} ~~Harper~~ and Co.. I see an entry in their book on the 24th. of February with my signature, ^{of} ~~and~~ an ounce of strychnine. The bottle produced is the one. I know I bought some strychnine this summer for rabbits.

To Mr. Grano - When I took my wife to visit Dr. Bird on Friday the 19th of May I was not under the influence of ~~drink~~ liquor.

(Signed) William Tierney.

To the Jury - When I went to the social Miss Bertram and Mr Reeves drove with me. We arrived there about Seven o'clock.

To Mr Power - I do not know when the dancing began, but I did not understand that the dancing started as late as Nine o'clock. We arrived there after sunset: it was getting dark.

(Signed)

William Tierney.

Taken and sworn before me at Goroke
on Friday the Fourteenth day of July 1905.

WILLIAM TIERNEY on his oath further saith:-

To the Coroner - I always carried the strychnine in my pocket. When I go home I go to my room and take the things out. I do not remember what I did with this poison, but that is what I always do with poison. Somewhere about that time I poisoned wheat for rabbits, and if I got it in the morning I would very likely poison wheat that same evening. If I did mix the wheat that evening I would put the strychnine in the bookcase in my room where I always kept it.

To Mr. Power- The strychnine bottle had no wrapper on it. I lifted the cork with a penknife and it was very easily lifted.

To the Coroner - I think if the cork had been ^udisturbed before, it would have attracted my attention.

To Mr. Garnett - I think it is very likely if I came in that day for strychnine that I used it that same day. I do not remember when I did open the bottle.

(signed) William Tierney.

Ken
Taken and sworn before me at Goroke
on Friday the Fourteenth day of July 1905.

WILLIAM TIERNEY on his oath further saith:-

To the Coroner - I cannot exactly ~~say~~ how long the younger sister was staying at my house but I should say six weeks or two months. She used to go to school in the day-time. My mother died in October and I think she stayed right up to the Christmas holidays. She came up in the buggy with Mary. Mary stayed all alone with me only from that time until the end of February.

To Mr. Power - I understand she slept with Mary. She was perhaps ten ~~or~~ or eleven years old.

(signed) William T^hierney.

Taken and sworn before me at Goroke
on Friday the Fourteenth day of July 1905.

**Damaged
Document(s)**

104

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1905

PROCEEDINGS of INQUEST

held upon the body of

Mary Tierney

at

Forobke

Received at the Crown Law Offices,

2nd August 1905

R

25/9/93.

Wm Stewart JP
Coroner.

GLUED DOCUMENT

Richard Kingstow Bird on his oath saith
Saw a legally qualified Medical Practitioner
residing at Natimur R and registered in Victoria

To Mr. Garnett- I hand in the following paper :-

CORONER'S INQUEST.

VICTORIA, TO WIT.

This Deponent * Richard Kingston Birdon his oath saith, I am a duly qualified Medical Practitionerresiding at Natimuk* Christian and
Surname in
full.

As touching the death of Mary Tierney of Laroche
 On Friday afternoon late I think between five and six
 O'clock Mr Tierney at Russell Hotel Natimuk, told me
 to see his wife. I saw Mrs Tierney and Miss Bertram
 in one of the rooms of the Hotel. Mrs Tierney told me
 she had been taken ill that morning at home.
 She described the symptoms and on my questioning
 her she told me she had partaken of a tart for breakfast.
 that the tart had a bitter taste and that it was bitter
 in places. She told me the tea had a very bitter
 taste also. That she had twitches, that her legs were
 so stiff that she could not get into the buggy to
 start to come down to see me. After examining her
 I told her that she was practically all right, but
 there must have been something in that tart to have
 caused the symptoms. I suggested that Simon had
 got into it, and told her not to have any more of
 it and to be careful when she went home.
 I prescribed for her and told her to remain at
 Natimuk that night so that I could see how
 she was in the morning. She also told me that
 shortly after she was taken ill Miss Bertram also complained
 of being ill. but after vomiting she got all right.
 She told me that she herself had taken salt and water
 to induce vomiting but without effect. I did not
 see her again alive. Mr Tierney called up to my house
 in the morning following to see me. but I was ~~absent~~ ^{out}.

Taken and Sworn before me the 23rd day
 of May 1905-189 at Laroche

Thomas Jellicott J.P.

Coroner.

**Damaged
Document(s)**

Continued

in the Country and did not return to my home till nearly midday by that time Mr & Mrs Tierney & Miss Bertram had left.

I heard on Sunday that Mrs Tierney had died between five and six on the Saturday evening. I was informed by a messenger to that effect. He did not ask for a certificate but informed me of the fact. It was arranged that Mr Tierney should converse with me on the telephone at

Y.J. at a certain time. And being in possession of the facts I told him I could not give a certificate and

advised him to report the matter to the Police on Monday.

Y.J. "I received instructions from the Constable ^{on Monday} in charge at Garroke by wire to proceed to the Tierney residence this I did arriving there at about

11.30 in the evening. I viewed the body, and reported to the Coroner, and after consulting him decided to hold my Autopsy the following morning in the day light. I have this day made a post-mortem examination of the body of Mary Tierney.

The body is that of a well developed woman between thirty and thirty five years of age. Externally there are no marks of violence ^{the Post-mortem}.

Lividities well marked. I made the Post mortem examination by dissection and examined the various organs. I removed the stomach with its contents. Placed them in a jar which I handed to Constable

Y.J. Drunham it being duly ^{sealed} in order that it might

Y.J. be forwarded to the Government ~~Physic~~ Analyst for examination. I am unable to state the

cause of death until the result of the analysis

Y.J. (In reply to the Jury) is known. Mr Tierney brought some of the Jars down when he came to see me on Friday. I told him to take it to my house in the morning but owing to my

being away. I heard no more about it.

Taken and sworn before me the 23rd day of May 1905 (31) Richd. D. Hunt M.D.
at Garroke Thomas Delboast J.P.

^{post}
I made a ~~not~~ morten examination by dissection. The lungs, hypostatic
congestion well marked. The heart, right side of the heart, pulmon-
ary artery, ^{and} ~~the~~ venae ~~ca~~ cavae, distended with dark fluid blood. li-
ver somewhat enlarged, surface smooth: kidneys, surface smooth, sub-
stance normal, capsule non-adherent: spleen normal: in fact the gen-
eral appearances of the organs were normal. I removed the stomach
and portion of the duodenum, and placed them in a jar. I have heard
the evidence given by the Government Analyst to-day, and am of opin-
ion that death was due to asphyxia the result of strychnine poi-
soning. The first symptom of poisoning by strychnine is ~~a~~ feeling
of suffocation, then muscular twitchings, clonic spasms, that is
convulsions, with ~~long~~ periods of remission between the seizures.
The limbs are ~~usually~~ usually thrown forwards, then backwards, often
to such an extent that the head and heels will almost touch. This
is the condition known as opisthonotus. The patient then may
have an interval from all twitchings ^{and} or seizures, ~~as~~ being disturb-
a breath of air is sometimes quite suf-
ficient to produce another spasm. ^{J. A.} or touched very slightly, ~~the~~ ~~bleed~~ ~~and~~ air is sometimes q
During the spasms the face is of-
ten hideously distorted, the eye-balls are prominent: the pa-
tient may fancy that sparks are flying from the eye. There are a
succession of symptoms until the patient eventually dies from ex-
haustion or asphyxiation, the mind being clear to the last. Cold
shivers and rigors ~~are~~ are a sign, and so may vomiting be, with giddi-
ness and head-ache; nausea and tingling in the ^{limbs} ~~lips~~ are signs. The
bottle produced (B) bears my signature. I took possession of a por-
tion of the tart, and a tin containing salts (E) which I handed to
the police. When Mr. Tierney came up to my surgery I told him, du-
ring the course of conversation as to the trouble that was the
matter with his wife, that it was poison. He said "I have ^{the} tart
here". I said "Bring it up ^{with} you in the morning". He mention-
ed something about going home that night, being a fine night, that
they

they wished to go home. I told him that I wished him to stop, and I wanted the tart particularly. On the following morning I was away at a case in the country, and when I returned I enquired if Mr. Tierney had been at the house. They told me that somebody had been there, and on my describing him my housekeeper told me that it was probably who it was. I asked if there was a tart. She said "No". *I asked if he had anything with him. She said "No."* and I was disappointed. I wanted to examine the tart.

To Mr. Grano - I did not say anything to Tierney about its being ptomaine poisoning. ~~I~~ told him it was poison: ~~I~~ did not say what poison.

To the Jury - Ptomaine is a poison you get in sausages and bad meat. It produces vomiting and intense depression, but the symptoms of strychnine are characteristic, such as the twitchings. Ptomaine poisoning is often fatal. From the symptoms that Mrs. Tierney described to me at first, I thought it was strychnine. I did not acquaint Mr. Tierney with that. He said he had ^{the} a tart. I wanted to see the tart, and have a further talk with him in the morning. I do not think it would have been advisable to have got the tart that night. Mr. Tierney was rather argumentative. I thought ^I ~~it~~ would be better able to impress him in the morning. I do not say he was intoxicated. He was not quite sober. That was the reason I ^o would rather have the tart brought in the morning.

To Mr. Grano - I did not leave any message in the morning as to what time I would return. I could not say what time I would return. I ~~had~~ left in the early morning, and ~~I~~ did not know what time I would be home. Ptomaine was mentioned to Mrs. Tierney, and I think it was to Mrs. Tierney, but not as the poison.

To the Coroner - Mrs. Tierney and myself were discussing poisons in the room when Miss Bertram was there. We were speaking about Ptomaine and not knowing where to look for the cause of the poison, suggested it might be in some of the utensils. I had an idea of poisoning ~~it~~ but

but I thought it was accidental poisoning. I was going on the line that it was something that had got into the tart in the flour, or baking powder, or sugar. After hearing all they had to say I had not the slightest idea of ptomaine poisoning being the cause.

To the Jury - I do not know, after my conversation with Mrs. Tierney, whether she was under the impression that she was poisoned by ptomaine poison. I was under the impression that she was poisoned by something. I did not say anything as far as Mrs. Tierney was concerned. I would be surprised to hear that she said that ptomaine poisoning was what she was suffering from. I did not inform her that the symptoms she described were symptoms of strychnine poisoning, but that was running in my mind. I was not at my house in the morning when Tierney came. He never brought the tart down. He told me the tart was in the buggy.

To Mr. Grano - I believe the buggy was at the hotel where I examined the lady.

To Mr. Power - Mrs. Tierney was a state school tacher. I would not be surprised to learn that she knew about ptomaine poisoning. She was a highly educated lady. It might be natural for her to think it was ptomaine poisoning. If I were treating a case and saw the symptoms that she said she had at Springbank, I would treat it as a case of strychnine poisoning.

To the Jury - I had a conversation with Miss Bertram on the evening when I examined Mrs. Tierney. I did not examine her. She did not give any signs of having anything the matter with her - neither of the ladies did. I had very little to say to Miss Bertram. She said she was all right. I believe I looked at her tongue: that was all. She was in the bedroom the whole time. She may not have heard all the conversation. She did not consult me for her own illness.

To Mr. Garnett - She complained of vomiting. She mentioned that she had partaken

partaken of some of the tart, or something that had made her sick ^{but} ~~as~~
she had vomited, and was right, and she had no further symptoms. I
just looked at her tongue: that was all.

To the Jury - I think Mrs. Tierney mentioned that they had taken salts
that morning. What was running in my mind was the bitter taste
in the tart. The deceased mentioned to me that the tart was bitter
in places, and what was running in my mind was that strychnine
might have got into the sugar accidentally. I had a conversation ~~in~~
with Mr. Tierney on the telephone on the Sunday night. I asked him
for a few of the ~~particulars~~ ^{particulars} of the death of Mrs. Tierney. He did
not say very much. ~~He~~ gave me some ^a ~~particulars~~, but he appeared a
good deal cut up. He just told me that she had some fits, two
or three I think, and I came to the conclusion that it was strychnine
poisoning. I advised him to report the ~~matter~~ ^{matter} to the police.
I ^{prescribed} ~~prescribed~~ for Mrs. Tierney. The prescription was a sedative. She
was in a little excited state, and I thought she might have a rest-
less night. so I gave her something to last her over the night, to
settle her nerves. It ~~was~~ nothing to counteract the effect of poi-
son. She had no symptoms of poisoning when she came to me. It was
only what I was told. She was perfectly well as far as I could
see. I account for her getting over the first attack on the Friday
by the fact that she did not get enough poison into the system.
Probably when she ^{tasted} ~~tasted~~ the bitter tart she would expectorate.

To the Coroner - Miss Bertram may have told me they took salts that
morning. The deceased told me she took salt and water to produce
vomiting, without effect.

To Mr. Garnett - I cannot say that anyone came for a certificate. Mr.
Knight came and reported the death to me on the Sunday morning, and
I discussed the matter ^{with him} ~~with him~~. I questioned him as to the mode of
death, and told him I did not see my way clear on the ^{particulars} ~~particulars~~
that I had to give a certificate. I told him I would see him later

on. He had called me out of bed. I asked him where he was stopping. I then told him I had decided not to give a certificate, but on talking the matter over again I said I would like to hear what Mr. Tierney had to say more exactly, about the mode of death.

To the Hury - I do not know why the messenger came to me. He came down to report the death. I cannot say if he expected to get a certificate. He did not ask for the certificate. He came down and told me that Mrs. Will Tierney had died ~~the~~ evening before and he seemed greatly shocked.

(signed) R. K. Bird.

Taken and sworn before me at Goroke
on Thursday the Thirteenth day of July 1905.

J. J. Jellison

TbH O M A S F J O R D A N on his oath saith:-

To Mr. Garnett - I am the Government Medical Officer at the Ballarat
Government medical officer at Ballarat,
Gaol, and a legally qualified medical practitioner. I know Mary Ber-
tram. I examined her on the 30th. of June in the afternoon

Mr. Power objected^{to} to the evidence of the witness on the ground
that the examination was made by him on personal authority, on her, *a*
prisoner under arrest, without the caution that was due to her *as a*
prisoner under arrest.

The witness - Before examining her she signed a paper that she was
quite willing to undergo the examination. The paper is at the
gaol. That paper was witnessed by the matron of the gaol and ano-
ther officer of the gaol. I was instructed by the Government to ex-
amine her, with her consent.

The Coroner overruled the objection, but ordered the court to
be cleared.

The witness (to Mr. Garnett) - I examined Miss Mary Bertram in the Bal-
larat Gaol on the 30th. of June in the afternoon. My examination
was such that it proved that her vagina was not perfect. All the
other parts of the *external* genitals were natural. The vulgus labia majora
and labia minora, and the clitoris and the urinary outlet were all
natural, except that the hymen was destroyed. The hymen is *a* mem-
brane that goes across the vagina, that wholly or partia~~lly~~ stops
it. Her person presented the appearance that there had been
once a hymen there. There were little lumpy things round the va-
gina that are left after the hymen is destroyed. They are called
corunculae. The usual way in which it is destroyed is through co-
ition: that is copulation. I should judge that that was the case
from the appearances. I could not say whether it was more than once.
I do not suppose the time was very far distant, but it is beyond
the power of *positive* ~~human~~ diagnosing with regard to dates. It might have
been

(40)

been any time between a month or six months. It is possible, even to be longer. In my opinion it was between those times. I could not say anything closer than that. It is possible it could have been done by herself. I do not think it could have been done by her fingers. It might be done by using some artificial instrument, such as a large bougee. That is used for dilating in a legal way. There are some vaginas that are so contracted that they require to be dilated by the use of bougees. It is not perfectly rigid, but nearly so, about as rigid as a rigid penis. It is not usually so large as a man's penis. They are generally about an inch in diameter, ~~the~~ ^{the} largest size. ^{An} ~~an~~ instrument of that kind or a penis, or something analogous to that, ^{Those things are used} might have been used for sexual ^{pleasure} ~~procedure~~. I cannot say whether she presented the appearance of a married woman.

There is no possible way of distinguishing between a married woman and a person who ~~has~~ ^{has} had connection. There was no part of the hymen present except ^{those} ~~the~~ corunculae.

To Mr. Power - The most I am able to say from the appearances is that there has been penetration of some sort into the vagina. The indications present in the shape of corunculae indicate that there was a hymen at one time. The exceptions, where the corunculae are ~~in~~ not an evidence of there having been a hymen are so few that they are not brought into argument. ^{presence} The ~~portions~~ of the corunculae is conclusive in a mode of speaking that there has been a hymen, so much so that the exceptions would be one in a million. I could not say there has been penetration more than once. My examination does not enable me to say that. I could not say whether the penetration may not have taken place twelve months before. I cannot say with exactness that the appearances may not have been caused more than twelve months prior positively. I cannot say that those appearances could not have been caused by a penetration that took place

two

two years earlier, but I do not think so. It is a matter of judgment. I judge that it is not two years ago. Many things are possible, but they are not brought into calculations. If there had been penetration two years previously it would be practically impossible for there to be corunculae present. It might be one case in many thousands, or nearly a million. The vaginae of women who indulge in frequent intercourse present a flabby, loose appearance, that was not present in this case. The vagina did not present any appearance of repeated acts of coition.

To Mr. Garnett - I do not think she had been frequently tampered with; I could not say to two or three times. With prostitutes there is a looseness, and a flabbiness, and a softness. She never was a woman of that sort. She had not the appearance of having had many connections. I could not say the number.

(signed) J. F. Jordan.

me at Goroke on
Taken and sworn before
Thursday the Thirteenth day of July 1905.

J. Gilbert - J. F.

F R A N K T U R N E R on his oath saith:-

To the Jury - The date when Mr. Tierney bought the strychnine is entered in the book produced ("Q"): the date is 24th. February 1905.

This book contains a complete list of the strychnine we have sold.

To the Coroner - I did not supply it: I was present when it was supplied.

To Mr. Power - I never handled it when it was delivered to Mr. Tierney

It was sold in the ordinary wrapper. It is done up in ^{the} ~~an~~ original package. The bottle is supposed to contain an ounce of strychnine:

it is sold as containing an ounce. When that bottle reaches us the bottle is ^{sealed,} ~~sold~~ and the cork connected with the bottle by a wafer.

This bottle was taken from stock in the usual manner. The bottle would carry a wafer or seal connecting the cork with the glass. I have not seen any otherwise.

To the Jury - To the best of my belief the strychnine was sold early in the day. It would be somewhere in the forenoon.

(signed) Frank Turner.

Taken and sworn before me at Goroke
on Friday the Fourteenth day of July 1905.

G I L B E R T L O V I T T on his oath saith:-

To Mr. Garnett - I am a constable of police stationed at Horsham. I was conducting Miss Bertram on the night of the 29th. of June, the ^{h/2} ? Wednesday night. I had her in custody in the sergeant's office at the Horsham police station. She expressed a wish to make an alteration in her dress. I was to accompany her to the cell. When she met her father and brother on the verandah she started to cry and I then took her back to the office, and placed her in her chair. She said "Oh, Father, Father: why did they take me: why have they put it all on to me". The father said "It will be all right". She said "Oh no, no: I will die: I will die. You must come with me". He said "All right: we will see you at the station". She got a little calmer, and I escorted her to the cell, and back from the cell to the office, and then to a cab in which she was taken to the Horsham railway station.

To Mr. Power - I did not notice that she put emphasis on any particular word.

(signed) Gilbert Lovitt.

Taken and sworn before me at Goroke
on Friday the Fourteenth day of July 1905.

A D A M C C A R T H Y on her oath saith:-

To Mr. Garnett - I am a married woman carrying ^{on} business as a grocer at Goroke. I knew the deceased. She purchased two packets of Epsom salts from me on the 21st. of March last. I do not sell any poisons in my store. All the salts in the box from which I supplied the deceased have been sold, and I have heard no complaints.

(signed) Ada Mc Carthy.

Taken and sworn before me at Goroke
on the Fourteenth day of July 1905.

Handwritten signature/initials in a circle

WILLIAM PERCY WILKINSON on his oath saith :-

To Mr. Garnett - I am Government Analytical Chemist residing at Melbourne. I now read my written statement which is as follows :-

CROWN LAW DEPARTMENT, VICTORIA.

GOVERNMENT ANALYTICAL CHEMIST,
RECORDS OFFICE, QUEEN-STREET,

Melbourne, 11 July / 1905

On the 29th. of May Mr. Peters an officer of my staff handed me a Mason jar securely fastened and sealed and a brown paper parcel securely fastened and sealed.

The jar bore a label written in black ink: "Stomach & contents obtained from body of Mary Tierney who died May 20th. from symptoms of Strychnine poisoning. Date of autopsy 22/5/05. (signature undecipherable M.D.)" and in red ink the initials "E. J. D. 25/05" and "May 25/05 E. J. D."

I removed the fastenings of the jar and unscrewed the lid, the contents of the jar did not possess any distinctive odour; I applied vapour tests for the detection of Hydrocyanic acid and Phosphorus with negative results. I then removed the stomach, placed it in a counterpoised porcelain dish and weighed it. The weight was 15 ounces. I then cut the stomach open, it did not possess any special odour, it contained some fluid which measured $3\frac{1}{4}$ ounces. The fluid as also the inner wall of the stomach presented an acid reaction to litmus paper. I comminuted the whole of the stomach, and after admixture with the fluid portion I removed one-quarter of the whole and added to it 2 fluid ounces of distilled water and filtered the admixture, to a few drops of the filtrate I added hydrochloric acid and then a solution of Barium chloride. A white precipitate formed immediately which remained insoluble after the addition of 10% aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid

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GOVERNMENT ANALYTICAL CHEMIST,
RECORDS OFFICE, QUEEN-STREET,

(2) Melbourne, 190.....
and continued boiling; I decanted the clear supernatant liquid and washed the precipitate three times by decantation with distilled water. I then poured some concentrated Sulphuric acid on the precipitate and heated it, complete solution was gradually effected, after cooling somewhat, I poured the acid solution into a large volume of distilled water, a white precipitate again formed. This indicates the presence of a soluble sulphate in the stomach and contents. To the filtrate I then added an excess of dilute liquor ammonia and solution of oxalate of ammonia and ammonium chloride and heated to boiling, a slight precipitate formed. After cooling the whole I allowed it to remain undisturbed for about 15 hours, and then passed the liquid through a filter to the clear filtrate I added an aqueous solution of sodium phosphate, gradually and with constant stirring and then some dilute liquor ammonia, a white crystalline precipitate formed after about 24 hours, the whole was filtered the precipitate remaining on the filter was washed several times with dilute liquor ammonia and finally dried ignited in a previously counterpoised platinum vessel to constant weight and weighed. The weight of the ignited precipitate of Magnesium pyrophosphate ($Mg_2P_2O_7 = 222.72$) was 1.130 grain. I produce this.

$$1.130 \times 0.21875 = 0.247 \text{ 2 Mg.}$$

this amount multiplied by 4 is equal to $0.247 \times 4 = 0.988$ grain for the whole stomach and contents and would be equivalent to 2.441 grain of anhydrous Sulphate of Magnesium $x = \frac{MgSO_4}{2Mg} = \frac{24.36 + 32.06 + 64}{24.36 \times 2} = \frac{120.42}{48.72} = 2.4716 \times 0.988 = 2.44 \text{ grain.}$

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RECORDS OFFICE, QUEEN-STREET,

(3) Melbourne, 190.....

I then added 80 per cent. alcohol (freshly rectified over Tartaric acid) to the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. of the stomach and contents acidified strongly with tartaric acid keeping the whole at a temperature of about 70°C for some hours with frequent stirring the alcoholic liquid was poured off and a fresh quantity of 80 per cent. alcohol poured on the comminuted organ, the extraction being repeated. The alcoholic extracts were then united and evaporated to syrupy consistence. To the residue I added absolute alcohol and after thorough stirring poured off the clear alcohol, and washed the residue with absolute alcohol adding the washings to the principal extract. The whole was then evaporated to dispel the alcohol and the residue extracted with distilled water, and filtered. I then agitated the aqueous filtrate of acid reaction with petroleum ether, then with ether, followed by acetic ether. I then rendered the aqueous filtrate alkaline by the addition of a solution of caustic soda and agitated it with acetic-ether, repeating the extraction with acetic-ether three times. I then filtered the acetic-ether and evaporated it to dryness. A crystalline residue remained which possessed an intensely bitter taste. I added dilute hydrochloric acid to this residue stirring it frequently and filtered the liquid. I agitated the liquid with ether and then rendered it alkaline by the addition of caustic soda and repeatedly agitated it with ether. The ether was then filtered

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GOVERNMENT ANALYTICAL CHEMIST,
RECORDS OFFICE, QUEEN-STREET,

(4) Melbourne, 190.....

and evaporated in a previously counterpoised glass dish (Weight 9.2927 gm) over a water-bath to constant weight. The white crystalline residue weighed 0.29 grain. The residue possessed an intensely bitter taste, and gave the characteristic reactions of strychnine with sulphuric acid and cerium oxide with sulphuric acid and manganese dioxide, with sulphuric acid and bichromate of potassium; a portion of the residue dissolved in water formed a precipitate after the addition of a solution of bichromate of potassium, the precipitate appeared in octahedral forms under the microscope. The crystals were dried and placed in contact with sulphuric acid, the colours as formed by strychnine appeared. I produce the crystalline residue of strychnine obtained.

I then opened the brown paper parcel on which I saw written in red ink "May 25th. 05 E. J. Dunham M.C." it contained two separate parcels, wrapped in newspaper, one of which contained a closed tin with a printed label Excelsior Baking Powder and a white label on which was written in ink "Salts" the other parcel contained a portion of a fruit tart (made apparently from apples)

I opened the tin marked salts, it contained a small quantity of white crystals. I removed these and weighed them; the total weight was $2\frac{3}{10}$ grains. I examined the crystals under a magnifying lens, there appeared to be two distinctly different crystalline substances. I removed a crystal of each type placed them in two separate portions of

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RECORDS OFFICE, QUEEN-STREET,

(5) Melbourne, 190.....

sulphuric acid and added cerium oxide to each. One remained unaffected the other gave the characteristic colour reactions of strychnine. I then boiled the whole with benzene, repeated the boiling with fresh benzene, evaporated the benzene extract in a counterpoised glass dish, washed the white crystalline residue with distilled water and weighed it. The weight was 0.82 grain. The crystalline residue was intensely bitter, and gave the reactions of strychnine above previously described. I produce the crystalline residue. The portion insoluble in benzene was soluble in water and gave the reactions for sulphuric acid as well as magnesium.

The piece of fruit tart weighed 190 grains. I removed 150 grains and treated it with alcohol following subsequently the procedure already described in the case of the stomach. I obtained finally a white crystalline residue weighing 0.15 grain, which possessed an intensely bitter taste and gave the reactions for strychnine previously described. I produce the crystalline residue.

On the 9th. of June Mr Peters also handed me
① A pickle bottle securely fastened and sealed bearing an attached label in writing "A. E. Dungey 4/6/5 Tea leaves found in garden deceased's home 4/6/5. E. J. Dunham 4/6/05."

② Two white pinafores wrapped in paper labelled "Exhibit 4/6/5 Mary Tierney Two Aprons A. E. Dungey S. Inspect."

③ A corked bottle securely fastened and sealed bearing a printed label "Pure Strychnine. Manufactured by Jacob Hulle. London 1 oz." and an attached

CROWN LAW DEPARTMENT, VICTORIA.

GOVERNMENT ANALYTICAL CHEMIST,
RECORDS OFFICE, QUEEN-STREET,

(6)

Melbourne,

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label written in black ink "William Tierney June 3rd.
1905 J. Dunham M.C. 4868"

I examined the tea-leaves and the two white pinnafores. I did not find any strychnine. The bottle labelled "Pure Strychnine" was half filled with white crystals - the total weight of the crystals was 233 grains. They did not contain any sulphate or chloride and gave the characteristic reactions for strychnine above described.

I then sealed each of the exhibits with the seal of my office and produce them.

Percy Pitt-Rivers

Government Analyst for Victoria.