

To Mr. Syester—I am the only one of my family who belong to the medical profession; after graduating I practiced in New Garden township, Chester county, Pennsylvania; I was there twelve or fifteen years; I then went to Philadelphia and remained there from February, 1859, to October, 1862, when I went into the army as a surgeon; I met with three cases of children attacked with cerebro spinal meningitis before I left Philadelphia; I gathered the inference that General K. had taken more than the usual amount of exercise from the hypothetical statement; I tried to account, in the first place, for the derangement of the digestive organs; I judged that General Ketchum had taken considerable exercise; I care nothing about the fatigue, as it is no matter to the case; I was not accustomed to address myself to a jury, and being "green" I brought that matter forward, but I am willing to drop that and start "fresh;" I cannot explain to the jury the circumstances which I inferred; if General Ketchum had had a good appetite on Sunday, ate breakfast and tea, it would not alter my opinion; I know that it would have been impossible for a man to have eaten three meals under such circumstances; his indisposition on Saturday and continued indisposition on Sunday confirmed my opinion; I am judge of his case as far as my opinion, as a medical man, goes; it is very often the case that a patient may be better because of the company he has; it may have been so with General Ketchum; if he had had no company he might have been found "nigher" the true state of his case; the removal of the ice and the change for the worse was one circumstance which led me to my opinion; the symptoms of cerebro spinal meningitis were there; the improvement of the patient from the application of ice bags to the head, and his change for the worse when it was removed, had their share in making up my opinion; if the application of ice had made him worse instead of better, it would have been like kicking a dead man's skull, as there was not then blood enough in his head; it would be doubtful whether the application of ice to his head made him better or worse; it makes no difference with the opinion I expressed yesterday whether ice was applied with benefit or removed with bad effect; the condition of his countenance was produced by a congested condition of the capillaries; take the converse of the statement as to the effects from ice, and it would make no difference with my opinion; I do not think irritation of the intestines and the finding in them of a yellow, pappish substance, would change my opinion; I rely entirely on one connected chain of symptoms, from the inception of the attack to its close; there was really no "let up"; I will mention among the symptoms that there was no improvement from Saturday until Sunday night; then he had symptoms of cholera morbus, but was required but once to go to the yard; on Monday morning he was still worse, and the gastric trouble increased, and a new set of symptoms manifested themselves, for with nausea he had giddiness; on that morning, so my record says, he ate some breakfast in bed, vomited about 10 A. M., and again he vomited

at 4 P. M.; the doctor finds him prostrated, pale and feeble, and with a rapid and feeble pulse; he prescribed creosote and lime water; on Tuesday, about 10 A. M., his physician finds him asleep; he is aroused and says he is able to go that day to Washington; yet he continues to sleep; he is no judge of his own case, and his physician was deceived; his symptoms grow more deadly every hour; he grows worse; his gait is unsteady, and he staggers when he walks; he passes no urine; he breathes stertorously; all this was on the day he said he was well enough to go to Washington; on Wednesday morning he was worse, and his physician finds him at 10 A. M. semi-comatose, and with the symptoms stated in the hypothetical statement. [The witness then went on narrating the symptoms as described in the hypothetical statement; confining himself to them, and said the symptoms continued without abatement, only giving way to others more deadly.]

He continued—The symptoms are apparently of the same disease; all are due to cerebro spinal meningitis; the apparent trouble commenced on Saturday night; I cannot say that if General K. had been found sitting up at 2 A. M. on Tuesday, looking at his watch and conversing, that it would have changed my opinion; I say in the face of the medical world that Gen. K. was not able to go to Washington when he told Dr. Williams that he was, and I can give a case in point; the symptoms which followed showed that he was not able to make the trip; the shiver spoken of is frequently present in cases of cerebro spinal meningitis; it is not of much importance, but was only one circumstance in the chain; I consider that General K.'s case was not one of the active form, and but resembles the fulminant form; if General K. had had the fulminant form, lesions might or might not be discoverable; we may have a case lasting four days, and no lesions would be discoverable; I have examined such a case, but I do not know that it could be classed as of the fulminant form; I know of cases of the fulminant form occurring when there was no decided epidemic; I have always found some lesions, such as congestion of the brain, but no inflammatory lesions; the brain and brain substance may be poisoned and no inflammatory lesions be left; I do not know of a case in which no lesions could have been discovered by the microscope; there is always some embarrassment of the nerve centres, and they may only be deadened by the nerve poison; I never made microscopic examinations after death; I never knew it to commence with a chill on a child, and it commences only sometimes with a chill on grown persons; I know that the books say it commences with a chill, but my experience says it does not; I would not be surprised to learn that it had commenced with a chill on a grown person; the symptoms of the case, and not the post mortem appearances alone, will account for the presence of the disease; one of the peculiarities of the disease is, that the post mortem does not account for the symptoms manifested; General Ketchum's case has the appearance of a semi-fulminant form; that is, one of the congestive forms, without active inflammation.