

Susan Jacobs had sworn to the vial of laudanum. What was it doing in General K.'s bed? The defence had brought out that fact only to show that Mrs. Wharton herself had a theory of the cause of death. But it stood out like a finger-board of crime. It was no new thing in the history of those acts by which criminals sought to conceal their crimes. The defence had gravely contended that the old, fatigued man, as they called him, had on the very evening of the day he reached Baltimore walked to Coleman & Rogers, passing, perhaps, a dozen drug stores, and bought that vial of laudanum. Was it reasonable? It was not. And then let us look at the vial. It holds but an ounce, and yet the defence had come before this jury and claimed that it was emptied only after three days. Did Mrs. Wharton act as an innocent woman when she found that vial in his bed? No, she did not. She believed then, if she ever believed, that her friend and guest was taking means to end his own life. But what did she do? Did she try to save him? Did she call medical attention to him? No, she told no one, and only mentioned it to Mr. Hutton when it was too late. That was a damning fact in the case. And then, again, how about the sangaree? She said Dr. Williams had told her he might have it, and yet when Dr. Williams was sworn he said he never mentioned it to her. She told Colonel Loney that General Ketchum had taken it, and in a few minutes after she had left with him for a pleasure ride, Mrs. Loney heard him vomiting. That was the vomiting which even old Susan did not see, and which Mr. Steele had tried to persuade the jury was only snoring, and that his snoring in a room of the third floor had been mistaken by Mrs. Loney on the first floor for vomiting. No ordinary motive prompted Mrs. Wharton to accuse her "friend," General Ketchum, of suicide. What reason had he to commit suicide? There was no proof that he had any reason to be wearied of life—the contrary had been shown to the jury.

Mr. Syester then read from an authority touching the importance to be attached to the misrepresentations of criminals and their attempts to avoid surprise from the sudden deaths of their victims. Susan Jacobs, that immaculate witness before whose testimony every other witness was to go down, had sworn that she was called to make up General Ketchum's bed because his feet were higher than his head, and yet that the vial of laudanum had rolled down into the middle of the bed. Would the jury believe that? Could any man believe it? One striking and remarkable fact was that the physicians and those who were around General Ketchum had not been summoned, but that in their stead hired partisans had been summoned. Experts were paid, and it was no more to be expected that they would not sustain the case as best they could, that the counsel themselves would. The experts for the defence, in their exigency, brought into the case what was never in it, and had attempted to have the jury believe that General Ketchum was on the very day he reached Baltimore enfeebled in mind and in

body. They had fastened on that terrible disease, cerebro spinal meningitis, which struck down its victims like lightning. They started with the idea that he was fatigued before he left Washington, and that he was fatigued by a walk from Georgetown Heights to Washington, and it mattered not to them that he refused to ride when Mr. Carusi proposed it. There was no business transacted by him on that day calculated to fatigue his mind, and Mr. and Mrs. Snowden had been attracted by his cheerfulness and animation as he rode from Washington to Baltimore. Dr. Warren, Dr. McClurg and the others, who had been bold enough to assert that he died of cerebro spinal meningitis, had clung to the idea that he was fatigued when he reached Mrs. Wharton's, and that his decease was superinduced by cerebro spinal meningitis. They had claimed that it was a terrible fact that he had eaten no dinner that day, and the jury was, in reality, asked to believe in the dreams, speculations and theories of experts who had come into this case with the determination to force it from the hands of the State. Dr. Warren had contended that there was in Baltimore an epidemic tendency to cerebro spinal meningitis, but when he was faced with the broad question whether or not it was an epidemic in Baltimore, he had asked to explain, and so it was always with the experts who came to swear to one thing, and that only; they always wanted to explain. Afterwards he confessed that the irregularities of General K.'s diet and the "potent" influences of that epidemic tendency had caused General K.'s attack. That was the testimony of the man whose testimony Mr. Steele said was to stand as a monument of medical science. He loved to use medical terms, for he was in the army during the late war, and he spoke fluently of the suddenness of its invasion, the rapidity of its march, and the fatality of its termination; then he said that the identity between this case and Dr. Baltzell's was "complete." Mr. Syester then reviewed the testimony of Dr. Warren, Dr. Baltzell and Dr. Williams in conjunction, and said he utterly denied the identity which Dr. Warren claimed, or that hyperesthesia existed. No medical witness, except Dr. Warren, who had seen a case of cerebro spinal, would say that in any case of cerebro spinal they had seen hyperesthesia exist. No matter that Dr. Warren fought hard to get hyperesthesia in this case. He said that a touch was sufficient to show it, and that it was shown in General K.'s case by a touch, but that taking hold of him would not have shown it. But what did Dr. Bird say? He said that in his case, when he bandaged the arm of his patient and inserted the lancet, the patient was thrown into convulsions. Then when Dr. Williams and Mr. Hutton undressed Gen. Ketchum, touching and handling him, there was no hyperesthesia. Where was the hyperesthesia then? So when Mrs. Hutton rubbed his hand there was no hyperesthesia. But Dr. Warren said it was present one moment and gone the next. The other witnesses next testified that hyperesthesia was