

In reply to Mr. Bedford, witness said that the treatment the sister was applying to the child was identical with the treatment for drowning, but was not necessarily treatment for drowning. It was to restore animation from whatever cause animation had been lost.

#### THE NURSE'S AND SISTER'S EVIDENCE.

Nurse Phelps said she bathed the child on Saturday morning. She covered its shoulders and placed a board across the bath for it to place its hands upon, in accordance with the usual practice. She was a fully qualified Nurse, and had been at the hospital for two years and five months. She was away nearly half an hour. At twenty to twelve she left the child sitting in the bath. She returned at five or ten minutes past twelve and found the child curled up in the water dead. She could not swear whether its mouth was under or above the water. she applied artificial respiration and summoned the Sister.

The Coroner: Your absence seems a long one; can you explain it?—I was myself engaged, and the idea of danger never entered my head.

Are you instructed not to leave children when they are being bathed?—Those are the Matron's instructions.

In this case you did not look at it as a bath, there being so small a quantity of water?—No; it was more like an application.

A Juror: Is it usual to leave children in the bath unattended?—Yes, it is usual to leave cases like that unattended. I have never left one so long before, though, as I have taken them in toys, or sweets, or something to drink.

A Juror: It is my opinion that the child was drowned.

The Coroner: You must not determine before hearing the evidence. There is the medical evidence to come presently.

Another Juror: It was sheer neglect.

The Coroner: Do not make the case more painful than it must be.

The Juror: It was painful for the child too.

Sister Lekie said that she instructed Nurse Phelps to bath the child, and to show a Probationer how it was done. She went into the bath room a minute before a quarter to twelve, while Nurse Phelps was away, and the child was then happy and well.

The Coroner: Should a child be left so long in your opinion?—No, sir.

But if it had cried, it could have been heard?—Yes, the door was wide open.

#### RESULT OF POST MORTEM.

Dr. Frederick J. Smith, Lecturer on Forensic Medicine at the London Hospital, said he had made the post-mortem, and had found no conges-

tion of the brain or lungs, no water in the stomach, no blood on either side of the heart, and, in fact, no trace of death from drowning. He frankly admitted that the child did at first appear to have been drowned, and 999 people in a thousand would have come to that conclusion; but, as a matter of fact, the child had been drowned after death. It must have fallen down into the water after dying from other causes. If he (witness) had been there himself he should have started artificial respiration on the assumption that death was due to drowning, and so would everybody. It was only, after fact after fact, each corroborating the other, came to his knowledge that he felt bound to assume that the child was not drowned. Then he searched for some other cause of death, and found that a large stone in the right kidney had dropped into the passage to the bladder, blocking that passage. In his opinion death was due to the shock caused by the shifting of the calculus, probably assisted by the impure condition of the child's blood.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bedford, witness said he had yesterday tried an experiment on a conscious child, and it was most difficult to get it to slip down into the water as he held it.

A verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

## Inventions, Preparations, &c.

### COCOA.

(Messrs. VAN HOUTEN & ZOON, St. George's House, Eastcheap, London, E.C.)

That there are cocoas and cocoas needs no telling to our readers, but as they have not the same opportunities as we have for finding out the best, we wish to draw their attention to the merits of Van Houten's Cocoa, which is both pure and wholesome, and in every way thoroughly nutritious, as the result of analysis by such men as Otto Hehner, F.I.C., and Alfred H. Allen, Esq., as well as numerous others we could mention, testify and show; also that it is perfect in its solubility, which is one of its distinguishing characteristics; this aids and assists digestion greatly, and, consequently, the invalid using Van Houten's Cocoa has a much more nutritious article of diet than would be under some other circumstances, and although there are some other cocoas on the market, which, so far as price goes, may be less than Van Houten's, yet we need scarcely remind our readers that the lowest priced article is not by any means the cheapest; this is amply shown in using this cocoa, for one teaspoonful is here sufficient for a large cup, whereas, were our readers so ill-advised as to use some kinds now offered for sale, at least three times the quantity would be necessary, whilst the result

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