

PRACTICAL FORENSIC MEDICINE

by

FRANCIS E. CAMPS, M.D.

Reader in Forensic Medicine

(University of London) at

The London Hospital Medical College

and

W. B. PURCHASE, C.B.E., M.C., M.B., D.P.H.

Barrister-at-Law; H.M. Coroner for the Royal Household

and the County of London, Lecturer in Forensic Medicine at

the University of London, Lecturer in Criminal Law, Royal

Naval College, Greenwich

With a Foreword by

H. EDMUND DAVIES, LL.B., B.C.L.,

One of Her Majesty's Counsel;

Recorder of Cardiff

HUTCHINSON'S
MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS LIMITED

Hutchinson & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.

178-202 Great Portland Street, London, W.1

London Melbourne Sydney Auckland

Bombay Johannesburg New York Toronto

First Published 1956

Printed in Great Britain by
WILLIAM BRENDON AND SON LTD
THE MAYFLOWER PRESS
(late of Plymouth)
WATFORD

PRACTICAL FORENSIC MEDICINE

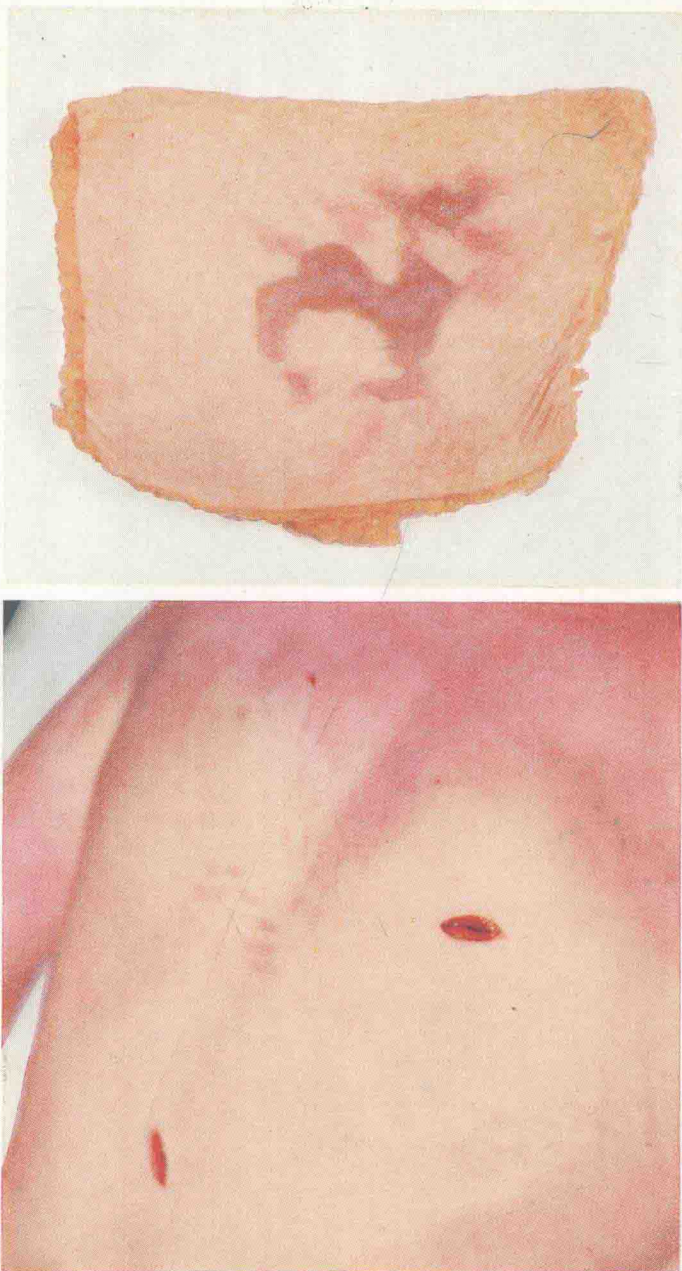


Plate I

Above: "Barbiturate blister" (page 411). Below: Murder by carbon monoxide poisoning, with stab wounds inflicted before exposure to the gas. (Note the pressure-whitening and the different colours of the wounds and skin)

CONTENTS-INDEX

Page

FOREWORD	xiii
PREFACE	xv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	xvii

PART I—FORENSIC MEDICINE

ABORTION	21
Anatomy and Embryology	21
Natural and Accidental	30
Therapeutic	30
Criminal	32
ACCIDENTS	45
Common Domestic	45
Aircraft, Highway, Railway injuries, <i>see</i> INJURIES	
ALCOHOLIC INTOXICATION	49
The Law	49
Drivers of Motor Vehicles	49
Evidence	52
Defence	56
ASPHYXIA (ANOXIA)	60
Terminology	60
Physiology	60
Pathology	62
Strangulation	65
Obstruction of the External Openings	73
Traumatic Asphyxia	74
BASTARDY PROCEEDINGS	75
Blood Groups in Disputed Paternity	75
Collection of Specimens for Examination	80
BESTIALITY, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES (Unnatural Practices)	
BUGGERY, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES (Unnatural Practices)	

BURNS, *see* INJURIES

CARNAL KNOWLEDGE, *see* SEXUAL OFFENCES

CERTIFICATION	83
Death	83
Still-birth	91
Cremation	92
Mental Certificates, <i>see</i> MENTAL DISEASE	

CORONER (JUDICIAL OFFICER OF THE CROWN)	94
Duties	94
Removal of Bodies out of England and Wales	99
Reporting Deaths, <i>see</i> APPENDIX IV	
Coroners Rules, <i>see</i> APPENDIX VIII	

CREMATION, *see* CERTIFICATION

CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY, *see* MENTAL DISEASE

DANGEROUS DRUGS, *see* TOXICOLOGY

DEATH	100
Certificate, <i>see</i> CERTIFICATION (Death)	
Changes in Body	100
Establishment of Time	111
Disposal of Bodies	113

DEATHS	115
Associated with Anaesthesia and Operations	115
Sudden and Unexpected Death in Infancy	131
Sudden Death from Natural Causes (Adults)	134
Associated with Therapeutic Procedures	140

DECLARATION, DYING, *see* MEDICAL EVIDENCE

DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS, *see* OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS

DEPOSITION, DYING, *see* MEDICAL EVIDENCE

DIVORCE AND NULLITY OF MARRIAGE	146
---------------------------------	-----

DROWNING	150
----------	-----

DRUG ADDICTION, *see* Part II (TOXICOLOGY)

ELECTROCUTION, *see* ACCIDENTS (Common Domestic)
and INJURIES (Electric Current, Lightning, Elec-
 trified Railways)

EXHUMATION	157
FIBRES, <i>see</i> STAINS, HAIRS AND FIBRES	
GROSS INDECENCY, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES (Unnatural Practices)	
HAIRS, <i>see</i> STAINS, HAIRS AND FIBRES	
HOMICIDAL WOUNDING, <i>see</i> WOUNDS (Homicidal)	
IDENTIFICATION OF LIVING AND DEAD	162
Personal Identity	163
Association with Particular Person or Place	167
Human Skeletal Remains	169
Teeth and Jaws	194
INCEST, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES	
INDECENT ASSAULT, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES	
INDUSTRIAL AWARDS, <i>see</i> PENSIONS	
INFANTICIDE	207
The Law	207
Anatomy of Child at Birth	208
Evidence	211
Child Destruction	215
Concealment of Birth	215
INJURIES	217
Aircraft	217
Electric Current	219
Lightning	224
Fire-arms	226
Burns and Scalds	233
Highway	239
Railway	249
Electrified Railways	251
M McNAGHTEN RULES, <i>see</i> MENTAL DISEASE (Criminal Responsibility)	
MEDICAL EVIDENCE	252
MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE, <i>see</i> NEGLIGENCE	
MEDICAL REGISTRATION	258
MEDICO-LEGAL AUTOPSY	261

MENTAL DISEASE	264
Care and Treatment of Patients	264
Criminal Responsibility	273
Testamentary Capacity	276
MOTOR INJURIES, <i>see</i> INJURIES (Highway)	
NEGLIGENCE (MEDICAL)	277
Civil Negligence (Malpraxis)	277
Criminal Negligence	279
Contributory Negligence	280
NULLITY, <i>see</i> DIVORCE	
OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS	282
Decompression Sickness	283
OFFENCES AGAINST FEMALES, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES	
PATERNITY, <i>see</i> BASTARDY	
PENSIONS AND AWARDS	286
Industrial Injury or Disease	286
War Service Pensions	289
POISONS, POISONING, <i>see</i> TOXICOLOGY	
POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION, <i>see</i> MEDICO-LEGAL AUTOPSY	
RAILWAY INJURIES, <i>see</i> INJURIES	
RAPE, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES	
REMOVAL OF BODIES OUT OF ENGLAND, <i>see</i> CORONER	
ROAD TRAFFIC ACT AND ALCOHOL, <i>see</i> ALCOHOLIC INTOXICATION	
SCALDS, <i>see</i> INJURIES (Burns and Scalds)	
SEXUAL OFFENCES	292
Rape	292
Carnal Knowledge	298
Indecent Assault	299
Incest	300
Unnatural Practices	301

STAINS, HAIRS AND FIBRES	308
Blood Stains	308
Seminal Stains	312
Hairs	314
Fibres	316
STILL-BIRTH, <i>see</i> CERTIFICATION	
STRANGULATION, <i>see</i> ASPHYXIA	
SUDDEN DEATH, <i>see</i> DEATHS	
SUFFOCATION, <i>see</i> ASPHYXIA	
TESTAMENTARY CAPACITY, <i>see</i> MENTAL DISEASE	
TIME OF DEATH, <i>see</i> DEATH	
TOXICOLOGY, <i>see</i> Part II	
TRAUMA AND DISEASE	319
TRAUMATIC ASPHYXIA, <i>see</i> ASPHYXIA	
UNFIT TO PLEAD, <i>see</i> MENTAL DISEASE (Criminal Responsibility)	
UNNATURAL PRACTICES, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES	
WAR SERVICE PENSIONS, <i>see</i> PENSIONS	
WITNESS, MEDICAL, <i>see</i> MEDICAL EVIDENCE	
WOUNDING, HOMICIDAL, <i>see</i> WOUNDS (Homicidal)	
WOUNDS	323
The Law	323
Examination and Classification	324
Abrasions	325
Lacerations	330
Stab Wounds	334
Incised Wounds	342
Chopper-Axe Wounds	346
Defence Wounds	346
Head Injuries	348
Bruises	351
Sequelae and Complications	354
Accident, Suicide or Murder?	362
Homicidal Wounds	364

PART II—TOXICOLOGY

Introduction	371
The Law	373
Poisons Legislation	374
Dangerous Drugs Acts	377
DRUG ADDICTION	381
Opium and Its Derivatives	382
Other Sedative Drugs	384
Stimulant Drugs	386
POISONING (GENERAL)	387
Types of Poison	387
Action of Poisons	387
Diagnosis and Management	389
POISONS (COMMON)	392
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	392
Acetylsalicylic Acid (Aspirin)	398
Barbiturates and Allied Hypnotics	402
Special Groups of Poisons	417
Household and Industrial Poisons	422
COLLECTANEA OF POISONS	430

PART III—APPENDICES

I—POISONS AND THERAPEUTIC LEGISLATION	513
II—DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING OUT PERSONAL DESCRIPTIONS	514
III—FORMS OF CONSENT FOR OPERATIVE TREATMENT	515
IV—REPORTING DEATHS TO CORONERS	516
V—NOTIFICATION TO CHIEF INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES	517
VI—STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS TO PUBLIC AUTHORITIES	518
VII—RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEATH CERTIFICATION	520
VIII—CORONERS RULES (EXTRACTS)	532
IX—POST-MORTEM REPORT FORM	535
X—ANAESTHETIC DEATH REPORT FORM	537
XI—GLOSSARY OF SPECIAL TERMS	538

PRACTICAL FORENSIC MEDICINE

by

FRANCIS E. CAMPS, M.D.

Reader in Forensic Medicine

(University of London) at

The London Hospital Medical College

and

W. B. PURCHASE, C.B.E., M.C., M.B., D.P.H.

Barrister-at-Law; H.M. Coroner for the Royal Household

and the County of London, Lecturer in Forensic Medicine at

the University of London, Lecturer in Criminal Law, Royal

Naval College, Greenwich

With a Foreword by

H. EDMUND DAVIES, LL.B., B.C.L.,

One of Her Majesty's Counsel;

Recorder of Cardiff

HUTCHINSON'S
MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS LIMITED

Hutchinson & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.

178-202 Great Portland Street, London, W.1

London Melbourne Sydney Auckland
Bombay Johannesburg New York Toronto

First Published 1956

Printed in Great Britain by
WILLIAM BRENDON AND SON LTD
THE MAYFLOWER PRESS
(late of Plymouth)
WATFORD

To
MRS. FRANCES GLESSNER LEE,
"The Rocks", Littleton, New Hampshire, U.S.A.,

IN APPRECIATION OF
HER CONTRIBUTION TO FORENSIC MEDICINE
and
HER ENCOURAGEMENT OF THOSE
WHO HAVE SOUGHT TO
ESTABLISH ITS
ACADEMIC
STATUS

CONTENTS-INDEX

	<i>Page</i>
FOREWORD	xiii
PREFACE	xv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	xvii

PART I—FORENSIC MEDICINE

ABORTION	21
Anatomy and Embryology	21
Natural and Accidental	30
Therapeutic	30
Criminal	32
ACCIDENTS	45
Common Domestic	45
Aircraft, Highway, Railway injuries, <i>see</i> INJURIES	
ALCOHOLIC INTOXICATION	49
The Law	49
Drivers of Motor Vehicles	49
Evidence	52
Defence	56
ASPHYXIA (ANOXIA)	60
Terminology	60
Physiology	60
Pathology	62
Strangulation	65
Obstruction of the External Openings	73
Traumatic Asphyxia	74
BASTARDY PROCEEDINGS	75
Blood Groups in Disputed Paternity	75
Collection of Specimens for Examination	80
BESTIALITY, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES (Unnatural Practices)	
BUGGERY, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES (Unnatural Practices)	

BURNS, <i>see</i> INJURIES	
CARNAL KNOWLEDGE, <i>see</i> SEXUAL OFFENCES	
CERTIFICATION	83
Death	83
Still-birth	91
Cremation	92
Mental Certificates, <i>see</i> MENTAL DISEASE	
CORONER (JUDICIAL OFFICER OF THE CROWN)	94
Duties	94
Removal of Bodies out of England and Wales	99
Reporting Deaths, <i>see</i> APPENDIX IV	
Coroners Rules, <i>see</i> APPENDIX VIII	
CREMATION, <i>see</i> CERTIFICATION	
CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY, <i>see</i> MENTAL DISEASE	
DANGEROUS DRUGS, <i>see</i> TOXICOLOGY	
DEATH	100
Certificate, <i>see</i> CERTIFICATION (Death)	
Changes in Body	100
Establishment of Time	111
Disposal of Bodies	113
DEATHS	115
Associated with Anaesthesia and Operations	115
Sudden and Unexpected Death in Infancy	131
Sudden Death from Natural Causes (Adults)	134
Associated with Therapeutic Procedures	140
DECLARATION, DYING, <i>see</i> MEDICAL EVIDENCE	
DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS, <i>see</i> OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS	
DEPOSITION, DYING, <i>see</i> MEDICAL EVIDENCE	
DIVORCE AND NULLITY OF MARRIAGE	146
DROWNING	150
DRUG ADDICTION, <i>see</i> Part II (TOXICOLOGY)	
ELECTROCUTION, <i>see</i> ACCIDENTS (Common Domestic) <i>and</i> INJURIES (Electric Current, Lightning, Elec- trified Railways)	