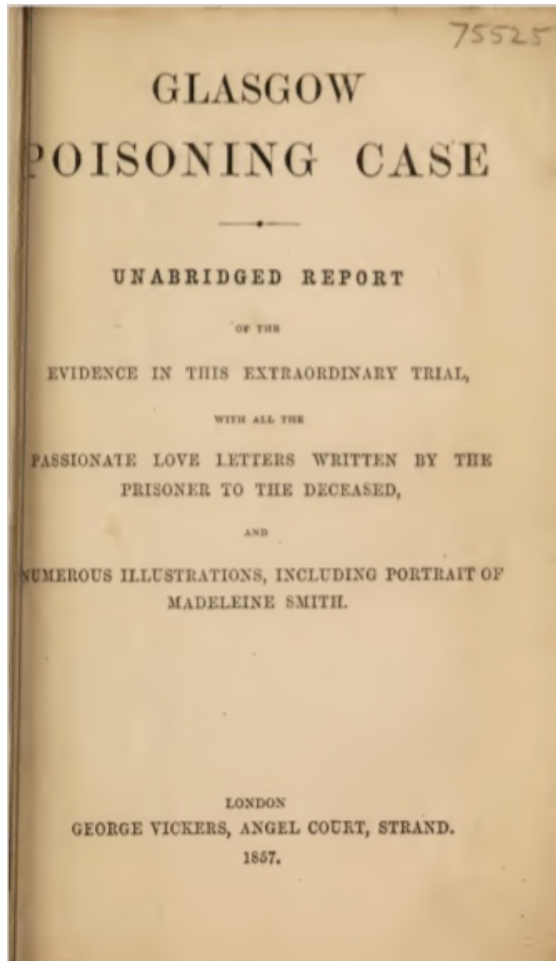


Professors on Poison: Expert Testimony in Victorian Scotland

Christine D. Myers, Independent Historian

Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, 2021



“On the second day of the trial, the prisoner entered the court with the same degree of self-possession that she had previously exhibited. She sat for some time unveiled, and never during the day even slightly hung her head, except when reference was made to her love letters sent to the deceased. The chief part of the day’s proceedings was taken up by the examination of medical witnesses. ...The moment perhaps during the medical evidence when the audience were most excited was when the great amount of arsenic which had been discovered was stated by Dr. Penny.” ~ p. 13