

became ill, but they both had the disease slightly.

And now fell ill with it Mr. Ponting himself, the disease in a short time proving fatal.

Finally, Mr. Edwin Foxwell, a nephew of Mrs. Ponting, who had lately resided at Mr. Ashton's, in about a fortnight after leaving Hamfield became ill with typhus.

Berkeley, Gloucestershire, 1840.

from the head-strap, so that I could use considerable power in bringing the head to the left side; but, I think, that there is not much occasion now for the strapping, as the patient can move his head in all directions, and without effort keep the head in a natural position. I am, Sir, yours, &c.

F. SNAITH, M.D.

Boston, Oct. 30, 1840.



DIVISION OF THE STERNO-CLEIDO-MASTOID MUSCLE

FOR THE
CURE OF WRY-NECK.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—Allow me to send you two sketches, representing the appearances of a gentleman before and after the division of the sterno-cleido-mastoid muscle.

Mr. Fred. Ward, æt. 21, the son of a wealthy Lincolnshire brewer, was born with wry-neck, and, being anxious to be relieved from the deformity, he consulted me on Thursday evening, Oct. 22nd; after proposing an operation, to which he consented, I divided the contracted muscle on the following morning.

After ascertaining the outline of, I passed the knife under the tendinous portion of the muscle, and then turned the cutting edge of the knife towards the muscle, in order to divide it, without wounding the skin; the division of the tendon was announced by loud cracking sounds, such (according to the patient's statement) as might be produced by breaking sticks across the knee. I have divided the tendo Achillis for talipes, but its clicking is very different from the sound I am describing. The operation scarcely occupied a quarter of a minute, and not more than two or three drops of blood flowed from the small puncture; the patient scarcely felt the introduction of the knife, but the most excruciating pains followed the division of the tendon. When the muscle was divided, it sprang upwards with great violence, and appeared to tear away bands of cellular membrane, which connected it with adjacent muscles. Upon each contraction of the muscle, the countenance gave evidence of the most acute suffering. When the division of the tendon was effected, the distorted side of the neck bobbed up, like an automaton figure, when acted upon by machinery, suddenly put into motion. The small puncture made to introduce the knife healed on the following day, and the patient was able to resume his business three days after the operation.

On the day following the operation, I placed a strap around the head, and another under the axilla, which buckled to a strap

CONTAGION OF ASIATIC CHOLERA.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR:—In your last No. (3) there is a case given of "Asiatic cholera," by Mr. Gosse, upon which I beg to make a few remarks. From the history of the complaint, there can be no doubt as to the nature of the disease, I myself having seen numerous isolated cases since cholera was so prevalent in this country, but more particularly four, two of which recovered and two died; and, moreover, I entirely concur in your correspondent's opinion, that "Asiatic cholera may be regarded as incidental to this country;" but there are two points connected with his communica-