

**On the neck as a medical region, and on trachelismus : on hidden seizures; on paroxysmal apoplexy, paralysis, mania, syncope, &c.; / by Marshall Hall.**

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from the Author*

ON

## THE NECK

AS A MEDICAL REGION, AND ON TRACHELISMUS;

ON

HIDDEN SEIZURES;

ON

PAROXYSMAL  
APOPLEXY, PARALYSIS, MANIA,  
SYNCOPE; &c.

BY

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and irregular action of the platysma myoides, and of the cleido-mastoid and omo-hyoid muscles, on the subjacent external and internal jugular veins respectively.

And shall we leave the arteries and nerves of the neck out of the question, as uninfluenced by these abnormal muscular actions?

But I can impart no idea of the interest attached to a careful observation of the condition of these *veins*, and thence of the capillary vessels, and of the arteries; in a word, of the whole *arrière* circulation, in cases of morbid action of the muscles of the neck.

The external jugular and the frontal veins; the colour of the cheeks, of the eye and internal eye-lid, of the prolabium; the temporal artery; present the phenomena of impeded venous circulation in the most marked degree.

These different points in the cephalic circulation should be examined with the care with which we are wont to examine the conditions of the pulse. The neck should be laid bare, the under eye-lid should be everted, the temporal artery should be carefully felt.

One anxious mother could *foretel* the epileptic seizure in her daughter, by observing the fulness of the veins of the neck. One lady observed these veins occasionally to acquire the size of her finger. A medical gentleman drew my attention to the congested condition of the conjunctiva of the under eye-lid in his own case. Many patients have presented a cord-like tension of the temporal arteries.

All these phenomena constitute links of the same chain; the first link being compression of the venous trunk by the irregular contraction of the muscle or muscles seated immediately above it; and the last, perhaps, a paroxysmal threatening or seizure.

It may be laid down as a principle, that there is no muscle—no set of muscles—in the neck, which may not become spasmodically contracted, and that there is no vein in this region which may not, under the influence of such contraction of muscles, become compressed, and the course of whose blood may not be impeded or arrested. Let us consider the further effect of such compression on the tissues or organs of the head or neck. We shall be led to consider a novel and







































































































































































































































