

The Rev. Joseph Freeman, who, soon after the accident, informed himself of the circumstances, says:—"I was at home on the day Mr. Gage was hurt; seeing a man ride rapidly to Dr. Harlow's door, I stepped over to ascertain the cause; and then immediately to meet those who I was informed were bringing him to our village. I found him in a cart, sitting up without aid, with his back against the foreboard. When we reached his quarters, he rose to his feet without aid, and walked quick, though with an unsteady step, to the hind end of the car, when two of his men came forward and aided him out, and walked with him, supporting him, to the house. I then asked his men how he came to be hurt? The reply was, 'The blast went off when he was tamping it, and the tamping iron passed through his head.' Soon after this, I went to the place where the accident happened. I found upon the rocks, where I supposed he had fallen, a small quantity of brains. There being no person at this place, I passed on to a blacksmith's shop, a few rods beyond, in and about which a number of men were collected. As I came up to them, they pointed out the iron, which has since attracted so much attention, standing outside of the shop-door. They said they found it covered with brains and dirt, and had washed it in the brook. The appearance of the iron corresponded with the story: it had a greasy appearance, and was so to the touch. After hearing their statement, as there was no assignable motive for misrepresentation, and finding the appearance of the iron to agree with it, I was compelled to believe, though the examination of the wound was not then known to me. I think of nothing further relating to this affair which cannot be minutely stated by others."

Dr. Williams first saw the patient, and makes the following statement in relation to the circumstances: "Dr. Harlow being absent at the time of the accident, I was sent for, and was the first physician who saw Mr. Gage, some twenty-five or thirty minutes after he received the injury. He at that time, was sitting in a chair upon the piazza of Mr. Adams' hotel, in Cavendish. When I drove up he said, 'Doctor, here is business enough for you.' I first noticed the wound upon the head before I alighted

from my carriage, the pulsation of the brain being very distinct; there was also an appearance which, before I examined the head, I could not account for—the top of the head appeared somewhat like an inverted funnel; this was owing. I discovered, to the bone being fractured about the opening for a distance of about two inches in every direction. I ought to have mentioned above that the opening through the skull and integuments was not far from one and a half inch in diameter; the edges of this opening were everted, and the whole wound appeared as if some wedge-shaped body had passed from below upward. Mr. Gage, during the time I was examining this wound, was relating the manner in which he was injured to the bystanders; he talked so rationally, and was so willing to answer questions, that I directed my inquiries to him in preference to the men who were with him at the time of the accident, and who were standing about at this time. Mr. G. then related to me some of the circumstances, as he has since done; and I can safely say neither at that nor any subsequent occasion, save once, did I consider him to be other than perfectly rational. The one time to which I allude was about a fortnight after the accident, and then he persisted in calling me John Kirwin; yet he answered all my questions correctly. I did not believe Mr. Gage at that time, but thought he was deceived; I asked him where the bar entered, and he pointed to the wound on his cheek, which I had not before discovered; this was a slit running from the angle of the jaw forward about an inch and a half; it was very much stretched laterally, and was discoloured by powder and iron rust, or at least appeared so. Mr. Gage persisted in saying that the bar went through his head: an Irishman standing by, said, 'Sure it was so, sir, for the bar is lying in the road below, all blood and brains.' The man also said he would have brought it up with him, but he thought there would be an inquest, and it would not do. About this time Mr. Gage got up and vomited a large quantity of blood, together with some of his food; the efforts of vomiting pressed out about half a tea-cup full of the brain, which fell upon the floor, together with the blood which was forced out at the same time. The left eye appeared nor-