over a great portion of the body; in both the application of external stimuli produces similar results. Here we have in a human subject an almost entire division of the two great antagonising functions—the voluntary, and the excito-motory.

We have an excess of irritability stored up in muscles, because the natural channel for its liberation—a connection with the brain—is cut off. We have the sphincters, the ejectors, and the penis, all involved in a morbid chain of action; we have that part of the muscular system, pronounced to be most under the excito-motory power, exhibiting all the phenomena of such a relation. In a word, we have a most interesting confirmation of all Marshall Hall's demonstrations—demonstrations daily gaining certainty from the bedside—and which incontestably prove of how high an order the genius of their author must be, entitling him to the admiration and gratitude of the present and all future races of the medical profession.

CASE OF CHOLERA MORBUS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—If you deem the following case of cholera, of the kind which was for a time so prevalent and fatal in this country only a few years ago, at all interesting, in a practical point of view, I beg you will give it an early insertion in the "Provincial Medical Journal."

Yours obediently,

JOHN WICKERS WEST, M.R.C.S., &c.

Poole, August 17, 1842.

Thomas Fall, aged forty-two, a strong, powerful man, by occupation a policeman, was attacked on Sunday night last, or rather early on Monday morning, the 15th instant, whilst on duty, with violent pain in his bowels, which was speedily followed by vomiting, and purging of a fluid resembling rice gruel. He was immediately assisted to his own home, but would not consent to have medical aid until ten o'clock in the morning, when I was sent for, and found him suffering from the following distressing symptoms:—Skin of a livid and slightly blue color, covered with a cold clammy perspiration; tongue peculiarly white; extreme thirst; pulse about 45, erect, and fluttering; great depression and anxiety of countenance, with sunken eyes; cramp in both legs; rice water vomiting and purging, and violent and continued pains in the epigastric region.

I could not ascertain that he had been eating anything the day before which would be likely to disagree with the stomach, but found he had returned home in the afternoon by water from Portsmouth, and had been exposed to an intense heat the whole day, which had the effect of considerably exhausting him. I immediately ordered the following:—

Brandy, one large tablespoonful in half a cup of arrow root every half hour.

Calomel, two grains;

Opium, half a grain;

Aromatic confection sufficient to form a pill, to be taken immediately, and to be repeated every hour, with the following draught:—

Camphor mixture, one ounce;
Compound spirits of ammonia, half an ounce;
Tincture of cardamoms, one drachm.

Fomentations to the bowels to be constantly applied.

Three o'clock. Diarrhoea still urgent, but vomiting less frequent; pulse rather less depressed and more regular; countenance the same. *Vespere*: Since the last report a very decided and marked improvement in his symptoms has taken place after getting two hours' sleep; vomiting and purging have ceased; pulse 65; and there is more vigor and animation in the countenance.

I omitted the brandy, and desired the pills to be taken through the night with the ammonia draught every four hours.

Aug. 15. Has passed a quiet and comfortable night, getting sleep at intervals; no recurrence of vomiting and purging; pulse 75; countenance improved; tongue white. To leave off the pills, but persevere in the draught.

17. Called on him this morning, and found him from home; but was informed by his relations that all symptoms of an urgent nature had ceased, and with the exception of debility was convalescent.

The above was a decided case of cholera, as it occurs so frequently in the East Indies, and interesting from the rapid improvement which followed the treatment had recourse to.

ON THE USE OF THE IODIDE OF POTASSIUM IN OPHTHALMIC DISEASES, WITH CASES.

By ISAAC PARRISH, M.D.,

One of the Surgeons to the Wills Hospital.

The value of the iodide of potassium, as a remedy in certain diseases of the eye, which have a constitutional origin, or are closely allied to a scrofulous or cachectic condition of the general system, is beginning to attract attention. During a recent term of service at the Wills Hospital, an opportunity occurred to me of employing the remedy in some cases of this description; and, although the number of patients was too limited to warrant a general conclusion as to its powers, yet the results were so striking and satisfactory, as to create a strong impression in its favour, especially when viewed in connection with the concurrent testimony of others.

If this article could be safely employed as a substitute for mercury in many diseases of the eye, in which we have been accustomed to rely upon that potent medicine; or, if it will produce a strong alterative impression, in cases where an enfeebled or irritable condition of the constitution renders a resort to mercury hazardous, it will constitute a most valuable auxiliary in the treatment of a numerous class of cases, which are exceedingly difficult of cure.

The dose in which we administered the article at the Wills Hospital, was from two to six grains, three times daily, in a tablespoonful of the compound syrup of sarsaparilla. The selection of the latter article as a vehicle for the iodide was prompted by the ex-