

that the iris is composed of radiating and circular muscular fibres. If this be its true structure what rational explanation can be given of the *modus operandi* in the production of its various phenomena? The lenticular ganglion receives its power through its motor root from the third nerve, and the iris being wholly supplied with nervous influence by the short ciliary from the lenticular and the long ciliary from the fifth nerve, after the destruction of the third nerve what remaining nervous force could possibly contract the radiating and at the same time dilate the circular muscular fibres, as the branch of the fifth giving off the long ciliary, possesses all the evidences of a nerve of pure sensation? Why do all other muscles supplied by the third remain flaccid? What nervous force could render the pupil immovably dilated? How does destruction of the third cause disorganization of the eye? After destruction of the fifth nerve, how can the lenticular force alone contract the circular and dilate the radiating muscular fibres, thereby rendering the pupil immovably contracted? How account for contraction of the pupil and disorganization of the eye with loss of function in the nerves of special sense after extirpation of the superior cervical ganglion? What philosophical explanation can be given of the influence of light in contraction of the pupil?

The muscular hypothesis has given rise to more absurd conjectures in physiology, than even, if possible, the untenable doctrine of Hahnemann in medicine. Thus the *stimulus* of light, the least of all impressive influences is made to pass as a *motor* impulse along a nerve of special sense, traverse the corpora quadrigemina, switch itself off on the third nerve carry by force the lenticular ganglion and then dilate one set of muscles and contract another in the same structure in order to shut out a superabundance of the rays of light. This beats Dickens' "*circumlocution office*." A nerve of special sense can convey no other influence than that pertaining to its own peculiar function, while none but *intense* impulses can pass a sympathetic ganglion.

Before explaining its true nature and the *modus operandi* in the production of the irian phenomena, it is necessary to remove another error existing since the days of the Hunters.

It has been held as truth, that an artery expands in every direction at the same time, thus becoming greatly attenuated at every pulsation, the possibility of rupture or the formation of