

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CAUSE OF CARDIAC PAIN IN CHOLERA.

Mr. Editor,—Will you be kind enough to allow me, through your medium, to put the following inquiry to the profession.

Yours, &c.,

Canada West.

INQUIRER.

In an attack of cholera, what is the cause of the intense agony complained of by the patient in the cardiac region? Is it cramps of the stomach, as most of the profession seem to think, or rather *cramps* or *spasms of the heart*, or both?

In some of the severe cases which I attended during the late epidemic, the principal complaint was made of an agonizing *pain* in the *region of the heart*, analogous to that of *angina pectoris*. And this pain, I may here state, yielded to the inhalation of chloroform, which is recommended for *angina pectoris*, and the patients recovered.

Now, it has been asserted, and generally admitted, that the arrest of venous blood in a muscle is a cause of cramp, and that this is the cause, (proximate at least) of *angina pectoris*.

Therefore, admitting the above, and that this is the cause of the cramping in the extremities, back, &c., in cholera; does not the same cause extend to that muscle, the heart—and is it not the cause of that intense agony complained of in the cardiac region?

HOSPITAL REPORTS.

MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

(Reported by Chs. Ault, Apothecary.)

Obscure affection of the head of an intermittent character.—James McGuire, *etat* 24 (an Emigrant of last season) was admitted on the 29th December, 1854, into the Montreal General Hospital, under the care of Dr. Arnoldi. He had been suffering for two weeks previous to admission, with a severe pain in his head, for which quinine was prescribed, and a blister to the nape of the neck. This he said relieved him for a time. On the day of his admission he was suffering from a severe pain in his head, of a lancinating character. The pain usually commenced in the region of the frontal bone and extended backwards to the occipital. There was not much constitutional disturbance, the tongue slightly coated with a white fur, thirst somewhat increased, bowels regular, pupils