

with difficulty of respiration, irritability of stomach, &c.; weakness, lassitude and oppression: then the affection of the spine became more apparent, followed in two of the cases with great loss of power and controul over the movement of the limbs, and terminating ultimately in permanent affection of the spine; and it is very probable, had the complaint been allowed to proceed in the case of the youngest sister, without being arrested by appropriate remedies, the result might have been equally serious.

Case 15.—W. B., a young man, aged twenty-three years, complained of great weakness and prostration of strength, being fatigued and out of breath by very slight exertion. Felt pains in his arms, and extending along the sides of his chest and abdomen; and had frequently nausea and irritability of stomach. There were often severe pains in his loins, darting down his thighs to his knees and ankles, and he felt increasing weakness in his limbs; he was also frequently seized with giddiness in walking. These complaints being considered of a rheumatic character, were treated on that principle. He was bled, and took diaphoretics, &c., but with little relief to his symptoms. This debility increased, and he lost in a great measure the power over the movement of his limbs, and had considerable difficulty in micturition. Attention being now directed to the spine, and pain and tenderness complained of on pressure, issues were applied along the dorsal vertebræ, and he was ordered to observe the horizontal posture. He remained in this state for many months, and took the medicines prescribed for his relief, but derived little benefit from any of the remedies employed. As no amendment appeared immediately to follow the treatment, he lost confidence in any further remedies, and commenced to walk. In a short time some of the dorsal vertebræ began to project, and the number to increase, till the greater portion became involved in the disease, and he is now labouring under permanent acute curvature of the spine, ankylosis having taken place. He retains the use of his arms, but has very imperfect controul over the movement of his limbs, being unable to walk without support, or the assistance of crutches.

Case 16.—J. D., aged thirty-three years. Felt his health declining for three years, being weak and more easily fatigued than usual. In walking he frequently became giddy, and liable to stumble, which obliged him to take hold of an object to prevent himself from falling; had often pains in his chest and bowels, and shooting down his limbs, with some difficulty in micturition; but the complaint which distressed him most, was an acute pain along the margin of the ribs, on the left side of his chest, and extending from the spine to the umbilicus, producing a severe dragging sensation, which prevented him from assuming the erect posture. In walking he stooped and inclined to the left side, and had considerable weakness in the movement of his limbs. For these symptoms he