

the joint, has been followed by ulceration of the capsular ligament, and the escape of the pus without the shut sack—that it burrows in many directions, undermining the parts about the joint, isolating the muscles from their connection with the bones, causing extensive disease of the bones of the pelvis, or having extended among the muscles of the hip it will destroy the fascia, and leave very extensive sinuses—moreover the disease may extend by ulceration, (especially in young subjects) through the bottom of the celyloid cavity, insinuate itself under the Iliac muscle within the pelvis, and has even been known to cause adhesions and disease of the large intestine in its immediate vicinity, so that the matter in the diseased hip-joint has been evacuated through the bowels.

This state of things may have continued for a longer or shorter period, often in young people the progress of this disease may be very rapid, may have caused intense constitutional irritation that was attended with violent delirium or continued hectic, accompanied with profuse sweating; may have so debilitated the patient that the powers of his constitution sink, and death closes the scene. But if on the separation of the diseased bones, or from some other favourable cause, the diseased action should take a more fortunate turn, the great purulent discharge begins to subside, the sinuses to heal up, and the patient's constitution to regain a degree of tone and elasticity, the harbinger of returning health. The bone now begins to be accustomed to its new situation among the muscles of the hip, exostosis occurs to a certain extent, often very considerable, it surrounds the extremity of the femur, and after a time accomplishes the formation of a new cavity, giving rise to the production of a new joint—in whatsoever part the femur shall be located, whether it be on the dorsum of the Ilium, the thyroid hole, or in any other situation. Sometimes the shaft of the thigh bone becomes firmly adherent in the new formation, and fixed in one position, often not the most advantageous, and although it is fully able to bear the weight of the body in its new position, it is not permitted the least latitude of motion—it is an ankylosed joint. The Celyloid cavity also becomes completely filled with a new formation of bone, and the result of the healing action, is the total subsidence of the disease, a cure, which under the most favourable circumstances however, is but an alternation between death and deformity.

Such is the course of the inflammation of the synovial membrane of the hip joint, that after a time has evidently extended to all the other structures, implicating them in changes of the most grave description; doubtless every case will exhibit a shade of difference either in the intensity of its symptoms, or the character