

amorphous precipitate around it, without a clear outer circumference; upon an attentive examination we can also observe in the fluid minute granules less than the 1000th of an inch in diameter, while larger corpuscles identical with the nuclei of pus-corpuscle are observable. The history of the process would lead to the belief that two or three of these nuclei may be grouped together, in all probability and to all appearance exudation corpuscles, these having taken on a required action and having a cell-wall developed around them at first pale and transparent, but subsequently becoming thickened opaque and covered with granules—hence the various structures visible by a microscope, observed floating in the Liquor Puris—the progress of this process in the development of the pus-corpuscles, is often extremely rapid, a few hours sufficing to exhibit a full grown corpuscle; as soon as the cell-wall is formed the corpuscle grows by endosmotic action, and after a time having ran through its course, it bursts, and liberates the granules, which are often all that can be found in the pus that has been evacuated from the body after several days.

The joint now soon becomes greatly distended with pus, so much so, that ulceration of the synovial membrane, and also of the Capsular Ligaments will take place, from the great distension of the part, when the patient experiences a temporary relief from the pain—by degrees the pus escaping among the muscles of the hip, burrows down in every direction, until it finds its way to the surface; and this may show itself near the groin, or on the back of the hip, while sometimes the abscess will be found to open a long way down the thigh. Coincident with the formation of matter in the joint, we find a change in the character of the constitutional irritation; up to this period the fever has been more or less of the inflammatory type, the pulse has been full and quick, the tongue white and loaded, the skin hot and dry, but now the shivering, which but too plainly marked the baneful change in the nature of the disease, is frequently repeated, it is followed by heat, and flushings, and is succeeded by profuse perspiration; the change indicative of this variety of constitutional irritation, returns with more or less constancy, while the pulse has an enduring frequency, is small and sharp; a gradual wasting of the body and a progressive debility of the whole frame, distinctly points out to us the nature of the change, which has happened in the character of the disease of the Hip-Joint.

The discharge from the joint is generally in the first instance normal puss (*pus bonum et laudabile*) a creamy looking, thick opaque, and homogenous fluid, having a faint yellowish, sometimes a white, or even greenish tinge, it has a peculiar smell when fresh, but loses it on standing, has a sweet mawkish taste, and is