

*Case No. 9.—Rheumatic Arthritis of the Hip Joint treated with rest.*  
Reported by Mr. A. J. CATTANACH.

Daniel McColl, aged 14, a boy from the country, was admitted into the Montreal General Hospital on the 1st of October, 1870, suffering from hip joint disease.

*History.*—In September, 1868, the patient was attacked with a severe form of acute rheumatism, which lasted for about a month, after which he gradually began to improve, but complained more or less of a pain in the right hip joint. He continued in a weakly state throughout the subsequent winter, scarcely ever going out of doors, but confining himself chiefly to the house. In the following spring he began to improve slightly, took more out-door exercise, but still complained of pain in the hip on the slightest exertion, which subsequently subsided on giving rest to the joint. In June, 1869, he appeared to be so much improved that his parents decided to send him to a school which was three miles distant from the house, and which he continued to attend till August, walking there and back every school day, but always complaining of pain and tenderness in the evening after returning. After the summer holidays he was not allowed to attend school, as his physician gave orders that he should remain at rest as much as possible for a month or two. This he continued to do during the winter of 1869-70, but still had more or less pain in the right hip, with painful twitchings and startings in the limb at night. In May, 1870, was ordered by his physician to try salt-water bathing, and in July was sent to River du Loup, continued there for about a month or more but without any improvement, and does not appear to have improved since then up to date of his admission into hospital. Patient had always been weak and delicate, possesses all the characteristics of a highly scrofulous diathesis; has had open sinuses on the right arm for upwards of a year, from necrosis of the humerus and from which several small spiculæ of bone have from time to time been discharged. His parents appear to have been healthy, so also his brothers and sisters, but his mother's family appear to have been more or less subject to rheumatism.

When admitted to hospital the patient presented the following symptoms. The attitude of the afflicted limb was characteristic of hip joint disease in the third stage, it was considerably adducted, so that the knee was brought against the lower part of the sound thigh; knee joint was slightly flexed and carried in front of the opposite limb, and foot raised and supported on the points of the toes, the crest of the ilium on the affected side was about three inches higher than the level of the sound side. The nates also were very much flattened over the diseased side, and patient complained of great pain both in hip joint and knee, which was greatly aggravated upon the least motion of the limb.