

Why, when the spine is luxated, the parts belonging to the chest are nourished and grow the less.

Why the luxation of one vertebra is more dangerous than of many.
Sent. 51. sect. 3. lib. de art.

and industry. Wherefore such as have it by kind, never are helped. Such as, whilst they are yet children, before their bodies be come to perfect growth, have their spine crooked and bunching out, their bodies use not to grow at the spine, but their legs and arms come to their perfect and full growth; yet the parts belonging to their breasts and back, become more slender. Neither is it any wonder, for seeing the veins, arteries, and nerves are not in their places, the spirits do neither freely, nor the alimentary juices plentifully flow by these straitened passages, whence leanness must needs ensue: but the limbs shall thence have no wrong, for that not the whole body, but the neighbouring parts only are infected with the contagion of this evil. When divers vertebrae following each other in order, are together and at one time dislocated, the dislocation is less dangerous, than if one alone were luxated. For, when one only vertebra is dislocated, it carries the spinal marrow so away with it, that it forces it almost into a sharp angle; wherefore being more straitly pressed, it must necessarily be either broken or hurt, which is absolutely deadly, for that it is the brains substitute. But when divers vertebrae are dislocated at once, it must of necessity be forced only into an obtuse angle, or rather a semicircle; by which compression it certainly suffers, but not so, as that death must necessarily ensue thereof. Hereto may seem to belong that which is pronounced by Hippocrates; a circular moving of the vertebrae out of their places is less dangerous than an angular.

CHAP. XIX. Of the dislocation of the rump.

The signs.



The rump oft-times is after a sort dislocated inwards by a violent fall upon the buttocks, or a great blow; in this affect the Patient cannot bring his heel to his buttocks, neither, unless with much force, bend his knee. Going to stool is painful to him, neither can he sit unless in a hollow chair. That this (as it were) dislocation may be restored, you must thrust your finger in by the Fundament, even to the place affected,

The cure.

as we have said in a fracture; then must you strongly raise up the bone, and with your other hand at the same time join it rightly on the outside with the neighbouring parts, lastly, it must be strengthened with the formerly mentioned remedies, and kept in its place. Now it will be recovered about the twentieth day after it is set. During all which time the Patient must not go to stool, unless sitting upon a hollow seat, lest the bone, as yet scarce well recovered, should fall again out of its place.

CHAP. XX. Of the luxation of the ribs.

Causes.



The ribs may by a great and bruising stroke be dislocated, and fall from the vertebra whereto they are articulated, and they may be driven inwards, or sideways. Of which kind of luxation, though there be no particular mention made by the Ancients, yet they confess, that all the bones may fall, or be removed from their seats or cavities,

Signs.

whereto they are received and articulated. The sign of a rib dislocated and slipped on one side, is, a manifest inequality, which here makes a hollowness, and there a bunching forth; but it is a sign that it is driven in, when as there is only a depressed cavity where it is knit and fastned to the vertebra. Such dislocations cause divers symptoms, as difficulty of breathing, the hurt rib hindring the free moving of the chest; a painfulness in bowing down, or lifting up the body, occasioned by a pain counterfeiting a pleurisie; the rising or puffing up of the muscular flesh about the rib, by a mucous and flatulent humor there generated: the reasons whereof we formerly mentioned in our Treatise of Fractures. To withstand all these, the dislocation must be forthwith restored, then the puffing up of the flesh must be helped. Wherefore, if the dislocated rib shall fall upon the upper side of the vertebra, the Patient shall be set upright, hanging by his arms upon the top of some high door or window; then the head of the rib, where it stands forth, shall be pressed down untill it be put into its cavity. Again, if the rib shall fall out upon the lower side of the vertebra, it will be requisite, that the Patient bend his face downwards, setting his hands upon his knees, then the dislocation may be restored by pressing or thrusting in the knot or bunch which stands forth. But if the luxated rib fall inwards, it can no more be restored or drawn forth by the hand of the Surgeon, than a vertebra which is dislocated towards the inside, for the reasons formerly delivered.

Cure.

Gal. com. ad sent. 3. sect. 1. de art.

CHAP. XXI. Of a dislocated shoulder.

Why there is no internall ligament from the arm bone to the shoulder blade.



The shoulder is easily dislocated, because the ligaments of its dearticulation are soft and loose, as also for that the cavity of the shoulder blade is not very deep; and besides, it is every where smooth and polite, no otherwise than that of the shoulder bone, for that it is herein received. Adde hereunto, that there is no internall ligament from bone to bone, which may strengthen that dearticulation, as is in the leg and knee. Wherein notwithstanding, we must not think nature defective, but rather admire Gods providence in this thing, for that this articulation serves not only for extension and bending, as that of the Elbow, but besides, for a round or circular motion, as that which carries the arm round about, now up, then down, according to each difference of site. The shoulder bone, which Hippocrates calls the arm bone, may be dislocated four manner of ways, upwards, downwards, or into the arm-pit, forwards and outwards, but never backwards, or to the hind part. For, seeing that there the cavity of the blade bone, which receives the head of the arm-bone, which Hippocrates calls a joint, lyes and stands against it; who is it that can but imagin any such dislocation? In like sort it is never dislocated inwardly

Differences of a luxated shoulder.

Sent. 1. sect. 1. lib. de art.