

LOWER LIMB.

ARTICULATIONS, HIP-JOINT—No. 2.

The capsular ligament of the hip-joint is an extremely strong fibrous structure, strengthened in several parts by bands of fibres which are distinctively named.

It is attached to the innominate bone around the margin of the acetabulum, and to the transverse ligament which bridges over the notch in the margin, and, below, it is attached to the femur along the anterior intertrochanteric line and to the root of the great trochanter, while, behind, its attachment crosses the neck of the femur.

The principal bands on the anterior portion of the capsule are the ilio-femoral, the pubo-femoral, and the ischio-femoral. The first is attached above to the anterior inferior iliac spine, and divides into two limbs which pass to the upper and to the lower ends of the anterior intertrochanteric line, leaving between them a triangular interval, which is here very small in amount.

A band of fibres passing horizontally from the anterior inferior spine to the root of the great trochanter is often termed the ilio-trochanteric band.

To the inner side of the ilio-femoral band is a weak spot, where there is often an aperture communicating with the bursa under the ilio-psoas.

The pubo-femoral band is more horizontal in direction, passing from the pubic bone near the pectineal eminence, to join the capsule.

The ischio-femoral band consists of some fibres which pass from the ischium, below the acetabulum, and join the lower and back part of the capsule.

A small portion of the cotyloid ligament is seen. It is a rim of fibro-cartilage around the margin of the acetabulum.

The figures indicate—

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Anterior inferior spine of ilium. | 5. Upper part of ilio-femoral band. |
| 2. Ilio-trochanteric band. | 6. Cotyloid ligament. |
| 3. Ilio-femoral band. | 7. Pubo-femoral band. |
| 4. Lower part of ilio-femoral band. | 8. Ischio-femoral band. |

