

members of the intrinsic group. This is a most useful, and, as a general rule, a most reliable guide in determining the muscles which belong to the plantar layer. He says the deep division "sinks at the outer edge of the contrahentes (*i.e.*, adductors) between these and the interossei. This nerve courses inwards, constantly placed on the interossei and covered by the contrahentes and giving branches to both groups." Now in Man this nerve passes inwards superficial to the plantar interossei and under cover of the adductor obliquus hallucis, thus cutting them off from each other.

(4.) In a foot dissected in the Practical Anatomy Rooms of the University of Edinburgh this summer session (1881), I observed a distinct fleshy slip proceeding from the outer edge of the adductor obliquus hallucis to be inserted into the outer side of the base of the first phalanx of the index. This clearly represented the adductor indicis.

The flexor brevis minimi digiti is a single-headed muscle which is inserted into "the base and external border of the first phalanx of the little toe" (Quain). I believe that the third plantar interosseus is the inner head of this muscle.

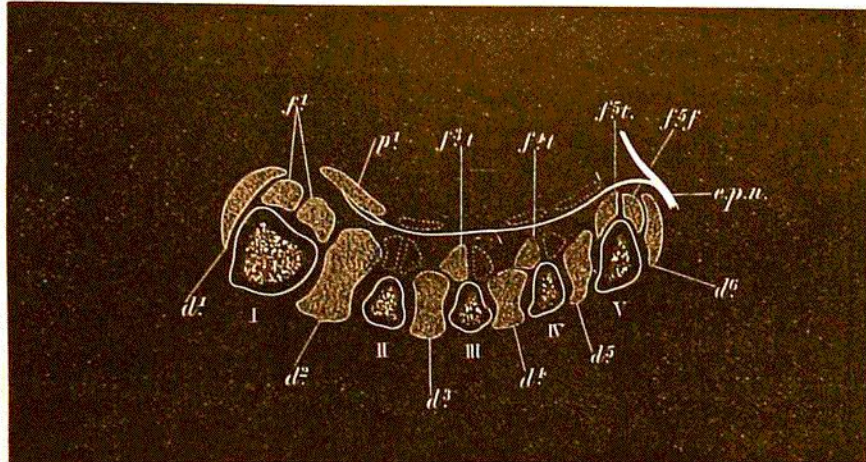


FIG. 2. Schematic view of the intrinsic muscles of the left human foot—seen in transverse section through the metatarsus. The lost elements are sketched in dotted outline. Compare with figure 3.

(*f*¹) Flexor brevis hallucis. (*f*^{3t}) Tibial head of flexor brevis medii (1st plantar interosseus). (*f*^{4t}) Tibial head of flexor brevis annularis (2nd plantar interosseus). (*f*^{5t}) Tibial head of flexor brevis minimi digiti (3rd plantar interosseus). (*f*^{5f}) Fibular head of flexor brevis minimi digiti. (*p*¹) Adductor obliquus hallucis. (*d*¹) Abductor hallucis. (*d*⁶) Abductor minimi digiti. (*d*² to *d*⁵) Dorsal interossei. (I. to V.) Metatarsal bones. (*e.p.n.*) External plantar nerve giving off its superficial and deep division.

The remaining two plantar interossei (*viz.*, the second and first) are the flexores breves of the annularis and medius, which have lost their outer heads, and have taken on an adducting action in consequence, antagonising in this respect the action of the fourth and third dorsal interossei.

Nor need we consider this change of function remarkable when we have already seen in the Horse a short flexor converted into a powerful ligament; in the Sloth