Action.—This muscle elevates the sternal ribs, and acts as a muscle of inspiration.

Relations.—Its origin is close to that of the sterno-trachealis, and is in contact with the thoracic viscera.

Nerve supply (?)

Variations.—In Spheniscus magellanicus the insertion of the triangularis is limited to the three anterior sternal ribs, while in Spheniscus demersus it is attached to five of the latter.

3. Levatores costarum.

Les vertebro-costaux, Vicq d'Azyr, 1774, p. 520, No. 3. Der Erheber der Brust, Merrem.

Levatores costarum, Tiedemann, p. 299, No. 3.

Elévateurs des côtes, Meckel, vol. vi. p. 16, No. 1.

Levatores costarum, Owen, p. 29.

Sur-costaux, Gervais and Alix, p. 12.

Attachments.—The levatores costarum form a series of small muscles, which are with difficulty separable from the external intercostal muscles. They arise from the tips of the transverse processes of all the dorsal vertebræ, except the last, as well as from those of the last cervical vertebra. Each levator costæ is inserted into the anterior border of the vertebral rib belonging to the succeeding vertebra, the insertion extending from the tubercle to the point of attachment of the uncinate process, where its fibres blend with those of the external intercostal muscle.

The first and second levatores are scarcely separable from the fibres of the scalene muscle, of which they seem to form a part.

Action.—These muscles elevate the ribs, and act as muscles of inspiration.

Relations.—They are concealed by the sacro-lumbalis.

Nerve supply (?)

4. External intercostal muscles.

Les muscles intercostaux, Vicq d'Azyr, 1774, p. 520, No. 1. Die äussern Zwischenrippen-Muskeln, Tiedemann, p. 301, No. 6. Intercostaux externes, Meckel, vol. vi. p. 16, No. 2. Intercostaux externes, Cuvier, vol. i. p. 219. Intercostales externi, Owen, p. 31. Intercostales externi, Selenka, vol. vi. p. 104, No. 28. Intercostaux, Gervais and Alix, p. 13.

Attachments.—These muscles are of considerable strength, and occupy the intervals between the vertebral ribs. Their fibres arise from the posterior border of one vertebral rib, and pass obliquely downwards and backwards, to be inserted into the anterior border