

femoris (the tensor fasciæ above described) is absent in the Penguins. I have found it in every species, although reduced to a minimum in size.

4. *Biceps femoris.*

Muscle No. 2, Vicq d'Azyr, 1774, p. 506, No. 2.

Biceps, Cuvier, vol. i. p. 371.

Der zugespitzte Wadenbein-Muskel, Merrem:

Der vordere Beuger des Unterschenkels, Wiedemann, p. 96.

Der erste Beuger des Unterschenkels, Tiedemann, p. 334, No. 6.

Fléchisseur péronéal, Meckel, vol. vi. p. 90, No. 2.

Gluteus maximus, Reid, p. 143.

Biceps flexor cruris, Owen, p. 36.

Biceps, Selenka, vol. vi. p. 143, No. 86.

Biceps fémoral, Gervais and Alix, p. 32.

Attachments.—The biceps is a very powerful muscle, which arises from the whole length of the upper (dorsal) border of the ilium and ischium extending from the acetabulum backwards to the posterior extremity of the pelvis, as also by means of a separate bundle of fibres from the posterior border of the tendon of origin of the tensor fasciæ femoris. The muscular fibres end above the knee joint on a rounded tendon, which, after passing through a fibrous pulley lined by synovial membrane, is inserted into a well-marked tubercle, situated on the outer side of the fibula, at the junction of the upper and middle thirds of that bone. The tendon through which the tendon of this muscle passes consists of a fibrous loop, which is attached by its upper end to the outer side of the shaft of the femur, immediately above the outer condyle, whilst its lower end coalesces with the tendinous outer head of origin of the gastrocnemius muscle.

Action.—This muscle is the most powerful of the flexors of the knee joint. Indirectly it extends the femur at the hip joint.

Relations.—The muscle is superficially placed except at its insertion where its tendon intervenes between the outer head of origin of the gastrocnemius on the outer, and the flexor sublimis digitorum on the inner side. Its deeper surface rests upon the sciatic nerve which separates it from the semi-tendinosus muscle. Its anterior border lies parallel to and in contact with the posterior border of the tensor fasciæ.

Nerve supply.—Several branches of the sciatic nerve, which are given off directly after the latter has escaped from the pelvis. They enter the deeper surface of the muscle.

Remarks.—Tiedemann, followed by Selenka, identifies the muscle above described under the name of biceps, with the biceps of Vicq d'Azyr. A careful reading of the description of the last named author, shows that the biceps of Tiedemann and Selenka is the "demi-membraneux" of Vicq d'Azyr.