In the Phocinæ and Arctocephalus the levator is supplied by the spinal accessory anterior to the scapular spine and by the cervical nerves.

Rhomboidei.—There are three rhomboidei in the Phocinæ, and these are named—a. Rhomboideus capitis; b. Rhomboideus cervicis; c. Rhomboideus dorsi.

The Rhomboideus capitis is a long narrow band, lying below the cephalo-humeral and the trapezius. It arises from the superior posterior angle of the parietal bone, to the inner side of the origin of the temporal muscle, and from the margin of the adjacent occipital bone. Opposite the spine of the scapula at the vertebral border, it passes beneath the rhomboideus cervicis, and is inserted into the ventral side of the cartilaginous plate of the scapula, near its posterior angle, between the insertions of the serratus. Professor Humphry has not described two separate muscles coming from the neck and head, but one, and to this the name rhomboideus minor is given. In the Phocinæ it is supplied by filaments from the cervical nerves.

The Rhomboideus cervicis arises from the forward fascial prolongation of the ligamentum nuchæ opposite the occipital bone, and from the ligamentum nuchæ. Until the fibres reach the middle of this ligament, the muscle is a slender band, then it becomes broader, and the fasciculi are obliquely directed to the base of the scapula. It is inserted into the vertebral border of the scapula posterior to the spine, and into the vertebral border of the cartilaginous plate. Some of the hindmost fibres run into those of the serratus magnus at its insertion. In the large Phoca vitulina the origin is as far back as the 2nd dorsal vertebra. This muscle is not specially noted by Humphry, but named rhomboideus minor with the last muscle. In Phoca vitulina it is supplied by the 4th cervical, and in Phoca barbata and Phoca hispida from the 5th cervical.

The Rhomboidcus dorsi is a small triangular muscle lying between the scapula and the serratus magnus. It arises from the first four dorsal spines, and from the supraspinous ligaments. The fibres go towards the posterior angle of the scapula on its ventral surface. It is inserted into the axillary border of the cartilaginous plate, and to a very small extent into the axillary border of the scapula. In the large Phoca vitulina the origin is from the 2nd dorsal vertebra to the 4th. There is a slight difference in Phoca barbata, it arises from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th dorsal vertebra. To this muscle Professor Humphry has given the name rhomboideus major. In Phoca vitulina and Phoca hispida it is supplied by a lateral nerve from the 1st intercostal space; in Phoca barbata by nerves from the 3rd and 4th, and 4th and 5th, intercostal spaces; in the large Phoca vitulina by a large dorsal branch passing between the 2nd and 3rd ribs.

In Arctocephalus gazella, instead of three distinct muscles, there are only two, but these have three insertions. They are the rhomboideus capitis (et scapularis) and the rhomboideus dorsi.

Rhomboideus capitis (ct scapularis).—As the attachments of this muscle are vastly different from the corresponding muscle in the Phocine, I have added "et scapularis" to emphasise the peculiarity. The origin was mutilated. The fibres proceed backwards and slightly outwards, and cover half the dorsal surface of the scapula anterior to the spine. It is inserted into the inner half of the scapular spine, into the posterior lip, and into the scapula between the spine and the vertebral border. Some fibres unite with those of the atlanto-scapular just anterior to the spine.

The Rhomboideus dorsi is of a rhomboid shape. It arises from the spine of the 7th cervical, and then from the same spines as in Phoca vitulina. There is no division at the origin, but as the fibres approach the vertebral border of the scapula they collect into two parts. The anterior part has the same insertion as the rhomboideus cervicis of Phoca vitulina, but it