The Solcus is found in Arctocephalus gazella, but not in the Phocinæ and Macrorhinus. It is a flattened elongated muscle, lying on the peronei brevis and quinti digiti. Near the head of the fibula it is a fine sheet, at the middle triangular, the apex being the origin, the base the free edge; over the posterior fifth it is a fleshy bundle. It arises from the dorsal surface of the head of the fibula by a thin tendon, from the whole length of the inner border of the shaft by a fine aponeurosis, and by muscular fibres from the inner surface of its posterior fifth, ventral to this border and dorsal to the interosseous membrane. The fibres pass backwards, and are inserted into the proximal surface of the tuberosity of the os calcis beneath the attachment of the gastrocnemius extending further back on the dorsal side of the bone, and on nearing the lower or posterior border of the fibula the inner surface becomes tendinous. It has the same action as the gastrocnemius. Murie gives an origin from the outer condyle of the femur which I did not observe.

The Plantaris in the Phocine lies below the gastrocnemius. It arises, as already mentioned, from the femur with the outer head of the gastrocnemius, and descends along the ventral side of the flexor longus hallucis, at the lower third of the leg it crosses to the dorsal side of the above muscle, and enters the plantar surface between the gastrocnemius and the flexor longus hallucis, below the backward prolongation of the tendons of the gracilis, semimembranosus, and semitendinosus which form the plantar fascia. Beneath this it widens, and is moored to the dorsal side of the larger combined tendon of the flexor longus hallucis and the flexor longus digitorum. Before reaching this tendon, the accessorius is inserted into its dorsal side (fig. II., p. 201). It sends one slip, behind its union with the combined tendon, to the distal end of the inner surface of the 5th metatarsal bone.

In Macrorhinus leoninus it arises alone from the same part of the femur as the outer head of the gastrocnemius and the plantaris in Phoca vitulina. It blends with the insertion of the gluteus maximus on its outer side at the origin. At the os calcis it enters the pes, as in Phoca vitulina, and joins the dorsal side of the conjoined plantar tendon of the flexor longus digitorum and the flexor longus hallucis (fig. IV., p. 202).

In Arctocephalus gazella it is one-third the size of the gastrocnemius, and arises, in common with the popliteus, from the external border of the femur to the point of its tendon from the external condyle. It courses backwards, lying upon the soleus, partially covering the gastrocnemius, and is situated on the dorsal side of the leg. Near the ankle it forms a round tendon, which occupies the groove on the os calcis to the ventral side of the gastrocnemius. One inch posterior to the distal end of the os calcis it widens and divides into an anterior and posterior slip. The anterior The posterior divides into joins the plantar fascia (fig. I.). four slips, which are the superficial perforated tendons for

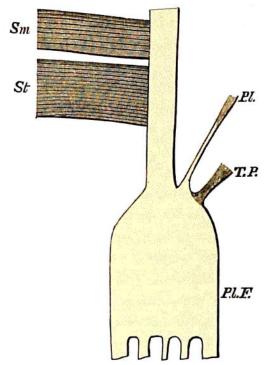


Fig. I.—The plantar fascia of Arctocephalus. Sm, semimembranosus; St, semitendinosus; Pl., plantaris; T.P., tibialis posticus; Pl.F., plantar fascia.

the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th digits. In the Phocinæ it is supplied by the great sciatic nerve.

The DEEP GROUP in all the specimens is alike. The muscles are the popliteus, flexor longus hallucis, flexor longus digitorum, with its accessorius and lumbricales, and the tibialis posticus.