

In the *Cuscus* (Pl. II. fig. 5, *s.l.*) and *Phascogale* the supinator longus is a muscle of great size, relatively much larger than the same muscle in man. It springs from the upper two-thirds of the external supracondyloid ridge of the humerus. Its tendon proceeds in a groove upon the dorsal aspect of the lower end of the radius, under cover of the posterior annular ligament to the scaphoid bone, into the outer aspect of which it is inserted.

Macalister¹ mentions that the supinator longus is absent in the Tasmanian Devil; with this single exception it appears to be almost universally present in the Marsupialia, and in the case of the Koala it attains a very great magnitude.²

Radial extensors.—The fleshy bellies of the extensor carpi radialis longior and extensor carpi radialis brevior are completely amalgamated in the *Phascogale*; the tendons, however, are separate. This also was the case in the female *Thylacine*, but in the large male *Thylacine* (Pl. I. fig. 5, *c.l.* and *c.b.*) and in the *Cuscus* the two muscles were separate throughout their entire extent.

In the *Thylacine* and *Phascogale* the radial extensors arise from the external supracondyloid ridge of the humerus below the supinator longus, and they are respectively inserted into base of the second and third metacarpal bone on its dorsal aspect.

The extensor carpi radialis brevior in the *Cuscus* (Pl. II. fig. 5, *c.b.*) is a very large and powerful muscle, and its origin is somewhat complicated. It may be said to arise by three distinct heads—(1) from the upper part of the external condyle of the humerus (*c.b*¹.); (2) from the tendinous expansion on the surface of the supinator brevis (*c.b*².); (3) from the posterior border of the radius below the supinator brevis (*c.b*³.). These three slips of origin unite to form the muscle, which is inserted as usual into the radial border of the shaft of the metacarpal bone of the medius a short distance beyond the base.

The extensor carpi radialis longior in the *Cuscus* (*c.l.*) presents the ordinary origin, from the lower third of the external supracondyloid ridge of the humerus, and it is inserted into the radial border of the shaft of the metacarpal bone of the index about its middle.

As a general rule, in the Marsupials the radial extensors are amalgamated, and even in those cases where they are separate they exhibit, as in the *Thylacine*, a tendency to fusion. Thus Young² states that in the three specimens of Koala which he examined one possessed a single radial extensor, whilst in the other two they were “separate and distinct.” Again, Meckel,² in his work upon Comparative Anatomy, states that in the Opossum there are two radial extensors, whilst Macalister³ describes only one. The peculiar triple origin of the extensor carpi radialis brevior which is noticed in the *Cuscus* has not been observed (so far as I am aware) in any other Marsupial.

Extensor communis digitorum.—In all three animals this is a comparatively small muscle. It springs from the outer aspect of the external condyle.

¹ Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist., vol. x., 4th series.

² Young, Jour. Anat. and Phys., vol. xvi.

³ Annals and Magazine of Natural History, vol. v.