

brevis pollicis (fig. 3, g^1) and *flexor minimi digiti* (fig. 3, g^b) are exceptions to this rule, as both slips of each of these muscles are fixed directly to the bone.

The *opponens minimi digiti* is very distinct, but fused with the ulnar part of the short flexor. It is inserted into the lower half of the ulnar margin of the metacarpal bone of the little finger. This insertion is quite continuous with that of the short flexor of the same finger into the ulnar face of the first phalanx. There is no trace of an *opponens pollicis*.

The foregoing observations upon the intrinsic muscles of the hand are based upon four dissections of the manus of the *Thylacine*, two of the *Cuscus*, and one of the *Phascogale*. In addition I have also examined the hand of the *Vulpine phalanger*, the *Dasyurus viverrinus*, and the Australian wild Dog or Dingo, with the view of comparing the same muscles in them with those of the animals in which I was more specially interested.

The *Vulpine phalanger* in its hand muscles closely resembles the *Cuscus*, but the adductor or palmar group is feebly represented, and consequently the median raphe is not so well seen. The *flexor brevis pollicis* and the *flexor brevis minimi digiti* are apparently only represented by their radial and ulnar heads respectively, but these are strongly developed.

An *opponens minimi digiti* in all respects like that of the *Cuscus* is to be found, also a few fibres passing to the metacarpal bone of the thumb from the short flexor of that finger. The latter may represent an *opponens pollicis*.

The *Dasyurus*, on the other hand, agrees with the *Phascogale*. It has a powerful *palmaris brevis* similar to the same muscle in the *Thylacine*, and like the *Vulpine phalanger* it seems to be deficient in the adducting portions of the short flexors of the thumb and little fingers.

In the hand of the Dingo the metacarpal bones are compressed together so as to obliterate the intermetacarpal spaces, and in consequence of this the *interossei* muscles are situated in the palm. The clear definition between the three groups of muscles is therefore lost, more or less complete fusion of certain muscles takes place, and the arrangement is more difficult to interpret.

The abductors of the little finger and thumb are both present, but the latter is very rudimentary, like the digit upon which it acts. The four dorsal *interossei* lie upon the palmar surface of the metacarpal bones, and are fused to a certain extent with the representatives of the intermediate muscles in the Marsupials. They are poorly developed, and have the same insertions as the corresponding muscles in man.

The palmar muscles are three in number—(1) *adductor pollicis*, a very minute slip; (2) an *adductor indicis*; (3) an *adductor minimi digiti*.

The intermediate flexors are very similar to the same muscles in Marsupials, but the *flexor brevis pollicis* is suppressed, and the minute *pollex* is in this case flexed by the combined action of its abductor and adductor.