

from the 8th cervical and 1st dorsal nerves—and embracing the axillary artery, they unite in the form of a flattened nervous band which lies upon the inner aspect of the axillary artery, between it and the vein. The principal branches of the plexus spring from this band.

The branches of the plexus may be conveniently classified under two heads:—(1) Those arising from the primary looped plexus; (2) those which take origin from the flattened nervous band or plexus proper.

The first group includes—(1) the suprascapular (*s.*), phrenic (*p.*), and nerve to the subclavius (*s.c.*), all proceeding from the 5th and 6th nerves; (2) the subscapulars (*s.s.*) coming—one from the 5th and 6th, and two from the 6th, 7th, and 8th; (3) the external respiratory (*e.r.*) from the 6th and 7th; (4) the circumflex (*c.*) from the 6th, 7th, and 8th; (5) the musculo-spiral (*m.s.*) from the 7th, 8th, and 1st dorsal nerves.

The plexus proper gives origin to the musculo-cutaneous (*m.c.*), median (*m.*), ulnar (*u.*), internal cutaneous (*i.c.*), and muscular branches to the panniculus carnosus (*p.c.*) and pectoral muscles (*p.m.*).

In the upper arm and forearm the distribution of the brachial nerves is very similar in the two animals, and, consequently, in this part of their course one description will suffice for both. In the manus, however, certain points of dissimilarity must be noted.

*Circumflex* (Pl. I. fig. 6, *c.f.*; Pl. II. fig. 4, *c.n.*, and fig. 6, *c.*).—This is a large nerve, and has a more extensive cutaneous distribution than the corresponding nerve in man. It takes the usual course through the quadrilateral space, and round the neck of the humerus to reach the deep surface of the deltoid. Here it divides into two branches of equal size. Of these one immediately splits up into twigs for the supply of the deltoid and the teres minor. The other branch is cutaneous, and has a wide area of distribution. Emerging from under cover of the deltoid (Pl. I. fig. 5, *c.*) it becomes superficial upon the outer aspect of the upper arm, and not only supplies the skin in this locality, but is also continued downwards to the outer aspect of the forearm. This portion of the circumflex nerve is to be regarded as the substitute for the cutaneous part of the musculo-cutaneous in man, which is absent in these animals. It is interesting to note that in the Porpoise and Dolphin<sup>1</sup> a great part of the circumflex nerve is distributed as in *Thylacine* and *Cuscus* to the skin over the radial aspect of the arm and forearm.

*Musculo-cutaneous* (Pl. I. fig. 6, *m.c.*; Pl. II. fig. 6, *m.c.*, and fig. 4, *m.c.n.* and *m.c.n.*<sup>1</sup>).—This is a purely motor nerve, distributed only to muscles, and consequently the term “musculo-cutaneous” is a misnomer. It comes off in two parts. One of these passes outwards to supply the short coraco-brachialis, and the superficial biceps (Pl. II. fig. 4, *m.c.n.*<sup>1</sup>), whilst the other passes obliquely downwards and outwards towards the elbow-joint, to supply the deep portion of the biceps and the brachialis anticus (Pl. II. fig. 4, *m.c.n.*). In the *Cuscus*, in which there is a well developed coraco-brachialis

<sup>1</sup> Cunningham, Spinal Nervous System of the Porpoise and Dolphin, Jour. Anat. and Phys., 1876.