

being joined by the tendon of the flexor longus digitorum, it splits into four, viz., a tendon for each toe.

In the *Thylacine* a small flexor brevis digitorum is found in the sole of the foot. It lies under cover of the expanded tendon of the plantaris, and springs from the inner aspect of the os calcis close to its posterior extremity. Four delicate tendons issue from it, and these pass downwards for a short distance in a groove on the superficial aspect of the large tendon of the flexor longus hallucis, and then diverge to reach their respective digits. The insertion of the flexor tendons upon the plantar face of the digits is effected in the usual manner.

We must now look at the arrangement of the huge flexor mass on the posterior aspect of the leg of the *Cuscus*. It occupies the place of the flexor longus hallucis, and arises from the whole length of the posterior aspect of the fibula as in the *Thylacine*, and also from the fascia covering the popliteus. About the middle of the leg it divides into two, viz., (1) a small superficial portion (Pl. V. fig. 2, *e*), and (2) a large deep part (Pl. V. fig. 2, *d*). These bear to each other very much the same relation that the flexor sublimis in the forearm of the same animal bears to the flexor profundus. The sublimis or superficial part ends in three tendons, and is the representative of the flexor brevis digitorum. It is interesting to note that it is supplied by a recurrent branch from the internal plantar nerve, whilst the profundus or deeper part is supplied by a twig from the internal popliteal nerve. The profundus ends in a rope-like tendon, which is grooved for the reception of the three delicate tendons of the flexor brevis digitorum. In the sole it divides into five tendons—one for each toe. The three tendons of the flexor brevis digitorum go to the minimus, annularis, and medius, and are pierced by the deep tendons.<sup>1</sup>

*Lumbricales*.—In the *Cuscus* these are four in number, and with the exception of that for the index they are very large, and expand so much towards their insertions that their attachment extends along the whole length of the first phalanx. Pl. III. fig. 1, *l*. shows the lumbrical of the annular digit.

In the *Thylacine* the lumbrical muscles are peculiar. Each muscle is double, so that one arises from each side of the deep flexor tendon and envelopes it completely in sparse muscular fibres. Again, they are not inserted into the dorsal extensor expansion but are attached to the flexor sheaths of the digits—two to each toe.

*Popliteus* (pronator tibie).—This muscle consists of a continuous layer of oblique fibres which occupies the entire interosseous space. It is thick and fleshy in its upper and lower thirds, but its middle third is very thin, and has a large admixture of tendinous fibres entering into its composition. The fibres of the muscle pass from the fibula obliquely downwards and inwards to the tibia.

In the *Cuscus*, in which the interspace between the bones is wide and the movement of the fibula peculiarly free, the attachment of the muscle in different planes (so well

<sup>1</sup> There is no musculus accessorius in the foot of either *Thylacinus* or *Cuscus*.