

The remaining three dorsal interossei (fig. 2,  $d^3$  to  $d^5$ ) cannot be properly studied unless we throw forward both the plantar and intermediate muscles. They are then seen to be prismatic, one-headed muscles, lying in the interosseous spaces, but only reaching for a short distance upwards between the bones; indeed they are more plantar than dorsal in their relation to the metatarsus. They spring from the bases of the metatarsal bones, and are inserted so as to abduct the toes from a line drawn through the medius. The second and third, therefore, are appropriated by the medius, whilst the fourth is set aside for the annularis. They correspond, therefore, in their insertions with the same muscles in the human hand.<sup>1</sup>

*Dasyurus viverrinus* (Pl. XI. figs. 5-6).

The foot of this animal is long and narrow. The hallux is very rudimentary, consisting merely of a short metatarsal, which is only evident in the undissected condition of the pes as a slight protuberance on its inner margin. The other four digits are well developed, and of nearly equal length.<sup>2</sup> The metatarsal bones are placed in such close apposition that when the foot is viewed from its dorsal aspect, not a single intrinsic muscle is apparent. They are all crowded into the sole, but, in spite of this, they exhibit in a marked manner the typical trilaminar disposition, each of the four well-developed toes being provided with three separate intrinsic muscles.

*Plantar layer* (fig. 5,  $p^1$  to  $p^5$ ).—In this layer we find four muscles which act so as to draw the digits into which they are inserted towards a line drawn through the medius. They are—

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| 1. Adductor hallucis ( $p^1$ ).<br>2. Adductor indicis ( $p^2$ ). |  | 3. Adductor annularis ( $p^4$ ).<br>4. Adductor minimi digiti ( $p^5$ ). |
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The adductor indicis and adductor minimi digiti are the most strongly marked. They together constitute an exceedingly thin triangular sheet of fibres which lies superficial to the other muscles. This muscular sheet takes origin by its apex which is tendinous, in the middle line of the foot, from the ligaments which bind the metatarsus to the tarsus. Its base arches over the bases of the annularis and medius, and it is inserted by its angles into the index and minimus—in the case of the former into the outer sesamoid bone at its base, and in the case of the latter, into the inner sesamoid bone. The separation of the two muscles is indicated by a faint fibrous raphe which traverses the triangular muscular sheet from the apex to the centre of its arched base.

The adductor annularis is a minute fusiform fleshy slip which arises from the deep surface of the raphe which separates the two preceding muscles. The muscular sheet com-

<sup>1</sup> In the feet of the small female *Thylacine* a slight tendency to fusion between the flexores breves, and the dorsal interossei was exhibited. In the large male, however, they were quite distinct.

<sup>2</sup> In Waterhouse's well-known work upon Mammalia, an excellent figure of this foot is given in vol. i. pl. xii. fig 1.