

from the digital branch of the internal plantar nerve (*i.p.n.*), which is distributed to the adjacent sides of the index and hallux.

EDENTATA.

I have examined the feet of three members of this group, viz., the Tamandua, the Armadillo, and the three-toed Sloth. They all deviate from the typical arrangement, and the two last present certain features of great interest.

Myrmecophaga tamandua (Pl. VIII. figs. 5 and 6).

The foot of this animal is pentadactylous; and the toes are all of nearly equal length, and each is armed with a powerful curved claw. The three layers of intrinsic muscles are quite distinct, but there is a considerable reduction in the typical number of elements composing the flexor layer, and abduction and adduction of the digits is not effected with reference to the medius.

Plantar layer (figs. p^1 , p^2 , p^5).—Three muscles are found in this layer, viz.:—

1. The adductor hallucis (p^1).
2. The adductor indicis (p^2).
3. The adductor minimi digiti (p^5).

The adductor minimi digiti is a narrow muscular slip arising from the base of the fourth metatarsal bone and the sheath of the tendon of the peroneus longus, and inserted into the inner aspect of the base of the proximal phalanx of the minimus.

The adductor hallucis and adductor indicis are fan-shaped muscles, and they take origin in great part from a strong fibrous raphe which is attached by one end to the tibial side of the head and by the other extremity to the tibial side of the base of the fifth metatarsal bone. The adductor hallucis springs by its base from the proximal half of the inner border of this raphe, and also from the ligamentous textures over the bases of the third and fourth metatarsal bones. It is inserted upon the fibular side of the base of the first phalanx of the hallux. The adductor indicis arises from the distal half of the raphe, and has a narrow insertion into the fibular side of the base of the first phalanx of the index.

In the left foot (fig. 5, *p*) an additional adducting slip for the index was found. It took origin from the inner side of the base of the proximal phalanx of the minimus, and stretched transversely across roots of the annularis and medius to reach the index. This points to the tendency which any powerfully developed adducting muscle has to divide into an oblique and a transverse part. It is the result of the same process which is so strikingly seen in the adductor hallucis of Apes and Man.

These adducting muscles in the Tamandua, apparently act so as to approximate the toes towards the annularis. The medius, however, is not provided with a special adductor.