

arises from the base of the fourth metatarsal, and is inserted into the extensor tendon on the outer aspect of the base of the annular digit. The inner or tibial head is represented by a very delicate fibrous slip inserted into the inner sesamoid.

The flexor brevis medii and flexor brevis annularis, lie directly under cover of the two adductor muscles, and are separated from them by the deep division of the external plantar nerve.

The fibular head of the flexor brevis minimi digiti is the sole representative of this muscle, and as it is traversed throughout its whole length by a tendinous intersection, it is in all probability in combination with the abductor minimi digiti, which is absent as an independent muscle. It arises from the ligamentous textures at the base of the metatarsus, and is inserted upon the outer side of the base of the first phalanx of the minimus partly into the sesamoid, and partly into the extensor tendon.

*Dorsal layer*—In the Pig's foot we find no muscle belonging to this layer. The second and fourth dorsal interossei are converted into powerful ligamentous flattened bands which lie concealed in the second and fourth inter-metatarsal spaces. The former is inserted upon the inner face of the base of the medius partly into the sesamoid, and partly into the extensor tendon, and the latter is inserted similarly upon the outer aspect of the base of the first phalanx of the annularis. It is possible that the fibrous cord inserted into the outer sesamoid of the medius may represent the third dorsal interosseous muscle, but of this there is no decided proof.

But to what does this disposition, and, in some cases transformation, of the intrinsic muscles point? The short marginal digits are alone capable of lateral movement. They alone, therefore, retain their adductors, whilst their flexores breves are placed in such a position that when acting alone they exercise an abducting influence, and when acting in unison with the adductors they produce flexion.

With regard to the largely-developed annularis and medius in which lateral movement is prohibited, the function of the muscles usually set aside for this purpose is changed. Functionally we may look at these two digits as in reality one, and the muscles are arranged in accordance with this. The dorsal interosseus on each side of this double digit is converted into a strong ligamentous band. These two bands together act in a manner exactly similar to the suspensory ligament of the Horse, Ox, or Sheep; they prevent over-extension at the metatarso-phalangeal joints. The fibrous band inserted into the outer sesamoid of the medius also contributes feebly to produce this effect.

Of the four fleshy bellies which typically represent the flexores breves of the medius and annularis only two are retained, viz., the marginal bellies (*i.e.*, outer head of flexor brevis annularis and inner head of flexor brevis medii), and these together act as a short flexor for the double digit.