

the external plantar nerve run superficial to it points to its real nature. It arises from the under surface of the os calcis and from the calcaneo-cuboid ligament, and is inserted into the inner sesamoid bone of the minimus.

Dorsal layer.—This layer is composed of a strongly developed abductor minimi digiti, and the vestige of an abductor ossis metatarsi minimi digiti.

The abductor minimi digiti (d^6) is the largest of all the intrinsic muscles, and it has an unusual plantar position on account of the minimus being pushed inwards so as to lie in a plane posterior to the annularis. It arises from the under and anterior aspect of the tuber of the os calcis, and is inserted into the outer sesamoid of the minimus.

Abductor ossis metatarsi minimi digiti.—On the outer surface of the os calcis there is a dense fibrous band containing a number of muscular fibres; these do not extend so far forward as the fifth metatarsal bone. There can be little doubt but that they represent this muscle.

In the foetus I examined the hallux was destitute of intrinsic muscles. In the specimen dissected by Miall and Greenwood there was a small flexor brevis hallucis.

Nerve-supply of the intrinsic muscles.—As in the case of the hyrax the internal plantar nerve (*i.p.n*) gives off a deep branch. This proceeds from the digital nerve, which divides to supply the contiguous sides of the medius and index. It is a twig of some size, and sinks into the sole to supply both heads of the flexor brevis indicis, and effect a junction with one of the deep branches of the external plantar nerve.

The external plantar nerve (*e.p.n*) sends off three deep branches which break up to supply the flexor brevis medii, the flexor brevis annularis, and the flexor brevis minimi digiti. The lowest of these twigs hooks round the transversus indicis, and supplying it with one or two small filaments communicates with the deep branch of the internal plantar. The abductor minimi digiti draws its nerve-supply direct from the trunk of the external plantar nerve.

RODENTIA.

Lepus timidus (Hare), (Pl. XI. fig. 10).

The four outer toes of this foot are well developed, but the hallux is absent. The intrinsic muscles are so completely plantar in position that they are quite invisible from the dorsal aspect of the foot. The dorsal layer of muscles is not represented in this foot, and the plantar muscles are very feebly developed, and are evidently undergoing retrograde changes.

Plantar layer.—Two very minute muscular slips are the only representatives of this layer. They are (1) the adductor minimi digiti (p^5), and (2) the adductor indicis¹ (p^2).

¹ St. George Mivart and Murie, in speaking of the intrinsic muscles in the foot of the Hare, do not mention these adducting muscles. (Anatomy of the Crested Agouti, Proc. Zool. Soc., 1866, p. 415).