

The abductor hallucis is exceedingly small and closely applied to the tibial head of the flexor brevis hallucis. In great part fibrous, it arises from the scaphoid, and is inserted upon the inner side of the nodular first phalanx of the hallux.

The second and fourth dorsal interossei are strong, single-headed muscles which act as abductors of the index and annularis from the middle toe. There is no trace to be found of the other two interosseous muscles.

The abductor ossis metatarsi minimi digiti hardly deserves the name of a muscle. It is merely a stout fibrous band with an admixture of fleshy fibres which presents the attachments of this muscle.

*Nervous arrangements.*—The intrinsic muscles are supplied in the usual manner—the abductor and flexor brevis hallucis by the internal plantar nerve; the others by the external plantar. It is to be noted that the deep division of the latter nerve crosses the foot subjacent to the plantar muscles, and that it gives off the digital branch for the adjacent sides of the annularis and minimus. This branch reaches its destination by emerging from under cover of the adductor minimi digiti.

A comparison of the feet of the foregoing members of the Rodent order shows what seems to be a tendency to the disappearance of the plantar and dorsal muscles, but a retention of the intermediate muscles. The following table renders this evident:—

*Plantar layer.*

Paca	.	.	.	.	.	Three strongly developed adductors.
Hare,	.	.	.	.	.	Two feeble adductors.
Beaver,	.	.	.	.	.	One very weak adductor (with traces of a second).
<i>Bathyergus,</i>	}	.	.	.	.	None.
Cape Mouse,						

*Dorsal layer.*

Paca,	.	.	.	.	.	Four members of this group (two very weak).
Beaver,	.	.	.	.	.	Four members of this group (one very weak).
Hare,	}	.	.	.	.	None.
<i>Bathyergus,</i>						
Cape Mouse,						

*Intermediate layer.*

Cape Mouse,	}	.	.	.	.	Five members of this group.
<i>Bathyergus,</i>						
Paca,	}	.	.	.	.	Four members of this group.
Hare,						
Beaver,						
						{ Three members of this group (with traces of two others).

Further, according to St. George Mivart and Murie,<sup>1</sup> we may class with the *Bathy-*

<sup>1</sup> On the Anatomy of the Crested Agouti (Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1866, p. 415).