

and opponens of the minimus ; (2) the flexor brevis hallucis, which receives its twigs from the internal plantar ; and (3) the abductor hallucis, which is supplied by the nerve to the hallux.

*External popliteal* (Pl. V. fig. 3, 1).—In *Thylacinus* this nerve gives off no branches in the thigh, but diverging outwards pierces the outer head of the gastrocnemius, and at once divides into its superficial and deep portions, *i.e.*, the musculo-cutaneous and anterior tibial.

The *musculo-cutaneous*, unlike the corresponding nerve in Man, is intended for the supply of skin alone. It proceeds downwards upon the anterior aspect of the leg, dispensing filaments as it goes, and ultimately it reaches the dorsum of the foot where it ends in four branches, which have the following distribution :—(1) the first (counting from the inner margin of the foot) constitutes the tibial branch upon the dorsal aspect of the index ; (2) the second joins the fibular dorsal branch of the index, which is derived from the anterior tibial ; (3) the third joins the fibular dorsal branch of the medius, which also comes from the anterior tibial ; (4) whilst the fourth bifurcates to supply the adjacent margins of the minimus and annularis (Pl. VI. fig. 3, 2).

The *anterior tibial* nerve proceeds forwards between the two heads of the peroneus longus, and then pierces the peroneus brevis and extensor communis digitorum to reach the interval between it and the tibialis anticus. It is now continued downwards upon the interosseous membrane, and, passing under cover of the upper annular ligament, reaches the dorsum of the foot. Here it ends by dividing into two dorsal digital branches. These are distributed thus :—(1) the first divides to supply the adjacent sides of the index and medius, whilst (2) the second bifurcates to end upon the contiguous margins of the medius and annularis (Pl. VI. fig. 3, 1).

*Muscular branches.*—Between the heads of the peroneus longus the anterior tibial gives off a great number of muscular branches which go to the two heads of the peroneus longus, the peroneus brevis, the extensor brevis minimi digiti, upon which the nerve lies, the common extensor, and the tibialis anticus. A long slender twig also proceeds downwards to supply the two lower portions of the extensor brevis. Whilst the nerve lies between the tibialis anticus and the common extensor it gives additional twigs to the inner part of the latter, which might be considered as an indication that the absent extensor longus hallucis is fused with the extensor communis digitorum.

In the *Cuscus* the external popliteal does not pierce the outer head of the gastrocnemius. At the head of the fibula it divides into the musculo-cutaneous and anterior tibial (Pl. V. fig. 3, 1).

The musculo-cutaneous, in passing down the leg, supplies a few twigs to the biceps, under cover of which it runs. No branches, however, are given to the peroneal muscles. On the dorsum of the foot it breaks up into four branches which supply dorsal digital