

In the *Vulpine phalanger*, the mesentery of the great intestine is only four inches long, whilst that of the small intestine is five inches long.

The mesenteric glands are few in number but relatively of large size.

The cæcum has a distinct mesentery which is continued to its extremity, and is an offshoot from the meso-colon.

The duodenum is completely invested by peritoneum, and there is no demarcation of any kind between it and the jejunum.

Spleen.—In both *Thylacine* and *Cuscus* the spleen is an elongated tongue-like organ completely invested by peritoneum, and placed obliquely in the abdominal cavity. From its outer border a process of spleen substance projects towards the kidney. The splenic vessels, nerves, &c. enter the organ upon its inner surface along the line of the mesenteric attachment.

Pancreas.—The pancreas is well developed in both the *Thylacinus* and *Cuscus*. It consists of a thickened massive right extremity or head from which an elongated process of gland substance projects towards the spleen. The pancreatic duct joins the bile duct before it enters the duodenum.

Liver.—In describing the liver we shall adopt the admirable nomenclature suggested ten years ago by Professor Flower¹ in his lectures on the Comparative Anatomy of the Organs of Digestion in the Mammalia. In neither animal is there a trace of the “round ligament.” This condition is to be associated with the total absence of a fossa ovalis in the heart, and of the ductus arteriosus.

In the *Cuscus* the liver is divided into a right and a left segment by a deep fissure which may be termed the umbilical cleft. It cuts the organ almost completely into two, and its significance is shown by its coinciding with the line of the suspensory ligament. The left segment, which is only very slightly smaller than the right, is subdivided by a deep cleft (the left lateral fissure of Flower), into a large “left lateral lobe” and a very small “left central lobe.” The right segment also consists of a “right central lobe,” and a “right lateral lobe.” The latter is very small and insignificant, and the fissure (right lateral fissure) which cuts it off is very deep and almost reaches the attached border of the organ. The right central lobe is the largest of all the subdivisions of the liver. Behind it is hollowed out into a deep ditch or furrow which runs in the antero-posterior direction about its middle. This furrow contains the upper end of the gall bladder and the cystic duct, and extends upwards to the portal fissure; traced forwards it widens out and at the same time deepens, and finally it becomes a distinct V-shaped cleft in the sharp free margin of the liver which allows the fundus of the gall-bladder to be seen from the front.

The accessory lobes are both present. The Spigelian lobe is well marked, and is partially sub-divided by shallow clefts into three subsidiary portions. It has a leaf-like

¹ Medical Times and Gazette, vol. i., 1872, p. 292.