

## NOTES ON THE DISSECTION OF A THIRD NEGRO.

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IN volumes xiii. and xiv. of this *Journal* I recorded some variations in the arrangements of structures observed during the dissection of two Negro subjects. Subsequently, in 1881-82, I had the opportunity of examining a third Negro in the course of dissection by several of my students. I entrusted the charge of the dissections to Dr George Mackay, from whose memoranda on the variations which were observed the following notes are compiled.

MUSCULAR SYSTEM.—The *Platysma myoides* was remarkably well developed. A *Rectus thoracis* was situated on each side as a triangular thin muscle in relation to the sternal ends of the upper ribs and intercostal muscles. It arose from the upper border of the third rib for about two inches external to its costal cartilage and from the anterior intercostal membrane of the second space. The fibres ascended superficial to the second rib, to be inserted into a rough tubercle on the upper surface of the first rib, immediately anterior to the groove for the subclavian vein. I have figured in this *Journal*, vol. ii. p. 393, an example of this muscle in a European, which extended from the fifth to the first rib.

In the left upper limb the *Flexor sublimis digitorum* had no radial origin. Close to its condylar origin there arose a muscular slip, which united with the tendon of the *Flexor profundus digitorum* which ended in the medius finger. Another slender muscular slip was inserted into the *Flexor longus pollicis* muscle about its middle, by a distinct tendon. That portion of the *Flexor sublimis digitorum* going to the index finger arose under cover of the rest of the muscle from the internal condyle of the Humerus, and also from the inner aspect of the coronoid process of the ulna internal to the ulnar origin of the *Pronator teres*. The muscular fibres formed a short thick fleshy belly, but at a distance of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from their origin they converged to a strong tendon about 2 inches in length. This again gave place to a fleshy belly, which extended nearly to the level of the lower end of the radius. Here it was joined by a delicate muscular slip from the main belly of the *Flexor sublimis digitorum*, and then terminated in a tendon which remained normal to its insertion into the palmar surface of the index finger. A slender muscle arose from the anterior aspect of the shaft of the radius about its middle, and joined the tendon of the *Flexor profundus digitorum* which passed to the index finger.

The tendon of the *Extensor carpi radialis longior* gave off a tendinous slip about two inches above the lower end of the Radius,

which passed downwards and inwards to join the tendon of the Extensor carpi radialis breviar at the level of the radio-carpal articulation.

A similar slip from the *Extensor carpi radialis breviar* passed downwards and outwards superficial to the former slip, and joined the tendon of the Extensor carpi radialis longior just at its insertion into the base of the second metacarpal bone.

In each lower limb an extra slip of origin for the *Semitendinosus* muscle, about the size of a small omo-hyoid, arose for about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of an inch from the anterior end of the ridge on the inner surface of the Tuber ischii, and became united with the fleshy belly of the semitendinosus just at the upper part of the tendinous intersection.

The *Adductor magnus* muscle consisted of two distinct layers, the lower and larger overlapping the higher and smaller, as seen from behind. This was most distinctly marked on the left side of the body.

In the right *Popliteal space*, several muscular fibres arose from the inner part of the posterior surface of the lower end of the femur, and also from the line leading to the internal condyle for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch; these formed a fleshy belly (about the size of that of the *Plantaris*), and after a course of about two inches, blended with the Inner head of the *Gastrocnemius*.

The *Peroneus tertius* muscle was present in the left leg, but entirely absent on the right side.

In the soles of both feet the *Flexor brevis digitorum* supplied no tendon to the little toe. Its place was taken by a slender muscle which arose from the side of the *Flexor longus digitorum*, as it crossed the flexor longus hallucis. It passed outwards to the base of the little toe, and had an insertion resembling that of the tendon of the flexor brevis digitorum.

A well marked *Abductor ossis metatarsi quinti* was present in both feet.

The *Cricoid cartilage* was unusually large. Its vertical diameter was almost the same at the sides as behind, but in front this diameter was normal, so that the cartilage had the appearance of a deep notch anteriorly.

VESSELS.—The right *subclavian* artery arose as the last branch of the arch, and passed obliquely upwards between the œsophagus and the dorsal vertebræ, to reach the root of the neck of the right side. This variety occurs in Europeans, and has been estimated by Quain and myself at about 4 per 1000 bodies.

The *Femoral vein* lay to the inner side of the artery in its entire course, but in the Hunterian canal another vein, which joined the femoral at the lower border of the pectineus, was situated behind the artery.

The *Peroneal artery* in the right leg did not give origin to its perforating anterior branch: in this limb the peroneus tertius was absent.

NERVES.—The *phrenic* was joined by an accessory branch from the 5th cervical about 1 inch above the insertion of the scalenus anticus into the first rib: also by a branch from the nerve to the subclavius.

The right *Great sciatic* gave off a large branch in the gluteal region, which passed under cover of the gemellus inferior to enter the long head of the biceps immediately after that muscle left the semitendinosus. When under cover of the conjoined tendon of biceps and semitendinosus, another branch arose which gave a twig to the upper part of the adductor magnus, then gave branches to the semitendinosus and semimembranosus, and ended in the lower part of the adductor magnus. The nerve to the short head of the biceps arose from the great sciatic opposite the lower border of the gluteus maximus, and ended by giving two articular branches to the knee, one of which pierced the posterior ligament, whilst the other ran close to the external superior articular artery.

In the right limb both the *communicating nerves* arose from the internal popliteal: in the left limb they arose normally, but passed to their distribution without uniting, though a delicate connecting twig passed between them.

The branch of the *obturator nerve* to the subsartorial plexus pierced the pectineus muscle before it joined the twigs from the internal cutaneous and long saphenous.

MESENTERY.—The rectum had two mesenteries, one of which was the normal. The other was a double fold of peritoneum which passed from the antero-lateral aspect of the rectum to about the middle of the left ilio-pectineal line, where it blended with the parietal peritoneum. The upper border of this fold was free and concave. Between it and the proper meso-rectum was a funnel-shaped pouch, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in depth, the opening into which was in an oblique plane directed downwards and outwards.