

langes, and a lumbrical muscle is also found attached to it. The median nerve normally supplies the lumbrical muscle to the second and third digits, the ulnar those to the fourth and fifth. The single lumbrical here present is supplied by the median, a further proof that the digit is the second or third.

The digit is thus either the index or middle finger, but to decide upon which of these two it is, is much more difficult as there is nothing in the disposition of the muscles to help solve the problem. The distribution of the cutaneous branches of the median nerve seem to offer the only key to the solution. In text figures C and D is given side by side the cutaneous distribution of the median nerve in this foetus and in the normal hand. As the cutaneous distribution of the median is wholly digital it is assumed that branches found from the trunk of the median running into the hand were intended for those digits which did not appear. By checking these off against the branches in the normal hand it is found that the digit here present ought to be the index finger.

There is a palmar cutaneous branch from the median arising in the lower half of the forearm and ending in the palm. It is not to be mistaken here for one of the digital nerves, these latter arising in the palm. There are three such nerves, only the middle one passing out on the digit, where it forks to supply each border, while the flexor profundus tendon passes on under it. The other two nerves end at the base of the digit on its medial and lateral borders. To save a long description the reader is referred to the figure explaining the distribution of these nerves. Here at a glance it can be seen that the part of the nerve found on the digit in this foetus, is the portion to the index finger from the first and second common volar digital branches. From this distribution it seems fairly definite that the sole remaining digit on this hand is the index finger.

On the arm which was not dissected it will be remembered that in addition to the single finger carried at the end of the limb there was a well developed digit found on the medial side of the elbow. Radiographs showed this to contain a metacarpal and three phalanges. Of course, this digit can be logically as-