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the same direction : this is a short, strong bone, which, by its lower end, articulates with the (os pedis) coffin-bone, forming the coffin joint. The os pedis m bone of the foot and its connections claim our more immediate consideration, as an important part of the structure of the foot. It is this bone which gives the size and form to the foot, especially the front sides and sole, the softer textures in all cases conforming to leg is, oven in its bony foundation, a complex structure. any alterations which take place in it naturally, or by disease. Placed upon a level plane surface it rests nearly level; in some cases it is slightly aroued off the plane at the toe, and often slightly at the heels.

The lower surface is half-moon shaped, concave, and presents on the posterior part points of attachment for the navicular bone and ligaments, and a half-moon shaped

most porous bone in the body, pierced by foramina in every direction for the accommodation of the circulus arteriosus and numerous blood-vessels necessary to supply nourishment to the vascular structures which cover it and secrete the horny covering

It will thus be seen, that the pedal extremity of the horse's Before proceeding to the study of the soft parts of the foot and the horny box, the hoof, by which it is encased, we will notice cursorily the ligaments by which the bonos are connected, and the muscles by which they are moved.

Important as is the shoulder joint, it has no ligaments connecting the bones, except the capsular ligament covering and containing the oil of the joint. The muscles being so depression for the insertion of the tendon of the *flexor pedis*. Lattached and disposed that they are not only the levers of



The skeleton of the horse.

Fig. 2. Its sides are prolonged backwark by its alm or wings, | motion but also serve to hold the bones together. which are surmonted by two lateral cartilages, which serve to spread open the heels, and increase in a wonderful degree the general elasticity of the foot. In front of the articulation we have a prominence (pyramidal process), which serves the double purpose of preventing dislocation, and for the attach- i delicate organs contained in that cavity. ment of the extensor tendon.

The concavity behind is occupied by the navicular bone, which is a shuttle shaped bone occupying the space between the wings, the lower surface being pulley-shaped and covered by cartilages, forming a beautiful pulley over which the flexor tendon plays on its passage to its insertion on the surface of the os pedis.

The general character of this bone is noticeable for its lightness, porosity, and toughness. The character of the bone of which it is composed is dense, hard, yet very porous, the from the knee downward, without being impressed with the

As already remarked, the shoulder has no articular connection with the trunk, being loosely attached by muscles which increase the general elasticity, and provent concussion and compression of the chest and consequently injury to the

We find the muscles of the chest, shoulder, and fore-arm. so disposed as to enable them to co-operate in the elevation and progression of the limb in the most perfect manner. while the direction of articulation of the bones, the intervention of buffers, semi-elastic ligaments and lubrisated pulleys at the knee, metacarpus, and fetlock, all show the wonderful omnipotence of the creative power to provide for the protection of the locomotive power in the animal.

We cannot contemplate the arrangement of the horse's leg

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