

Anatomical Notices.

ON SOME ANATOMICAL VARIATIONS. By FRANCIS J. SHEPHERD, M.D., C.M., M.R.C.S. Eng., *Demonstrator of Anatomy, McGill University, Montreal.*

THE following are some of the more interesting variations which were observed in the dissecting-room of the McGill University during the Winter and Summer Sessions of 1879-80, and which I think worthy of being recorded:—

Dorso-Lumbar Vertebra.—This occurred in a male subject. There was the usual number of cervical and dorsal vertebrae, then came this extra one, and it was followed by the usual number of lumbar vertebrae. This supernumerary one partook of the characters of both a lumbar and a dorsal vertebra; on the right side it had a small rib $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, and $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch broad, articulating with it. This rib had a downward direction, and was grooved on its under surface. It was bound down by ligaments to the whole length of a transverse process $\frac{1}{3}$ of an inch long. The rib was not freely moveable.

On the left side there was a transverse process which looked very like a rudimentary rib, and had the downward direction of a rib. It was the same length as the transverse process of the first lumbar vertebra, but much narrower, and rounded. At its root it was nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch broad. As it proceeded outwards, it became much smaller, being only $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch broad, and it ended in a bulbous extremity. The whole vertebra was of the usual size of a lower dorsal. In this subject the abdominal aorta divided opposite the third lumbar.

Eight Ribs articulating with the Sternum, three with the first piece.—In a male subject aged forty years, it was noticed, on preparing it for dissection, that the chest was of unusual length. On examination, this was found to be due to the fact that the first piece of the sternum was twice as long as normal, and had the cartilages of the first three ribs articulating with it. With the second piece the next five ribs articulated, thus making in all eight ribs articulating with the sternum. The ensiform cartilage was completely ossified, and articulated with the gladiolus by means of cartilage. The inner halves of the cartilages of the first ribs were also completely ossified. The second costal cartilage articulated with the first piece of the sternum about its middle, and the third cartilage at the junction of the first and second pieces.

Length of sternum, exclusive of ensiform cartilage,	$7\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
„ manubrium,	$3\frac{1}{2}$ „
„ gladiolus,	4 „
„ ensiform cartilage,	$1\frac{1}{2}$ „