Anteriorly, it is convex from side to side and concave from top downward, while it is straight from top to bottom posteriorly and concave from side to side: this portion is so shaped because it assists in forming the neural canal which is circular in shape to afford a smooth passage for the spinal cord.

THE ARCH is formed by the two pedicles and laminae which join together in the median line posteriorly and is called the NEURAL ARCH, and together with the posterior portion of the body, is called the neural ring; all these rings placed on top of one another form the NEURAL CANAL.

THE PEDICLES, forming part of the arch, are two short and stout pieces of bone situated at each side of the posterior portion of the body. They are notched above and below so that when the vertebrae are placed in apposition, one on top of the other, the notch of the one below meeting the notch of the one above, forms a foramen at each side of the vertebra to permit a pair of spinal nerves to pass through the spinal column from the spinal cord; this obtains through the whole length of the spinal column, permitting the nerves to reach every part of the body after passing through these little windows. But when these foramina get distorted by a subluxated vertebra the nerve force cannot be distributed to the destinations.

Continuous with the pedicles are the LAMINAE, two broad plates of bone, which proceed downward and backward, fuse together at the median line, finishing the arch, and again proceeding posteriorly form the spinous process which varies in shape and size in the various portions of the spine; this process is the most available part of the vertebra to the Chiropractor, both in his palpation and adjusting.

From the juncture of the pedicles and laminae, proceeding laterally, to the right and left of the neural arch, are the two **TRANSVERSE PROCESSES.** These differ considerably in the different regions of the spine; they are called transverse because they extend across or transversely from the vertebra to which they belong. They are also called "Parapophysec" and they have the function common to all bones, supplying points of attachment for muscles, but those of the dorsal region have an additional purpose, there, by their length and