

one on either side of the longitudinal midline of the floor, which mark the origin of the abducent or sixth nerve from the ventral region of the medulla. From each of these openings a long, straight passage leads forward with a downward inclination into the pituitary cavity debouching immediately below the hinder rim of the pituitary fossa, and in close proximity to the foramen for the third and fourth nerves. The two passages are parallel to each other and pierce the basisphenoid in its median elevation behind the pituitary fossa. From the position of the anterior end of these passages it is presumed that the sixth nerve, a purely motor nerve supplying the external rectus muscle of the eye, found exit also from the large aperture apportioned to nerves III and IV.

The foramen for the seventh or facial nerve, behind the foramen ovale, and separated externally from it by a surface of bone measuring about 11 mm. across, is small and inconspicuous. A narrow but well-defined channel leads downward and forward from it toward the deep groove, beneath the flange of the basisphenoid, which terminates below at the lower entrance of the internal carotid artery. This foramen pierces the proötic as in the alligator.

Behind the exit of the seventh nerve, and distant from it externally about 16 mm., is a rather large opening, the fenestra ovalis + the fenestra rotunda, which internally communicates directly inward with the brain cavity by a small oval aperture, the internal auditory meatus, through which the eighth or auditory nerve left the brain and reached the auditory organ by means of its various branches. Rising upward in the thickness of the bone from the passage between the outer opening and the internal meatus is a large space which apparently marks the position of the labyrinth. The semicircular canals are not preserved in the specimen (paratype) nor has it been possible to detect any representation of other parts of the auditory organ. The side wall of the brain-case is thickened inwardly at this position of the labyrinth causing a marked convexity of the surface of the bone in the brain-cavity over a considerable area above the internal auditory meatus. At about the middle of this convex area, at about 10 mm. above the meatus is a small opening, between 2 and 3 mm. wide, connecting the large space within the bone with the brain-cavity.

Four foramina of rather small but nearly equal size occupy a definite sunken area bounded below by the lateral convexity of the occipital condyle, and in front and above by a prominent ridge which latter runs upward from the basi-occipital behind the fenestra ovalis and continues almost horizontally backward to the paroccipital process of the exoccipital. This sunken area is most depressed in front where it ends as an excavation beneath the ridge. Of the four foramina two are close together in front, one above the other, and are overhung by the ridge and partly concealed by it in a lateral view of the skull. Anteriorly the ridge is sharp-edged behind and about 12 mm. broad. The third foramen is at a short distance behind the front pair, and the fourth follows the third at a somewhat increased interval. The lower anterior opening and the two posterior ones are in an almost straight line horizontally. The upper of the two front apertures, slightly larger than the lower one, is the foramen lacerum posterius transmitting the glossopharyngeal (IX), the pneumogastric (X), and the spinal accessory nerves. The direction of the passage outward through the bone for these nerves is obliquely backward. The inner end