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THE ASTRAGALUS IN CONGENITAL TALIPES— EQUINO-VARUS.*

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The description of the pathological anatomy of the astragalus in club-foot is presented from a study of the specimens shown, which were kindly placed at my disposal by Professor Primrose, and from notes of bones obtained during residence as interne in the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled, New York. The excellent description of dissections of deformed feet, made by Mr. W. J. Walsham, of St. Bartholomew's, London, has also been made use of.

In the deformity of club-foot all of the bones of the foot take part, either as an alteration of the shape of the bones or as an alteration of their relation one to another. The two bones in which an alteration in shape is a prominent feature, are the astragalus and os calcis, and of these the astragalus shows the most changes. The remainder of the bones are changed in their relation one to another, but very little, if any, change in shape is noted.

On account of mal-nutrition and certain restrictions in movement, the bones generally are smaller than normal, and the astragalus shares in this decrease in size.

The head is usually enlarged and irregular, and the rounded articular surface which fits into the concave surface of the scaphoid, instead of being directed forward, is directed nearly inward.

* Read before Pathological Society.