

The transverse processes of the 1st lumbar vertebra were short and rudimentary in an Australian, a Sandwich Islander, and the Malay. These processes were relatively short in the four upper lumbar vertebræ of the Chinese. In the spine of the Sikh these processes in the 3rd lumbar were very long. In one of the Andaman Islanders and two Australians one or both transverse processes of the 5th lumbar articulated with the base of the sacrum. In another Andaman Islander the inferior articular process of the last lumbar was prolonged outwards, especially on the right side, so as almost to reach the transverse process.

In the Queensland skeleton the body of the 5th lumbar had been modified in its development, though not to the same extent as the 10th dorsal vertebra in the Maori skeleton from Otago (fig. 1). Its anterior, upper, and lower surfaces were grooved a little to the left side of the mesial plane, so as to give the appearance of a division of the body into a right and left lateral wedge-shaped portion, of which the right was the larger. These divisions had, however, fused together, so that they were not separated by a mesial cleft; the body had thus the appearance of having been developed from two originally distinct lateral centres, which had subsequently fused together.

Imperfections in the development of the neural arch of the 5th lumbar vertebra were not unfrequent. In a male Andaman Islander, and in the Chinese, the right and left halves of the lumbar spine had not united mesially. In five skeletons the part of the neural arch which formed the two laminae, the spine and the inferior pair of articular

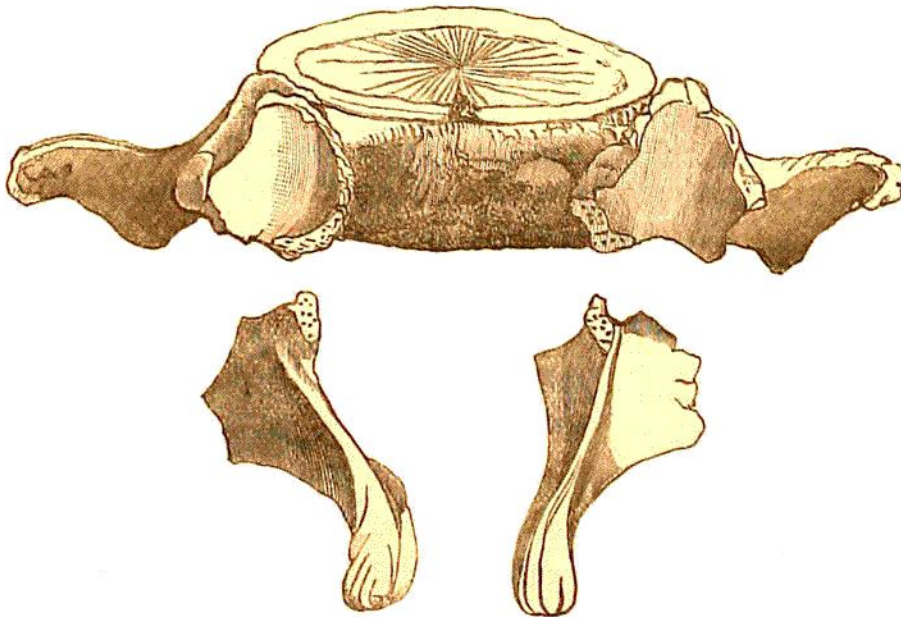


FIG. 2.—Fifth lumbar vertebra from a Malay skeleton, showing the divided condition of the laminae part of the arch.

processes, had been developed independently of the part of the arch which formed the two peduncles, the transverse processes and the superior pair of articular processes. This irregular development was seen in its most pronounced form in the Malay skeleton, in which not only the lamina and inferior articular process on each side formed a plate