is placed on a lower level than the latter, and its inferior border is prolonged downward, so as to overlap the upper and forepart of the vertebra below. The **upper surface** is concave transversely, and presents a projecting lip on either side; the **lower surface** is concave from before backward, convex from side to side, and presents laterally shallow concavities which receive the corresponding projecting lips of the subjacent vertebra. The **pedicles** are directed lateralward and backward, and are attached to the body midway between its upper and lower borders, so that the superior vertebral notch is as deep as the inferior, but it is, at the same time,

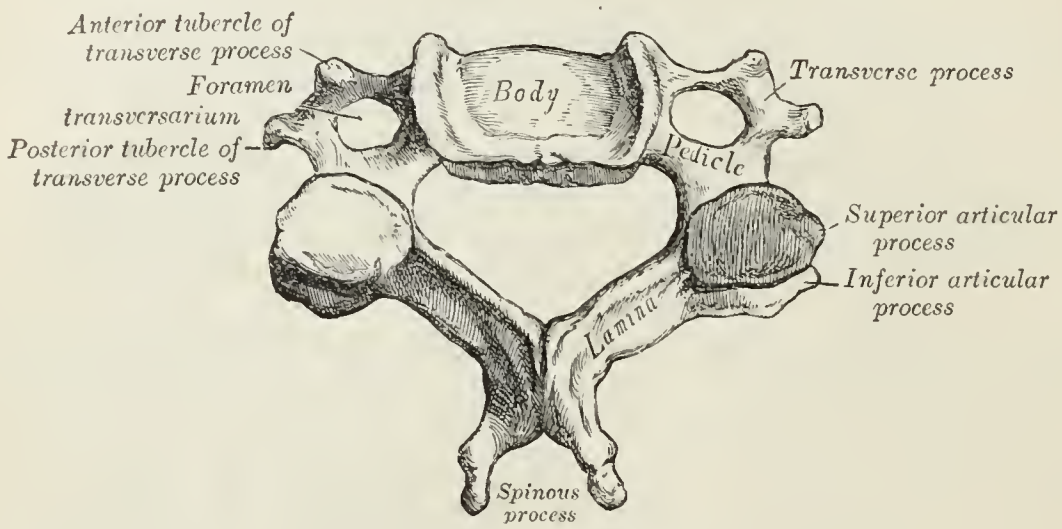

FIG. 84.—A cervical vertebra.

narrower. The **laminæ** are narrow, and thinner above than below; the **vertebral foramen** is large, and of a triangular form. The **spinous process** is short and bifid, the two divisions being often of unequal size. The **superior** and **inferior articular processes** on either side are fused to form an articular pillar, which projects lateralward from the junction of the pedicle and lamina. The articular facets are flat and of an oval form: the superior look backward, upward, and slightly medialward: the inferior forward, downward, and slightly lateralward. The **transverse processes** are each pierced by the **foramen transversarium,** which, in the upper six

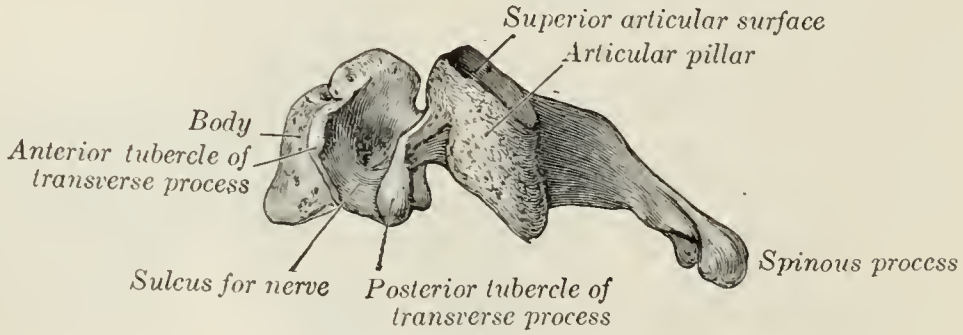

FIG. 85.—Side view of a typical cervical vertebra.

vertebræ, gives passage to the vertebral artery and vein and a plexus of sympathetic nerves. Each process consists of an anterior and a posterior part. The **anterior** portion is the homologue of the rib in the thoracic region, and is therefore named the **costal process** or **costal element:** it arises from the side of the body, is directed lateralward in front of the foramen, and ends in a tubercle, the **anterior tubercle.** The **posterior** part, the true transverse process, springs from the vertebral arch behind the foramen, and is directed forward and lateralward; it ends in a flattened vertical tubercle, the **posterior tubercle.** These two parts