

tor internus and Gemelli. The **superior border** is free; it is thick and irregular, and marked near the center by an impression for the insertion of the Piriformis. The **inferior border** corresponds to the line of junction of the base of the trochanter with the lateral surface of the body; it is marked by a rough, prominent, slightly curved ridge, which gives origin to the upper part of the Vastus lateralis. The **anterior border** is prominent and somewhat irregular; it affords insertion at its lateral part to the Glutæus minimus. The **posterior border** is very prominent and appears as a free, rounded edge, which bounds the back part of the trochanteric fossa.

The **Lesser Trochanter** (*trochanter minor; small trochanter*) is a conical eminence, which varies in size in different subjects; it projects from the lower and back part of the base of the neck. From its apex three well-marked borders extend; two of these are above—a **medial** continuous with the lower border of the neck, a **lateral** with the intertrochanteric crest; the **inferior border** is continuous with the middle division of the linea aspera. The **summit** of the trochanter is rough, and gives insertion to the tendon of the Psoas major.

A prominence, of variable size, occurs at the junction of the upper part of the neck with the greater trochanter, and is called the **tubercle of the femur**; it is the point of meeting of five muscles: the Glutæus minimus laterally, the Vastus lateralis below, and the tendon of the Obturator internus and two Gemelli above. Running obliquely downward and medialward from the tubercle is the **intertrochanteric line** (*spiral line of the femur*); it winds around the medial side of the body of the bone, below the lesser tro-

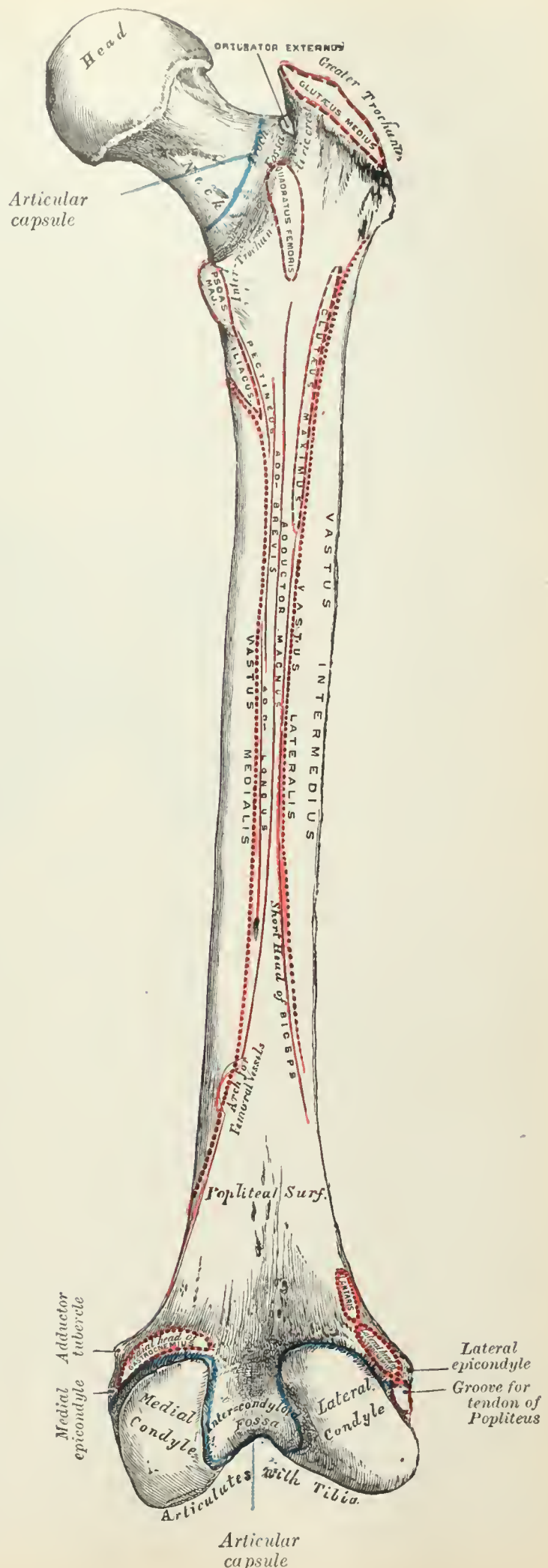


FIG. 245.—Right femur. Posterior surface.