

The **articular branches** to the elbow-joint are several small filaments which *arise* from the nerve as it lies in the groove between the medial epicondyle and olecranon.

The **muscular branches** (*rami musculares*) two in number, *arise* near the elbow: one supplies the Flexor carpi ulnaris; the other, the ulnar half of the Flexor digitorum profundus.

The **palmar cutaneous branch** (*ramus cutaneus palmaris*) *arises* about the middle of the forearm, and descends on the ulnar artery, giving off some filaments to the vessel. It perforates the volar carpal ligament and ends in the skin of the palm, communicating with the palmar branch of the median nerve.

The **dorsal branch** (*ramus dorsalis manus*) *arises* about 5 cm. above the wrist; it passes backward beneath the Flexor carpi ulnaris, perforates the deep fascia, and, running along the ulnar side of the back of the wrist and hand, divides into two dorsal digital branches; one supplies the ulnar side of the little finger; the other, the adjacent sides of the little and ring fingers. It also sends a twig to join that given by the superficial branch of the radial nerve for the adjoining sides of the middle and ring fingers, and assists in supplying them. A branch is distributed to the metacarpal region of the hand, communicating with a twig of the superficial branch of the radial nerve (Fig. 813).

On the little finger the dorsal digital branches extend only as far as the base of the terminal phalanx, and on the ring finger as far as the base of the second phalanx; the more distal

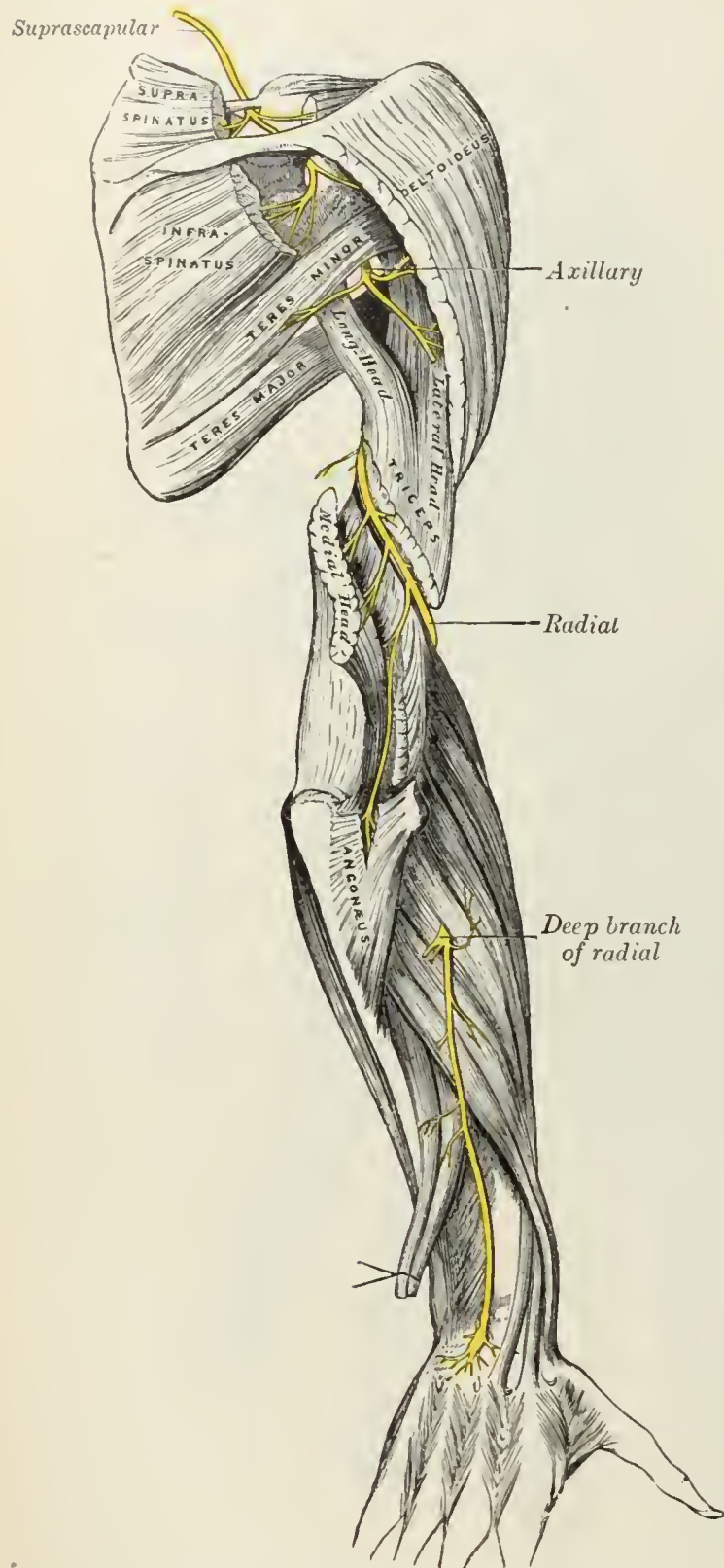


FIG. 818.—The suprascapular, axillary, and radial nerves.

parts of these digits are supplied by dorsal branches derived from the proper volar digital branches of the ulnar nerve.

The **volar branch** (*ramus volaris manus*) crosses the transverse carpal ligament on the lateral side of the pisiform bone, medial to and a little behind the ulnar artery. It ends by dividing into a superficial and a deep branch.

The **superficial branch** (*ramus superficialis [n. ulnaris]*) supplies the Palmaris brevis, and the skin on the ulnar side of the hand, and divides into a proper volar