

to form ridges with grooves between them. A very deep groove runs from the front to the back part of the brain and nearly divides it into two equal parts. Besides the large upper portion of the brain shown in the picture on page 131, there is a small lower portion, which you can see on page 133.

The brain is well supplied with blood tubes. Arteries pass through the neck and bring blood to the brain from the heart. These arteries divide into a great number of smaller ones which distribute the blood to all parts of the brain.

As the brain is soft it could be easily injured, so it is placed, for protection, inside a case of bone called the skull.

The spinal cord and nerves.—The spinal cord, which lies within the spinal column, is really a continuation of the brain. It is a soft, white cord about eighteen inches long. Throughout its entire length, glistening silvery threads, called spinal nerves, start from it in pairs.

There are thirty-one pair of nerves that begin in the spinal cord. Each spinal nerve is made up of fine nerve fibres. These nerve fibres are bound together to form a nerve, just as telegraph wires are bound together to form a large cable.



THE BRAIN, SPINAL CORD, AND NERVES.

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