

Part 2.--Selections.

SIZE OF THE BRAIN IN VARIOUS RACES AND FAMILIES OF MAN.

A late number of Silliman's Journal contains a valuable series of observations on the size of the Brain in the different families of Man, from the pen of Dr. Samuel G. Morton, of Philadelphia—a gentleman to whom the scientific world is largely indebted for his invaluable Ethnographic researches: and who is perhaps the most skillful and learned Craniologist of the present day. The observations here summed up are the results of internal measurements of six hundred and twenty-three human crania:

1. The Teutonic or German race, embracing, as it does, the Anglo-Saxons, Anglo-Americans, Anglo-Irish, &c., possess the largest brain of any other people.

2. The nations having the smallest heads are the ancient Peruvians and Australians.

3. The barbarous tribes of America possess a much larger brain than the demi-civilized Peruvians and Mexicans.

4. The ancient Egyptians have the least sized brain of any Caucasian nation, excepting the Hindoos.

5. The Negro brain is nine cubic inches less than the Teutonic, and three cubic inches larger than the ancient Egyptian.

6. The largest brain in the series is that of a Dutch gentleman, and gives 114 cubic inches; the smallest head is an old Peruvian, of 58 cubic inches; the difference between these two extremes is no less than 56 cubic inches.

7. The brain of the Australian and Hottentot falls far below the Negro, and measures precisely the same as the ancient Peruvian.

This extended series of measurements, it will be seen, fully confirm the fact previously set forth by Mr. Morton, in his works, that the various artificial modes of distorting the cranium occasion no diminution of its internal capacity, and consequently do not affect the size of the brain. The results thus arrived at are curious and interesting, and doubtless will attract attention.

CHOLERA.—The cholera is prevailing at New Orleans. Forty deaths occurred on one boat while it was passing from that city to St. Louis.