

and female brains below 35 oz. or 990 grammes, may be classed as *microcephalous*; and all above the maxima of the medium male and female brain, viz., 52½ oz. or 1480 grammes, and 47½ oz. or 1345 grammes, may be ranked as *megalocephalous*, or great brains.

Professor Welcker, who devoted special attention to the whole subject under review, assumes another and simpler test, when he says that skulls of more than 540 to 550 millimetres, or 21·26 to 21·65 inches in circumference—the weight of brain belonging to which is 1490 to 1560 grammes (52·5—55 oz. avoird.),—are to be regarded as exceptionally large. But while an excess of horizontal circumference may be accepted as indicating good cerebral capacity, it must not be overlooked that the adoption of it as the key to any definite or even approximate brain-weight ignores the important elements of variation involved in the difference between acrocephalic and platycephalic head-forms. The volume of brain in Scott, and probably in Shakespeare, appears to have depended more on its elevation than its horizontal expansion. The same was also the case with Byron. The intermastoid arch, measured across the vertex of the skull from the tip of one mastoid process to the other, furnishes an accurate gauge of this development. Of thirteen selected male English skulls in Dr. Davis's collection, the mean of this measurement is 15·1; and of thirty-nine male and female English skulls, it is only 14·4. Of the whole number of eighty-one English skulls described in the "*Thesaurus Craniorum*," three exceptionally large ones are—No. 123, that of an ancient British chief, of fully 6 ft. 2 in. in stature, from the Grims-thorpe Barrow, Yorkshire; No. 905, a calvarium of great magnitude, very brachycephalic, and with the elevation across the middle of the parietals apparently exaggerated by compression in infancy, from Hythe, Kent; and No. 1029, another male skull, remarkable alike for its size and weight, and with a peculiarity of conformation ascribed by Dr. Davis to synostosis of the coronal suture. The intermastoid arch in those exceptionally large skulls measures respectively 16·0, 16·2 and 16·9; whereas the same measurement derived from the cast of Scott's head taken after death, yields the extraordinary dimensions of 19 inches.* This last measurement is over the hairy scalp. But after making ample allowance for this, the vertical measurement of the skull and consequently of the brain is remarkable.

* I am indebted to Dr. J. A. Smith F.S.A., Scot., for this and other measurements of casts of The Bruce, Burns, Scott, &c., not accessible to me.