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ANTHROPOLOGY.¹

Observations on the Scapulæ of Northwest Coast Indians.
—Researches on the scapula since the time of Broca's² paper in 1878 have not been very numerous or conclusive in their results, and it seems fair to say that the valuable ethnic results which it was expected would be derived from extended observations on the scapula have not proved entirely satisfactory. Nor does it yet seem possible to say whether this is due to the insufficient numbers of scapulæ which have been examined or to individual variation. From an examination of the literature on the subject, especially from the papers of Sir William Turner³ and Professor Dwight,⁴ one would infer that the latter reason is the chief cause for the unsatisfactory results. Indeed, Professor Dwight declares,⁵ "I do not know what range of variation a great series of the scapulæ of the larger felidæ might present, but a small one shows nothing like that of the human race—I might even add, that of the Caucasian." It must be confessed, however, that the numbers of observations so far made have been exceedingly small. This is to be explained, of course,

¹ This department is edited by H. C. Mercer, University of Pennsylvania.

² "Sur les indices de largeur de l'omoplate chey l'homme," etc., Bull. de la Soc. d'anthropologie de Paris, Feby. 21, 1878.

³ Challenger report, Zoology, Vol. XVI, "Report on the Human Skeletons," p. 81.

⁴ "The Range of Variation of the Human Shoulder-blade," AMERICAN NATURALIST, July, 1887.

⁵ "The Range and Significance of Variation in the Human Skeleton," Boston, 1894, p. 23.