

the class of artificial modifications of the natural cranium familiar to the American Ethnologist alike in the disclosures of ancient graves, and in the customs of widely separated living tribes. In this I am further confirmed by the remark of Dr Morton, in reference to the Peruvian crania: "These heads are remarkable, not only for their smallness, but also for their irregularity; for in the whole series in my possession there is but one that can be called symmetrical. This irregularity chiefly consists in the greater projection of the occiput to one side than the other, showing in some instances a surprising degree of deformity. As this condition is as often observed on one side as the other, it is not to be attributed to the intentional application of mechanical force; on the contrary, it is to a certain degree common to the whole American tribes, and is sometimes, no doubt, increased by the manner in which the child is placed in the cradle."* To this Dr Morton subsequently added the further remark, in describing an unsymmetrical Mexican skull: "I had almost omitted the remark, that this irregularity of form is common in, and *peculiar to, American crania.*"† The latter remark, however, is too wide a generalization. I have repeatedly noted the like unsymmetrical characteristics in the brachycephalic crania of the Scottish barrows; and it has occurred to my mind, on more than one occasion, whether such may not furnish an indication of some partial compression, dependent, it may be, on the mode of nurture in infancy, having tended, in their case also, if not to produce, to exaggerate the short longitudinal diameter, which constitutes one of their most remarkable characteristics. In the case of the Barrie skull, there can be little doubt that the flattened occiput is the result of artificial compression, of a much more decided nature than that of the cradle-board of the Papoose. It is not undeserving of notice here, that the example selected by Cuvier, among his "crania pertaining to the four principal types of the human species," to illustrate the American race, exhibits a strikingly marked prolongation of the occiput. It is described as: "*Crâne trouvé dans une caverne, près du Village de Maïpuré près des bords de l'Orénoque; rapporté*

* *Crania Americana*, p. 115.

† *Types of Mankind*, p. 444