

of "the typical form of cranium of the ancient Briton," in contrast to others which he calls "aberrant forms."\*

None of all the skulls figured in profile in the first four decades of the *Crania Britannica*, exhibits the parieto-occipital flattening, with its exaggerated brachycephalic accompaniments, so markedly as this one recovered from the Codford Barrow, and shown here on Plate II. Nevertheless it is obvious that it had not occurred to the learned craniologist, when describing, as he says, every noteworthy characteristic, to ascribe any of the features of this peculiar type of cranium to artificial causes, though he has now adopted the opinion that some of the British crania may owe in part their brachycephalic proportions, with the accompanying unsymmetrical development and vertical occiput, to some partial compression dependent on the mode of nurture in infancy. The first example of this peculiar occipital conformation which attracted my attention, as possibly traceable to other than mere ethnical specialities, or natural variations from a normal typical form, occurred in a skull recovered from a cist opened at Juniper Green, in the vicinity of Edinburgh, on the 17th of May, 1851. Soon after the publication of the *Prehistoric Annals of Scotland*, when my attention was specially directed to this subject, I learned of the accidental discovery of a stone cist in a garden on the Lanark road, a few miles to the north-west of Edinburgh, and immediately proceeded to the spot. The cist occupied a slightly elevated site, distant only a few yards from the road; and as this had been long under cultivation as a garden, if any mound originally marked the spot, it had disappeared, and no external indication distinguished it as a place of sepulture. A shallow cist formed of uneven slabs of sandstone enclosed a space measuring 3 feet 11 inches in length, by 2 feet 1 inch in breadth at head, and 1 foot 11 inches at foot. The joints fitted to each other with sufficient regularity to admit of their being closed by a few stone chips inserted at the junction, after which they appeared to have been carefully cemented with wet loam or clay. The slab which covered the whole projected over the sides, so as effectually to protect the sepulchral chamber from any infiltration of earth. It lay in a sandy soil, within little more than two feet of the surface; but it had probably been covered until a comparatively recent period by a greater depth of soil, as its site was a little higher than the sur-

\* Proceedings of Acad. Nat. Sciences, Philadelphia. 1857, p. 42.