## 32 Prevalence of One Cranial Type in American Aborigines.

which separate the Esquimaux of the Atlantic from the tribes of the American aborigines lying to the south and west of them, as elements of contrast which have not failed to receive full justice, adds : "It is not so with the Eskimos of Russian America, and the parts that look upon the Pacific. These are so far from being separated by any broad and trenchant line of demarcation from the proper Indian, or the so-called Red race, that they pass gradually into it; and that in respect to their habits, manner, and appearance, equally. So far is this the case, that he would be a bold man who should venture, in speaking of the southern tribes of Russian America, to say here the Eskimo area ends, and here a different area begins."\* The difference thus pointed out may be accounted for, to a considerable extent, by the diverse geographical conformation of the continent, on its eastern and western sides, which admit in the latter of such frequent and intimate intercourse as is not unlikely to lead to an intermixture of blood, and a blending of the races, however primarily distinct and diverse. The evidence presented here, however, refer to tribes having no such intercourse with the Esquimaux, and distinguished from them by many important characteristics in manners, social habits, and external physiognomy. Nevertheless, if these conclusions, deduced from the examination of Canadian crania, are borne out by the premises, and confirmed by further investigation, this much at least may be affirmed : that a marked difference distinguishes the northern tribes, now or formerly occupying the Canadian area, in their cranial conformation, from that which pertains to the aborigines of Central America and the southern valley of the Mississippi; and in so far as the northern differ from the southern tribes, they approximate more or less, in the points of divergence, to the characteristics of the Esquimaux :----that intermediate ethnic link between the Old and the New World, acknowledged by nearly all recent Ethnologists to be physically Mongol and Asiatic, if philologically American.

\* Varieties of Man, p. 291.