

of leading races of men ; and even influenced Prichard in his definition of the symmetrical or oval form of skull which he ascribed to his first division. Against the ideal canons of an antique statuary scale, however, some of the greatest modern masters protested ; foremost of whom was Leonardo da Vinci, of whom Bossi remarks : " He thought but little of any general measure of the species. The true proportion admitted by him, and acknowledged to be of difficult investigation, is solely the proportion of an individual in regard to himself, which, according to true imitation, should be different in all the individuals of a species, as is the case in nature." In the features of the face there are the endless varieties of portraiture, controlled by family and national affinities, and so also in the varying proportions of the skull there appears to be an approximation in each race towards a special form. The craniologist accordingly finds in nature his short and truncated ; his long and tapering, or " boat-shaped ;" his high or pyramidal ; his broad, flattened, and oval : as well as intermediate forms. But besides those, to each of which a distinctive name has been assigned, attention is being anew directed to a totally distinct class, in which not only the absence of symmetry is suggestive of abnormal structure ; but wherein certain special forms are recognised as the result of artificial causes, operating accidentally or by design. Some of these artificial forms have an additional significance from the fact that they are peculiar to man, and originate in causes which distinguish him from all inferior orders of animated nature. This is specially the case with one of the classes of artificial conformation, already traced, in a former number of this Journal, to influences resulting from the mode of nurture in infancy. As the same opinion has been recently reproduced in an English scientific journal as a novel discovery,\* a recapitulation of the original idea, with additional illustrations, may not be out of place here.

In the month of March, 1855, an Indian cemetery was accidentally opened at Barrie, on Lake Simcoe, from which upwards of two hundred skulls are said to have been exhumed, along with bones and Indian relics. Among the Crania preserved in the collection of the Canadian Institute is one of those Indian skulls, selected, no doubt, owing to its unusual form, which could scarcely fail to attract atten-

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\* *Nat. Hist. Review*, July, 1862. J. B. Davis, M.R.C.S. Eng., &c., *On Distortions in the Crania of the Ancient Britons*.