6

cerebral capacity of the Indian in his savage state, than of the semi-civilized Peruvian or ancient Mexican-" Something may be attributed to a primitive difference of stock; but more, perhaps, to the contrasted activity of the two races." It is to be noted, moreover, that Dr Morton distinctly recognises certain unmistakeable diversities of form into which the assumed American cranial type is subdivided. He thus remarks, in his Crania Americana, under the head,—General observations on the barbarous nations composing the American Family,— "After examining a great number of skulls, I find that the nations east of the Alleghany Mountains, together with the cognate tribes, have the head more elongated than any other This remark applies especially to the great Lenapé stock,—the Iroquois and the Cherokées. To the west of the Mississippi we again meet with the elongated head in the Mandans, Ricaras, Assinaboins, and some other tribes." But to this, Dr Morton superadds the further remark: "Yet even in these instances the characteristic truncature of the occiput is more or less obvious; while many nations east of the Rocky Mountains have the rounded head so characteristic of the race, as the Osages, Ottoes, Missouris, Dacotas, and numerous The same conformation is common in Florida; but some of these nations are evidently of the Toltecan family, as both their characteristics and traditions testify. the Charibs, as well of the Antilles as of Terra Firma, are also naturally rounded; and we trace this character, as far as we have had opportunity for examination, through the nations east of the Andes, the Patagonians, and the tribes of Chili. In fact, the flatness of the occipital portion of the cranium will probably be found to characterize a greater or less number of individuals in every existing tribe from Terra del Fuego to the Canadas. If their skulls be viewed from behind, we observe the occipital outline to be moderately curved outward. wide at the occipital protuberances, and full from those points to the opening of the ear. From the parietal protuberances there is a slightly curved slope to the vertex, producing a conical, or rather a wedge-shaped outline." These opinions are still more strongly advanced in Dr Morton's most matured views, where he ascribes the same characteristics to the