

alveolar diameters, is not a necessary condition of the Australian skull. Prof. Flower places (New Cat.) the gnathic index of fifty-one specimens at 103·6 which brings them just within the prognathic division, but in his "Native Races" he states that there is considerable individual variation in these crania, as in five out of forty-two specimens the basi-alveolar diameter was less than the basi-nasal, and in seven specimens these two diameters were equal. The range of individual variation in my series of crania was from 92 in a female to 108 in a male skull, and the mean gnathic index was not so great as in the College of Surgeons specimens, so that the average was mesognathic. In the College of Surgeons series this index in the females was nearly 105, and more than in the males, where it was 103; but in my series the male average of 100·6 was greater than the female average of 99·7.

The mean nasal index obtained by MM. de Quatrefages and Hamy, by Prof. Flower, and by myself, places the Australian skull in the platyrrhine division, but whilst the average of thirty-one skulls measured by the first named was 57·9, and that of Prof. Flower was 56·9, my average was considerably lower, only 53·5. Of the twenty-nine specimens which I measured, sixteen were platyrrhine, twelve were mesorrhine, and one was leptorrhine. The presence of a leptorrhine nose amongst the Australians is so rare that the authenticity of any specimen possessing this character requires to be well established. Of the authenticity of the skull of the Mudgee tribe, with its nasal index only 46, there can be no question. The circumstances under which it was got are related in the note p. 29, and, moreover, it was one of the skulls from which an incisor tooth had been extracted at puberty. The anterior nares in this specimen were not only narrow in relation to the height, but their absolute width was only 22 mm. The skull of a Hobson's Bay native had also a nasal index of only 48, one from Gipps Land 49, specimens from Perth and Portland Bay of not more than 50, Roebuck Bay 51¹, and all these were genuine Australian crania. Hence individual crania may possess a much lower nasal index than has usually been ascribed to the skulls of this race.

The mean orbital index of thirty-one skulls in MM. de Quatrefages and Hamy's table is 78·81, that obtained by Prof. Flower from fifty-one skulls is 80·9. These observers, therefore, have placed the Australian skull in the microseme series, which corresponds with my measurements of the male skulls; but owing to the megaseme proportions of so large a number of my female skulls, my average of the whole is raised to 84, which brings them just within the mesoseme series. In MM. de Quatrefages and Hamy's table, as well as in my own, the female index is considerably higher than the male, more so indeed than seems to have been obtained by Prof. Flower in his measurements, who in his "Native Races" places the male orbital index at 81·8, and the female at 82·9.

¹ Although the Roebuck Bay skull has a nasal index of only 51, *i.e.*, was mesorrhine, yet the width of the anterior nares 28 mm., was only 1 mm. less than the widest of all the crania measured. Its diminished index was therefore due to the height of the nose 55 mm., which, with one exception, reached its maximum amongst the Australians in this specimen.