

cooking place, the site of a fight which occurred about 30 years ago near Wanganui, north of Cook's Straits. Three specimens were from Otago; two, presented by Mr. W. Riddell, being from Chastlands Mistake, and one found in an oven at Oipopo. One was found in the Marlborough district of the Middle Island, and was presented by Dr. Philip. One presented by Mr. Lambert, was from Whangarii, to the north of Auckland. Three were from the neighbourhood of Auckland, whilst the localities of the remaining two were not known.

Nine of the twenty-one crania were adults and presumably males, nine were adults and presumably females, two were children about 8 and 10, and one was apparently a girl about 16.

*Norma verticalis*.—In both the males and females the crania were not uniform in appearance in each sex, for some were obviously longer and narrower than others, and did not dip so abruptly in the parieto-occipital region, so that their proportions were dolichocephalic, others were wider in the parietal region and mesaticephalic. In the males the sagittal line was slightly ridged, the parietal eminences as a rule were prominent, and the cranial vault sloped, and was flattened from the ridge to the eminences. The sides of the skull were almost vertical below the parietal tubera. All the skulls, with one exception, were phænozygous. The stephanic and asterionic diameters were equal in one specimen; in four the stephanic exceeded the asterionic; in four the asterionic exceeded the stephanic. In the females the sagittal line, except in three specimens, was not so ridge-like as in the males, and the slope from that line outwards to the tubera was less. All the skulls were phænozygous. The stephanic and asterionic diameters were equal in one specimen; in three the stephanic exceeded the asterionic; in five the asterionic was greater than the stephanic.

*Norma lateralis*.—Of the male skulls four rested behind on the mastoids; two on the occipital condyles; three on the conceptacula cerebelli. Of the females, three rested on the mastoids; three on the condyles; one on the conceptacula. The male crania were not so massive as those of the Moriori, for the heaviest male skull did not exceed 1 lb. 15 oz. avoir., and the next in weight was 1 lb. 12 $\frac{3}{4}$  oz. The inion, glabella, and supraciliary ridges were prominent. The forehead was more retreating in the males than in the females, and in the skulls with a relatively high cephalic index the descent from

"Tyne" during October 1861. We were driven by stress of weather under the lee of this island, which was at that time uninhabited except by two white men in charge of a small cattle Station. Two of the skulls (the females?) were found with their skeletons buried under ledges of rock; the others in a cave the descent to which was by a narrow shaft, and which was filled with human bones the amount of which it was quite impossible to compute. I sunk to my waist in them, and should have gone further if not supported, the lower strata being quite disorganised. This cave was the burying place of a hapu or family of the Ngatirankawa Tribe, living at Waikanai and Otaki on the mainland about eight miles distant. All such burying places are strictly held "tapu," or sacred, so that it is beyond suspicion that any of these could possibly be European skulls. Had there been natives on the island it would have been impossible to have secured these specimens. As it was, great difficulty was experienced from the superstition of the English sailors of the schooner. I have been given to understand by competent authorities that no white man had ever been in that cave before."