

But the two races differed from each other in important external physical characters. The hair of the scalp, though black in both, was straight and smooth in the Australian, but fine curly in the Admiralty Islander, and formed in him "a dense mop projecting in all directions 6 to 8 inches from the head." The beard and whiskers were as a rule scanty in the Admiralty Islander, but fairly developed in the Australian. In both, the skin was black or black-brown, though Moseley states that the Admiralty Islander youths of both sexes were as a rule much lighter than the adults, and that he saw one man and two women whose skins were of a light yellow colour. The lips were thick and projecting in the Australians, but not unusually large and prominent in the Admiralty Islanders. Prof. Moseley speaks of a well-marked depression usually present at the root of the nose, so that the brow is somewhat overhanging. From the feeble glabella in most of the crania, granting that they belong to the same race as the living islanders, the projecting brow must be due to thickened skin and subcutaneous tissue, whereas in the Australian it is largely produced by the thickening of the frontal bone. In both races the nose was short and with dilated alæ, but the nostrils were not platyrhine in the Admiralty Islanders, whilst in the Australians the plane of their opening was directed downwards, forwards, and outwards; again, about one in every fifteen or twenty Admiralty Islanders had a long Jewish nose. The conclusion therefore to which one has come from this comparison, is that the Australians and Admiralty Islanders are two distinct races.

I shall now pass to the consideration of the characters of the crania of the people occupying the other islands of the Melanesian area. From its size and importance as the chief seat of the Papuans I shall begin with *New Guinea*.

Material for the determination of the cranial characteristics of the people of New Guinea has been accumulating during the last few years. Though still far from perfect, especially as regards the people of the interior, numerous crania are now in European museums, and a large number have been measured and described. MM. de Quatrefages and Hamy have made a critical examination of the literature of this subject up to the date of publication of their fasciculi on the 'Négrito-Papoue' and 'Papoua' races, and have brought together in a form convenient for reference, a mass of information of which I shall avail myself, though at the same time I shall have to refer to other and subsequent writers and to some specimens not previously described. The north-west end of New Guinea is the part of the island from which the greatest number of crania have been obtained, but the southern seaboard, the south-eastern peninsula, the small islands in Torres Straits, and the course of the Fly River, have also contributed important material.

As a result of the examination of the skulls from these several localities it is evident that a considerable variety in form and proportions has been observed, some being decidedly brachycephalic, others mesaticephalic, others dolichocephalic.

We may first inquire into the evidence which has been recorded of the presence of