

and in two the anterior diameter was greater than the posterior. The body of the 5th lumbar was deeper in front than behind in all the five complete skeletons, the maximum difference between the two surfaces being 3 mm.

When these dimensions are compared with those obtained from the European spinal columns, it will be seen that in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd lumbar the body was more constantly deeper behind than in front in the Australians than in the Europeans. In the 4th lumbar, whilst it was the exception in the Europeans for the body to be deeper behind than in front, in the Australians one-half the skeletons exhibited this relation. In all the Australians, as in the Europeans, the body of the 5th lumbar was deeper in front than behind; the mean vertical diameter of the anterior surfaces was 23·2, and of the posterior 21·2, a difference of 2 mm. only in favour of the anterior surface; whilst in the Europeans the anterior surface was on the average 4·6 mm. thicker than the posterior.

In Table X. the mean index of the five Australian skeletons in which the lumbar spine was complete is given. The mean index of the separate vertebræ diminished from 114·4 in the 1st lumbar to 91·4 in the 5th, and the mean general index of the entire series was 106. Dr. Cunningham has stated in his abstract the mean lumbar indices in seventeen Australian spines, and obtained from them a mean index 107·8, which was somewhat higher than in my measurements. The range in his series was from 119·8, the mean index of the 1st lumbar, to 90·4, the mean index of the 5th. In his series six males had a mean lumbar index of 110·1, and four females of 103·1.

In my single male Bush skeleton the collective vertical diameter of the bodies of the five lumbar vertebræ was 108 mm. anteriorly, and 115 mm. posteriorly. In the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd lumbar the posterior diameter exceeded the anterior; in the 4th these two diameters were equal, and in the 5th the anterior diameter was 1 mm. greater than the posterior. The proportions in this skeleton closely corresponded to what was seen in the Australians. The general lumbar index was 106, and the index of the 5th lumbar vertebra was 95. Dr. Cunningham has given 106·6 as the mean lumbar index of three Bushmen, whilst the mean index of the individual vertebræ ranged from 115·9 in the 1st lumbar to 95·3 in the 5th.

In my series of Andaman Islanders' skeletons only two had the lumbar vertebræ complete. In one the vertical diameter of the five vertebræ collectively was 113 mm. anteriorly, and 112 mm. posteriorly; in the other 125 mm. anteriorly, 124 mm. posteriorly. The 1st and 2nd lumbar in both skeletons were thicker behind than in front. The 3rd lumbar in one skeleton was of equal diameter on both aspects, and in the other was 1 mm. thicker behind than in front. In both skeletons both the 4th and 5th lumbar were thicker in front than behind, in the one skeleton the anterior surface of the 5th lumbar being 3 mm., in the other 5 mm., thicker than the posterior. The mean index in the two skeletons diminished from 111·3 for the 1st lumbar to 84·2 for the 5th (Table X.); the mean general lumbar index of the two skeletons was 99. Dr. Cunningham