

condition of man himself, than is the case with the black man. But, on the other hand, as has indeed been already stated on p. 114, in the proportions of the shaft of the lower limb to the shaft of the upper limb, and of the thigh to the upper arm, the black races are more widely removed from the apes than are Europeans, and the tendency to produce a femur with a prismatic shaft, which is the very opposite to a pithecoïd character, is more marked in the Australians than in the white or yellow races. Also, whilst the Lapps and Esquimaux, of all the races which I have measured, most closely approach the apes in the proportions of thigh to upper arm, and of shaft of lower limb to shaft of upper limb, they are amongst the races most widely removed from the apes in the proportions of forearm to upper arm, and of leg to thigh. The Yahgan Fuegians, again, whilst they are, in the proportions of forearm to upper arm, the most ape-like of men, yet possess a platypellic pelvis and a platyhieric sacrum.

I do not find, therefore, in the comparative study of the skeleton in the Races of Men, evidence that any one race dominates in all its characters over all other races; or that any one race, in all its characters, is lower than all other races. Nevertheless there can be no doubt that Europeans in many of their most important skeletal characters, more especially those of the skull and pelvis, are more widely removed from mammals generally, than is the case with Negros, Kaffirs, Bushmen and Australians. There does not seem, however, to be a graded arrangement, such as would lead one to say that the white races, which we will assume to be the most highly developed, have been derived, by successive stages of slow and gradual perfecting of structure, from the lowest existing black race, or, indeed, from any one of the existing black races.

Weisbach concludes his analysis of the measurements of the body in living individuals of different races of men, taken during the voyage of the "Novara" by Drs. Scherzer and Schwarz,¹ by stating that resemblances in form and proportion to characters observed in apes are in no way exclusively concentrated in any single race, but are distributed amongst different races, in some in one direction, in others in another direction, and that even Europeans themselves are not free from such characters. Moreover, he regards these resemblances as evidence of the descent of man from an ape-like ancestor.

In concluding this Report I have no intention to enter into a discussion of any speculative question connected with the remote origin of man. But this I may say, that in the form and proportion of the different parts of the skeleton, so far as I have made them objects of study, the so-called simian characters are not such as would lead any competent anatomist, either to mistake a human bone for the bone of an ape, or to say that in the fossil remains of man, so far as we know them, there is evidence that a transitional form between man and the higher apes at one time existed.

¹ *Reise der Novara, Anthropologischer Thiel*, p. 269, Wien, 1867.