92. Developmental Changes in the Human Skeleton from the Point of View of Anthropology

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PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY.**Physical Anthropology: General.****Waterston.**

92 *Developmental Changes in the Human Skeleton from the Point of View of Anthropology.* Communicated by David Waterston, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., to the Anthropological Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Bradford, September 8th, 1900.

A series of specimens of the long bones of the extremities at different ages of embryonic and infantile life has been collected and examined. The methods employed in the examination were those of anthropometry, namely, osteometry and osteoscopy.

By the former, the relative lengths of the bones of the limbs at different ages have been ascertained and compared one with another, and by the latter it has been found that these bones present some definite and interesting characters. Without going minutely into the rate of growth of each segment of the upper and lower limbs, the general character was shown, and the special features of the bones at different ages was demonstrated by means of lantern slides taken from photographs of the objects. An attempt was also made to ascertain the cause of the special characters found in the bones by investigating the time of their appearance and of their replacement by adult characters.

A comparison was also instituted between the bones of the embryo and those of the lower races of mankind and of the higher apes, both as regards their relative length and their characters.

As it has been shown that the curvature of the spine in the lumbar region is a post-natal development, and one adapted to the assumption of the erect attitude by the infant, it was shown that in a similar way the configuration of the bones of the lower extremity alters after birth, before the infant can stand erect.

Kephalic Index.**Beddoe.**

93 *On some Vagaries of the Kephalic Index.* Communicated by John Beddoe, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., to the Anthropological Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Bradford, September 8th, 1900.

The great value of the kephalic index has hardly ever been questioned by any school of physical anthropologists. There are of course certain groups of facts the consideration of which tends to raise a doubt of its absolute permanence in any race, such as the occasional occurrence of marked brachycephaly among the remains of primitive dolichocephals, and the substitution unexplained, as yet, of moderate brachycephaly for dolichocephaly in many parts of the Slavonic area. But whether we accept the views of De Lapouge and Ammon as to the transformation of types through social selection, or whether we follow Sergi in the multiplication of permanent types which "au fond" arrange themselves into two great groups, the division of longheads from shortheads still continues to have great importance. In individual cases, however, far too much is often made of it. Thus, we may have a broad head of a dolichoid type, or, less often perhaps, a narrow head of brachy type. I propose in this little paper to describe two specimens of dolichoid character which lately came in my way, one of which yielded an index which, taken by itself, would have relegated it to the brachy division. One of these immediately followed the other in the course of my work. Both of them, before I had gotten their measurements, had been set down in my mind as of fairly pure Anglo-Saxon breed; but the former one especially struck me as being so, his fair complexion, blue eyes and