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(13)

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

THICKNESS OF THE HUMAN SKULL.

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BY

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OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

THICKNESS OF THE HUMAN SKULL.

The states when

THE variation in the thickness of the human skull in different individuals, and in different parts of the same skull, is well known. The causes of these varieties have been assigned to the character of the soft parts, the changing character of the brain, and are, in a great measure, due to the same causes that regulate the growth and development of the individual.

The following observations were in 154 skulls of subjects brought to the anatomical rooms. The measurements were made with callipers carefully adjusted, and in the following regions :—

A. The superior angle of the frontal in the superior longitudinal sinus.

B. Above the external angular process.

C. Parietal eminence.

D. The anterior superior angle of the parietal outside the longitudinal sinus and the Pacchionian depressions.

E. The posterior superior angle of the parietal.

F. Posterior inferior angle of the parietal in the lateral sinus.

G. In the middle fossa, near the centre of the squamous part of the temporal bone.

H. Occipital (superior angle) in the longitudinal sinus.

I. Occipital at the middle of the inferior fossæ.

J. Occipital protuberance.

K. Occipital superior fossæ.

L. Frontal eminence.

M. Weight of brain.

Observations on the Thickness of the Human Skull.

Where two measurements are given, connected by a hyphen, the first indicates the size of the right, the second that of the left.

The numbers indicate sixty-fourths of an inch. Thus, in No. 1, the thickness of the frontal near the superior angle is $\frac{16}{64} = \frac{1}{4}$ inch.

The column immediately succeeding M contains the nature of the convolution markings. These are usually best marked at the base. For the greater number they were slight or absent at the roof.

a. Convolution markings slight.

 β . No convolution markings.

4

γ. Convolution markings distinct over lower parietal part.

In a few cases casts of the interior of the skull were made to determine how far the convolution markings would indicate the position of the fissures. From a study of these it was seen that the convolutions of the temporo-sphenoidal lobe and the lower surface of the frontal were repeated in their cast, but the upper surface of the cast was nearly smooth in many cases.

The mean of the observations in each case is given. It will be seen that although in many cases the thickness on one side exceeds slightly that of the other, yet the mean of one side does not differ materially from that of the other. The thickest skull was that of a female, aged 78, No. 144; but the three succeeding were males. The thinnest skulls in the above list were those of three females. These remarks, however, do not apply to all the measurements. And it must be remembered that the number of female subjects was in excess of the number of the males. A single measurement is not an indication of the general thickness, for in No. 84 the inferior occipital fossæ have a very thin bony wall.

The weight of the brain does not seem to bear any relation to the thickness of the skull. This, however, does not affect the statement that the skull thickens when the brain diminishes.

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By Dr. R. J. ANDERSON.

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TABLE-continued.	F	14–18	12-11	16-14	14-12	9-10	12-16	12-13	14-17	10-9	10-13	16-14	10-14	12.12	15-14	23-25	15-	8-8	19-12	11-11
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	Q	16-19	22-26	17-19	10-7	10-9	14-10	9-14	14-15	15-17	11-12	20-17	11-10	16-16	12-14	19-17	15-19	12-11	16-14 14:5-16	10 10
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Observations on the Thickness of the Human Skull.

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^b Inner table at parts necrosed. ^c Frontal sinuses very large ; two inches from side to side ; ³/₄ inch deep.

* Lateral sinus not grooved so far as petrous portion of temporal.

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TABLE-continued.

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Observations on the Thickness of the Human Skull.

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Observations on the Thickness of the Human Skull.

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21-12	24 24	9-8	12-11	9-8	11-11	9-8	6-5	4-6	9-8	7-8	11-10	10-11	11-13	12-15	8-8	12-12	15-14	12-11
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7-12		16-14	11-14	13-8	14-10	8-13	8-8	16–16	9-11	9-16	6-7	12-13	19–19	12-12	10-11	18-16	19-22	9-10
16-15		16-13	16-16	11-10	14-15	14-14	12-12	14-13	14-15	18-16	14-12	17-16	15-15	19-21	15-13	16-17	24-24	12-12
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1	LTO	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	c 122	d 123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131

^a Frontal sinuses extend high up into bone.

^b A large depression at internal occipital protuberance, with foramen in the centre.

^c The outer occipital protuberance higher up than the inner. ^d Six Wormean bones in upper left, 7 in upper right suture ; superior longitudinal sinus continuous with right lateral large frontal sinus.

12	()bser	vatio	ons	on	the	Th	ickn	<i>ess</i>	of	the	Hu	man	Sk	cull.				
	Ļ	x	β	R	в	ø	B	в	ø	٢	a	B	в	B	ø	ø	٢	B	1
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	L	12-18	14-21	15-17	15-16	12-13	19-16	11-12	12-13	10-12	13-11	14-12	15-14	24-27	13-15	19–15	13-13	11-11	OF IT
	K	13-9	5-9	12-10	11-12	9-8	8-8	6-4	12-10	8-10	8-9	10-10	2-6	16-16	11-10	7-12	8-8	10-9	11-21
	ſ	52	38	34	32	28	31	28	37	36	28	40	30	40	50	22	34	44	TAN GB
	I	4-2	4-4	3-3	2-2	4-4	4-4	4-2	2-2	4-4	2-2	$1-1\frac{1}{2}$	3-1	4-4	9-9	1-1	3-2	4-2	4-1 0-0
	н	27	20	16	20	18	22	16	19	17	20	21	18	28	24	24	20	19	18 18
inued.	ð	9-9	4-5	1-1	4-4	1-1	2-	2-1	2-1	2-3	1-2	1-1	2-2	4-4	4-4	2-3	1-4	3-2	1-1
TABLE—continued.	н	16–17	11-12	4-4	13-17	12-9	14-14	9-12	14-11	9-11	11-13	16-8	6-9	18-14	14-14	10-6	13-16	18-18	01-11
TABLI	E	18-16	15-15	16-14	18-16	14-14	16-15	8-17	13-14	13-12	16-15	15-15	11-10	24-28	14-15	13-15	12-12	12-14	11-10
	D	14-14	12-13	9-10	15-14	11-12	13-13	12-10	14-14	20-20	20-18	20-16	10-12	21-23	12-11	16-13	12-13	14-14	01 11
	C	8-12	16-18	12-16	16-15	12-14	14-16	6-8	10-10	12-14	12-14	12-12	12-12	26-28	12-11	12-12	11-11	12-17	21-02
	B	14-15	15-15	12-10	20-18	17–18	14-9	16-12	10-10	15-12	10-12	10-10	9-12	21-20	16-17	18-19	4-8	10-11	n 0
	A	22	15	12	16	12	20	16	15	20	18	15	16	26	16	15	20	20	10
	Age	40	40	30	28	32	45	42	65	40	75	78	75	78	60	20	40	74	202
	Sex	M.	M.	F.	M.	E.	F.	M.	M.	F.	M.	E.	F.	F.	М.	M.	М.	M.	
	No.	132	a 133	134	135	b 136	137	138	139	°140	d 141	142	143	144	145	e 146	r 147	148	

Observations on the Thickness of the Human Skull.

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	1	ŀ	1	1	I
TI-LI	11-10	18-18	12-11	15-14	14–16
0-01	12-13 11-10	12-13	8-8	13-13	16-13
11	38	58	26	50	44
4-13 4-13	1-2	9-9	1-1	5-6	2-3
d I	32	18	23	25	19
8-8	1-1	10-7	4-5	4-3	1-3
18-18	16-16 11-10	11–16 12–14 10–7	14-16 14-9	12-16 18-16	20–18 15–16
P1-51	16-16	11-16	14-16	12-16	20-18
14-14	14-15	13-13	17-17	10-13	13-13
12-17	20-12	14-17	16-17	8-11	9-10
11-01	5-8	13-16	11-14	8-8	14–13
20	16	19	20	18	20
1.4	10	65	02	68	84
	E.	M.	M.	М.	E.
1 mar	150	151	152	153	154
1					

SUMMARY.

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W	2172	48	45-2
r	1529-1568	103	14.8-15.2
К	1115-1098	105	16.6-10.4
Ŀ	4102	137	23-3
I	567-550.5	124-123	4.57-4.4
Н	2883	143	20.1
IJ	437-431-9	137-135 136-134 143 124-123 137	3-2-3-16
F	1664-1772	137-135	$5 \cdot 2 - 15 \cdot 2 \\ 11 \cdot 4 - 13 \cdot 1 \\ 3 \cdot 2 - 3 \cdot 16 \\ 20 \cdot 1 \\ 4 \cdot 57 - 4 \cdot 4 \\ 23 \cdot 3 \\ 16 \cdot 6 - 10 \cdot 4 \\ 14 \cdot 8 - 15 \cdot 2 \\ 45 \cdot$
E	2298,5-2283	150	15.2-15.2
D	2598.8 1642-1675 2224-2307.9 2218-2126.8 2298,5-2283 1664-1772 437-431.9 2883 567-550.5 4102 1115-1098 1529-1568 2172	154	14-4-13-7
C	2224-2307-9	153-154	14.5-14.3
B	1642-1675	131-132	16.87 12.5–12.7
Y	2598.8	154	
Age			53-5

The first column represents the mean of the ages—i.e., 53.5. The first line represents the sum of the measurements. The third line represents the mean of the measurements.

^a Outer occipital protuberance higher than the inner.

^b Large frontal sinuses.

° The inferior longitudinal sinus passes to right lateral.

^d The outer occipital protuberance higher than the inner.

^e The outer occipital protuberance much higher than the inner.

^f A well-marked ridge sinus across the inferior fossa of the occipital bone.

By Dr. R. J. ANDERSON.

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13

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