

and skin being characteristically Papuan. The Godeffroy Museum in Hamburg contains one hundred and fifty skulls from the New Britain Archipelago, twenty-six of which are from the principal island, New Britain, and one hundred and twenty from the small island Mioko in the Duke of York group. These skulls have been examined and their characters analysed by Dr. Rud. Krause.¹ The chief measurements are as follows:—the mean length 181 mm., maximum 195, minimum 165; the mean greatest breadth 130·9, maximum 142, minimum 119; the mean height 137·6, maximum 150, minimum 128. The indices are as follows:—length-breadth 72·3, length-height 76, breadth-height 105·1. The cubic capacity varies from 1530 to 990, that of the males having a mean of 1267 c.c., that of the females of only 1180 c.c. Prof. Virchow states² that he has been put in the position of obtaining through Dr. Finsch one hundred and fifty crania from New Britain. He refers to the great variation in their cubic capacity, and cites a male skull having a capacity of 2010 c.c. and a female of only 1140 c.c., but he gives no other measurements.

New Hanover and *New Ireland*, situated to the north and west of New Britain, were visited in 1875 by the Prussian war-ship "Gazelle," and a description of the people and their customs has been written by Captain Strauch.³ From the character both of the hair and skin they are evidently in the main Papuans, though it is possible that here, as elsewhere in the Melanesian Islands, there may have been some intermixture of Mahori blood. Numerous crania were collected, which are now in the Anatomical Museum of the University of Berlin. The majority have been measured by Dr. Rabl-Rückhard, and their characters are recorded by him.⁴ I am indebted to that gentleman for an early proof of his important communication. The skulls from New Ireland were collected at a spot which had been used for cannibal feasts, and they were so defective that a proper series of measurements could not be taken. Forty-five specimens belonged in all probability partly to New Britain and partly to New Hanover, but in the table of measurements they are all placed under the heading New Hanover. Dr. Rabl-Rückhard has measured the greatest length from both the fronto-nasal suture and the glabella, and has given the cephalic index in relation to both these measurements. When the glabello-occipital diameter is used to compute the cephalic index, I find that by far the greater number of these skulls have a length-breadth index of less than 75, as many indeed as seventeen being below 70, whilst only six are above 75, and the highest of these is 77·6. These people therefore are undoubtedly dolichocephalic. It is also important that in only one instance was the vertical index below the cephalic, and in only one were they equal; in all the other skulls the vertical index exceeded the cephalic, and in many specimens in a

¹ Die ethnographisch-anthropologische Abtheilung des Museum Godeffroy, Hamburg, 1881.

² Versamml. der deutschen Anthropol. Gesellsch., 1882, reported in *Archiv für Anthrop.*, Bd. xiv., 1883, p. 89.

³ *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*, Bd. ix. pp. 9, 81, 1877.

⁴ *Archiv für Anthropologie*, Bd. xv., 1884, parts 1 and 2, supplement.