

it in the same degree. Crania pass by almost insensible gradations from the extreme form seen in Fiji or the Loyalty Islands to skulls which are of the New Guinea or Admiralty Island conformation. The hypsistenocephalic character seems to be an exaggeration of the Melanesian type, fostered perhaps by tribal interbreeding and hereditary descent amongst those who inhabit the mountainous regions, and those who have had little communication with the people of adjacent islands; whilst in the inhabitants of the sea-coast, more liable to intermixture, the type form has not assumed such exaggerated proportions, or perhaps has become altered by mingling with other races.

We may now pass to the consideration of the area occupied by the Mahori or brown Polynesian race. Ethnologists generally look to the Samoan and Tonga Islands as the central home of this race in the Pacific, from which it has diffused itself in several directions.¹

The *Tonga Islanders*, so far as their skulls have been examined, are almost purely brachycephalic. Three adults measured by Prof. Flower are distinctly so, and six adults in the Godeffroy Museum, measured by Dr. Krause, are wholly so, with one exception, and that is mesaticephalic. The mean of the eight brachycephali is 84·5, and the range is from 80 to 89·4. Some children's skulls from the Tonga Islands have a cephalic index of 90·6 and 92·9. Krause states that the skulls of the Tonga Islanders have a high, steep, broad forehead, flat and deeply descending occiput, parietal tubera laterally projecting, broad face, large eyes and little prognathism.

The *Samoa Islanders* are not so uniformly brachycephalic. Two crania in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons are undoubtedly so, C.I. 80·6 and 89; but only three out of thirteen skulls, mostly from Upolu, in the Godeffroy Museum have a cephalic index above 80; four are below 75, whilst six are mesaticephalic; but of those, five are above 77, so that they approach the brachycephalic standard. It would look therefore as if a certain Melanesian admixture with the Polynesian people had taken place in Upolu. The vertical index in the Samoan dolichocephali was as in the Melanesian race distinctly higher than the cephalic. Whereas in the brachycephali the vertical index, though occasionally above the cephalic, as a rule was not so, and in some instances was markedly below it. Krause gives the cephalic index of a skull from the small island Futuna as 87, and Flower that of a native of Savage Island (Niuë), lying midway between the Tonga and Samoan groups, as 83·8. The Rev. G. Turner states that Savage Island is populated by light copper coloured natives very like the Samoans, and that their dialect is a mixture of Samoan and Tongan; but Mr. W. L. Ranken, although recognising their Samoan affinities, considers that there is also an intermixture of Papuan traits.

Crania of the *Ellice Islanders*, to the north-west of the Samoan Islands, are very

¹ See the accounts of the Samoans by the Rev. S. Whitmee (*Contemporary Review*, February 1873); Mr. Pritchard and Mr. W. L. Ranken in *Journ. Anthropol. Inst.*, vol. vi. p. 224, and Rev. G. Turner in "Samoa," London, 1884.