

# ARTIFICIAL CRANIAL DEFORMATION

A CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE STUDY OF ETHNIC MUTILATIONS

BY  
ERIC JOHN DINGWALL

"Out of wise Nature's plastique hands thy Head  
Came like a Ball of wax, oblongly spread:  
Now'ts like, in its acuminate line,  
A Sugar-loaf or Apple of the Pine;  
Now'ts long, now short, now flat, now square, now round  
Indented now like to a Foysting-hound."

JOHN BULWER.



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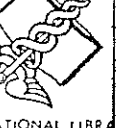
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## PREFACE.

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THE following notes on the practice of artificial cranial deformation are intended to give some connected account of the custom as it is carried out in various parts of the world. The substance of the present work was formerly submitted and approved as a thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the University of London, but since that time it has undergone much extension and revision. Originally it was intended to deal with the question from the ethnological point of view as well as from that of the physical anthropologist, but as evidence increased I thought it best to limit the field in the volume now presented. Hence I have given only the merest outline of the problems as seen in their anatomical, physiological and statistical aspects, this part of the work being held over for a future occasion.

I have endeavoured to give a judicious selection from the available literature and I have not hesitated to include a number of authors whose opinions are not, perhaps, of so great value as those of others whose company they share.

Finally it is my pleasant duty to record my indebtedness to those of my friends and correspondents who have so generously offered me the fruits of their learning and experience. Among these I must include Mr. H. Balfour, Mr. H. J. Braunholtz, Professor F. J. Browne, Mr. L. H. D. Buxton, Professor H. M. Chadwick, Miss E. Dingwall, Dr. W. L. H. Duckworth, Miss M. E. Durham, Mr. Henry Field, Miss B. Gasan, Mr. L. J. P. Gaskin, Dr. D. Greig, Dr. A. C. Haddon, Dr. H. A. Harris, Dr. H. S. Harrison, Dr. G. Heye, Mr. W. B. Heurtley, Dr. E. A. Hooton, Dr. J. Imbelloni, Mr. T. A. Joyce, Dr. B. Laufer, Mr. H. Mallet, Mr. E. J. Manley, Mr. F. Melville, Miss M. A. Murray, Dr. B. Oetteking, Dr. W. J. Perry, Mr. W. P. Pycraft, Miss G. M. A. Richter, Professor C. G. Seligman, Dr. H. L. Shapiro, Professor Elliot Smith, Mr. L. Stellbach, Mr. S. P. Steward, Dr. E. P. Stibbe, Dr. K. Tautz, Dr. E. J. Thomas, Mr. E. S. Thomas, Mr. J. Eric Thompson, Miss M. Tildesley, Mr. E. Torday, Dr. B. Uvarov, and Dr. Clark Wissler.

As regards institutions I have to thank the authorities of many museums and collections, including, among those that I have myself visited, the British Museum, the Royal College of Surgeons, the Royal Society of Medicine, the Royal College of Physicians, the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, the Royal Geographical Society, the Horniman Museum, the Royal Anthropological Institute and the Royal Asiatic Society, London; the Bodleian Library, the Ashmolean Museum and the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford; the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh; the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, and certain of the provincial museums in England; the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris and also the libraries of the Faculté de Médecine, the Jardin des Plantes and the Société d'Anthropologie; the State Museums in Berlin and libraries such as the Prussian State Library, the Library of the University Frauenklinik and the great Lipperheide'sche Collection; the New York Public Library, the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and others in New York City; the Boston Public Library, the Boston Athenaeum, the Harvard College Library, the Peabody Museum and other institutions in Boston and Cambridge, Mass.; the Field Museum of Natural History, the Newberry Library and the Public Library in Chicago; the U.S. National Museum, the Library of Congress and the Library of the Surgeon General's Office, Washington; and finally the Curators of the libraries of the Union Coloniale Belge and the Georgia Museum, Tiflis, from whose correspondence I have profited.

For permission to include many of the plates which illustrate the text I am much indebted to both private individuals and publishing firms. Among them I must record my thanks to Dame Alice Godman, Dr. A. Hrdlička, Dr. E. Nordenskiöld, Graf. E. von Rosen, Dr. R. Verneau, the Directors of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, the State Museums in Berlin, the Cairo Museum, the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, the Musée du Congo Belge, the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, the Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass., the Museo Universidad Nacional de La Plata and also the authorities of the Florida State Historical Society, the Wistar Institute, the Museum of Anatomy, University College, London, the Egypt Exploration

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Society and the Berlin Society for Anthropology, Ethnology and Prehistory.

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In conclusion I have to thank all those through whose labours it has been possible to prepare this work for publication, my former secretary Miss Eva Glanville, and my printers and publishers. To the Publication Fund of the University of London, also, I am deeply indebted for a grant without which it would not have been possible to include the plates. And above all my gratitude is due to my wife, who has not only accompanied me in the search for material in many a dusty basement and storeroom, but who has encouraged me to continue a work which, but for her, would have often been put aside as involving too much labour at too great a cost.

E. J. DINGWALL.

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