

Peck, in a long argument on this subject concludes with this interrogation:

"Will anyone say that human skeletons entombed as these are in the mounds of Illinois, but two or three feet below the surface, remain in a state of preservation five or six hundred years? A sober investigation of these questions would result in an entire overthrow of the hypothesis of existing races of men prior to the Indians founded upon such remains."—Peck, 3b.

Many early investigators were imbued with the idea that skulls obtained from the mounds were different, in many particulars, from those taken from historic Indian graves. This conclusion was doubtless influenced by a natural trait in human nature toward superstition.

General Thruston, after a careful investigation of the subject states:

"The variations in forms and capacity of the crania found in the stone graves and in the burial mounds of the Mississippi valley, have led to much controversy. Types nearly as different as the average Caucasian and Ethiopian skulls have occasionally been found in the same ancient cemeteries, and sometimes in adjoining graves, within the mound area of Tennessee, Arkansas, Missouri, and Ohio."—Thruston, Tennessee, 121.

Wilson insists that there is:

"No uniform cranial type and therefore, that no unity among the red races of America can be established by the crania."—Wilson, Pre. Man., v. II, 200.

Hoy, a great student of the subject, said:

"I should like to see that anatomist who can distinguish the crania taken from mounds, from those procured from Indian graves. The skulls from mounds differ just as little as do those of the present Indian tribes."—Hoy, Mounds, 30.

The late Dr. John A. Rice, of Morton, Wisconsin, a noted physician, who was an expert witness in the murder trial of Guiteau, the murderer of President Garfield, and who made a study of a large number of crania secured from mounds and Indian graves in this state, in letter to the author, said:

"In my forty years experience, of the crania and bones collected by me from mounds and graves of the Indians, I find no reason to doubt that they were all Indian and nothing but Indian."—Dec. 19, 1904.

No small amount of attention has been given this subject by the author, who has collected considerable data pertaining to it, and finds no evidence tending to show any distinguish-