

Report on the Skeletal Remains discovered at Avonmouth Dock

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The skull was too fragmentary and wanting in the essential parts to allow of the ordinary craniometric measurements. The hip bones were fragmentary, but enough of each remained to enable the sex (male) to be determined.

Of the limb bones the clavicles, the right humerus, right femur, right tibia, and right fibula were sufficiently complete to allow of the necessary measurements.

The humerus measured 417 mm. in length. Its head measured from before backwards 40 mm. and from without inwards 41 mm. The lower half of the shaft was concave outwards.

The femur measured in oblique length 472 mm. Its head measured 45 mm., the bicondylar width was 75 mm., and the least width of the shaft was 24.5 mm. The muscular markings were poorly expressed.

The tibia measured 372 mm. in length, the platycnemic index was 60.6. There were no squatting facets.

The fibula was 369 mm. in length, and when articulated with the tibia lay somewhat nearer to it than usual. Intrinsically there was nothing notable about it.

The two clavicles were nearly perfect. The left one had lost its epiphysis completely, but most of the right one was adherent. The right clavicle measured in length 158 mm. whilst the left one was 157 mm. Each had an unusually deep and broad groove of the subclavius on its under surface. The mandible lacked the upper half of the left ramus and its two processes, the coronoid and the condyloid.

The bigonial width was 98 mm. The length from the pogonion to the angles was 77 mm.

Teeth. On the right half of the mandible there were a canine first bicuspid, and three molars; the last molar badly erupted. On the left side there were a first bicuspid and a wisdom molar which was well erupted. The remaining teeth had all been lost after death.

General conclusions are that the skeleton is that of a male of slight build, whose probable stature was about 5 feet 7 inches. There is no reason to suppose that in point of time the skeleton is of great age.