

Description.

Size nearly that of *Psaris Cayanus*. Crown of head and nape pitch-black, space between the bill and eyes, and eye streak white, tinged with red. Cheeks and ear-coverts deep reddish brown. Back, rump, and wing-coverts ash-grey, the tips of some of the feathers black.* Wings and tail black. Breast and belly greyish white, under tail-coverts white. Bill bluish black, rather broader than that of *Psaris Cayanus*.

A specimen of this species is placed by the side of *P. Cayanus* in the Parisian Museum, but without a ticket attached to it, merely stating it to be from Pernambuco. In the valuable cabinet of the Baron Laugier is another specimen, likewise unnamed. This species, in its form and the distribution of its colours, is nearly allied to *P. Cayanus*.

In the Parisian Museum *Psaris cristatus* of Mr. Swainson is placed at the extremity of the *Thamnophili*, and ticketed *Lanius atricilla*. Its appearance immediately arrested my attention and that of a friend who accompanied me; and I find that we considered it at the time as possessing the characters of a true *Psaris*. We afterwards found it placed among that group in the Baron Laugier's collection, under the title, I think, of *P. atricilla*.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours, &c.

P. J. SELBY.

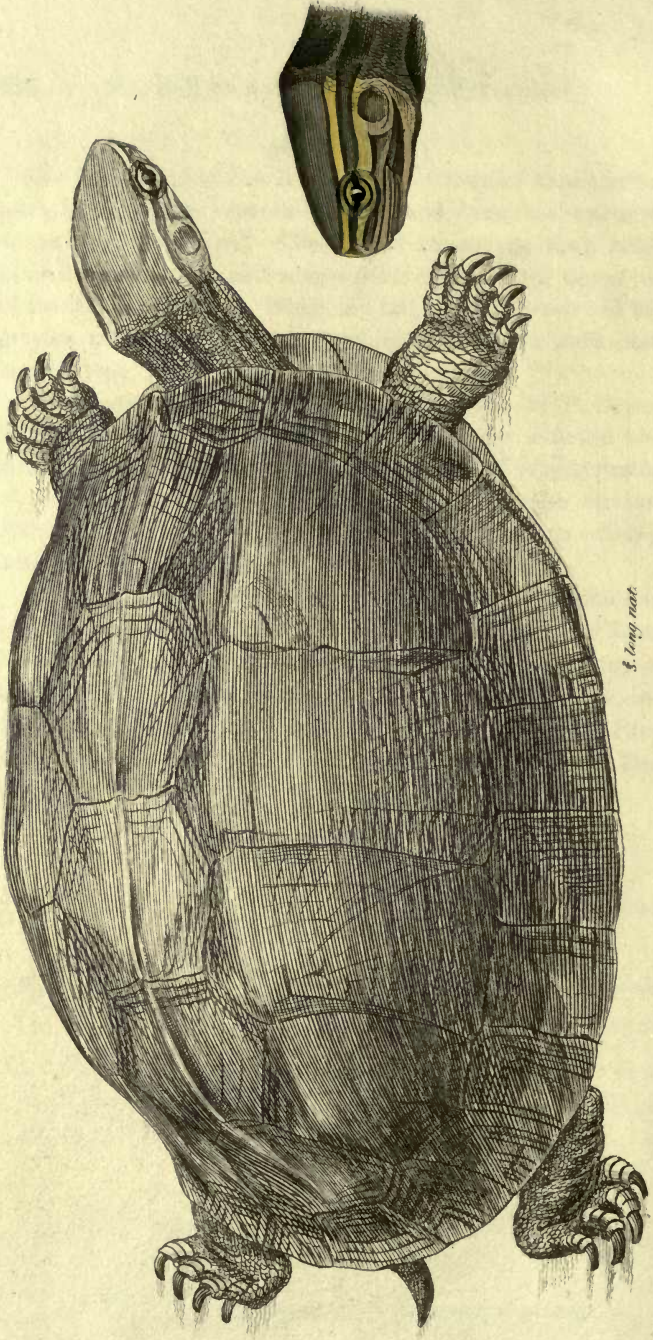
ART. LII. *Description of a new Species of TERRAPENE; with further Observations on T. CAROLINA and T. MACULATA.* By THOMAS BELL, Esq. F.L.S.

Fam. EMYDIDÆ.

Subfam. STERNOTHERINA. Bell.

Genus. TERRAPENE. Merr.

* The black tips probably indicate immaturity of plumage.



S. long. nat.

Terrapene bicolor. p. 484.

BICOLOR.—*T. testá glabrâ tricarinatâ, fuscâ ; sterni flavescentis squamis fusco unimaculatis.*

Habitat in Americâ septentrionali.

Mus. Nost.

Icon. Tab. xvi.

Description.

This species bears considerable resemblance to *T. maculata*, but it is distinctly tricarinated, grows to a much larger size, and totally differs from that species in colour. The scales of the back are smooth, with the area of each raised. The upper part of the head and neck is of a dull brown colour, as are also the feet, tail, and the whole of the upper shell. The under part of the head, with the plates of the sternum are of a pale yellowish colour, each of the latter having a broad dark coloured spot at the area. The head is even smaller than in the other species of the genus, although the animal is almost twice as large; it is marked with a yellow line on each side passing from the nostrils over the eyes to the beginning of the neck. The eyes are black and very small.

Inches.

Length of the upper shell	8..0
Breadth of ditto	5..5
Length of the sternum	6..5
Breadth of ditto	4..0
Height of the animal when at rest...	3..5

In its habits this Tortoise is excessively timid, remaining almost constantly within its shell, and if now and then it is surprized when walking, it instantly retreats within its box in which it afterwards remains closely concealed. In this respect it differs remarkably from those species which bear the nearest structural relation to it. Since the living specimen now in my possession came to my hands, my friend Mr. James de C. Sowerby has had the kindness to present me with a shell of the same species which he had living some years since; and these are the only two specimens I have seen or heard of. In this individual the sternum is very concave in the middle of the posterious valve; a structure

which is usually considered as characteristic of the male sex : but which is here proved not to be peculiar to it, at least in the subfamily of the box tortoises, as Mr. Sowerby informs me that two eggs were found in the body.

I have great satisfaction in being able in some measure to confirm the observations which I made in the last number of the Zoological Journal, respecting the distinct specific characters of the three species of *Terrapene*, previously confounded under the trivial name *Clausa*. I have now living a specimen of *T. maculata* and one of *T. Carolina*, which, while they retain the essential distinctions in the shell pointed out in the paper on the Box Tortoises, exemplify an equal difference in the markings and colours, as well as even in some measure in the structure and habits of the animals. In *T. maculata* the head, neck, and fore feet are of a bright scarlet spotted with black, and it is certainly one of the most shewy and beautiful animals of the order. The head is much larger, and the upper mandible more hooked, and projects farther beyond the under than in *T. Carolina*. The iris is of a brilliant scarlet with an inner rim of bright yellow, the two colours radiating as it were into each other ; the pupil black.

In *T. Carolina* on the other hand the general colour of the head and feet is a dull orange, obscurely marked with brown. The iris in this species is also scarlet, but of a deep hue and without the yellow ring. It is much more bold and active than the former, feeding readily on meat ; and I have known it even in its present unnatural and semidomestic state, attempt to pursue a frog round the room ; which is quite consistent with the habits assigned to it by Shaw. Edwards's description, which is very correct and complete, can only refer to this species, which leads me to believe that he was unacquainted with *T. maculata* and *T. nebulosa*.