

THE
ANIMAL KINGDOM

ARRANGED IN CONFORMITY WITH ITS
ORGANIZATION,

BY THE BARON CUVIER,

MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE OF FRANCE, &c. &c. &c.

WITH

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIONS

OF

ALL THE SPECIES HITHERTO NAMED, AND OF
MANY NOT BEFORE NOTICED,

BY

EDWARD GRIFFITH, F.L.S., A.S.,

CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF PHILADELPHIA, &c.

AND OTHERS.

VOLUME THE NINTH.

LONDON :
PRINTED FOR WHITTAKER, TREACHER, AND CO.
AVE-MARIA-LANE.

MDCCCXXI.

THE
CLASS REPTILIA

ARRANGED BY THE

BARON CUVIER,

WITH

SPECIFIC DESCRIPTIONS

BY

EDWARD GRIFFITH, F.L.S., A.S., &c.

AND

EDWARD PIDGEON, Esq.

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colours were of a lively yellow. The breast-plate was white, the head marked with yellow points, and the feet adorned with reddish striæ. Schœpff was assured that this tortoise was aquatic; that during summer it inhabits banks of earth, and that it conceals itself from the month of October in marshy places to pass the winter.

M. Daudin gives two varieties of the painted tortoise. The *cinereous tortoise* is only a young *picta*.

Among the more rare specimens of emys in the British Museum, are the following :

The *Lake Erie tortoise*; *Emys geographica* of Say and Lesueur. It is olive-brown, with numerous narrow dark-edged open lines on the back and margin; beneath it is yellow, with a narrow black line on the sutures of the sternal plates. The shell is ovate, smooth, and convex, with the back bluntly carinated; the sternal-plate, sterno-costal suture, and the margin, have irregular lines of different breadths; the head and limbs have numerous narrow lines, and there is a subtriangular patch on each temple. Its name sufficiently indicates its locality.

The *Emys occipitatis*, so named by Mr. Gray, appears to be hitherto unnoticed. That gentleman thus describes it:—Shell, ovate oblong, smooth, rather convex, and very obscurely and bluntly keeled, doubly indented behind; dark brown, varied with broad and narrow pale lines; those of the vertebral plates somewhat ringed, diverging on the costal ala; the margin has a series of square, pale-ringed black spots, placed on the suture, and each spot occupying half a plate. The first vertebral plate squarish; the others broad, hexangular; palish yellow, with a large black ring on each plate, with a blackish eye-like spot on each suture of the marginal plate, and a long ring-formed spot at each end of the sterno-costal suture.

In Mr. Bell's collection, and, we believe, also in that of the

Zoological Society, is a very beautiful little emys, named, by that gentleman or by Mr. Gray, *E. ornata*, which is extremely small, though evidently young. The shell is oblong and rugose; the costal and marginal shields have each a central dot, surrounded by a dark-edged pale ring; the vertebral plates have rings less regular than the others—the first is urceolate, and the second and third long and hexagonal. The marginal plates have also eye-like spots and rings; the shield is fine green, with the spots and rings yellow; the head is yellowish, lined with orange streaks: beneath it is yellow, with dark lines.

We have engraved a figure from Mr. Bell's valuable collection of another *emys*, which is named in his MSS. *E. decussata*. It may, however, be allied to the *E. serrata* of Daudin. The shell is oblong and bluntly carinated. The first vertebral plate is nearly square, but rounded at the sides, and the rest are subquadrangular. The shell is uniformly pale brown; the shield irregularly and concentrically grooved beneath; yellow, convex, with a spot on each end of the sterno-costal suture, and a round spot on the suture of the marginal plates. The animal is greenish, with the cheeks and chin palely streaked. Mr. Gray has seen several specimens of this species.

The *Mud Tortoise* of Shaw, *Emys lutaria*, is remarkable for exhibiting so great difference during its non-age from the adult state. In the former, its shell has three distinct ridges or keels passing from front to rear, and is otherwise irregular in the surface; whereas in the latter it is smooth, with a single, very blunt keel. The colour is olive, varied with dark edged orange spots.

Mr. Bell, as we have seen in the text, distinguishes a group of tortoises, principally by length of neck, under the head Hydraspis. The long-necked tortoise (*Em. longicollis*) of Shaw, is among these. It is a native of New