

ginal row form more prominent points in *Eretmochelys imbricata* than in *Eretmochelys squamata*. Less marked differences are further observed in the form of the different scales, all of which coincide to show that the *Eretmochelys* of the Atlantic and of the Pacific Oceans are distinct species.

III. THALASSOCHELYS, *Fitz.*

The genus *Thalassochelys* was established by Fitzinger, in his systematic arrangement of the Testudinata.¹ The head is low, broad, and flat on top; its upper surface descends but little forward, and the nose is placed high, which is made necessary by the height to which the roof of the mouth is raised under it. The mouth is broad; the jaws are prolonged at the front end toward one another to strong, pointed beaks, but they are not drawn out forward, as in *Eretmochelys*. The outer edge of the upper jaw rises on either side of the pointed beak, and then curves down under the eye. The vertical inner surface of this jaw is very broad at the hind end; it narrows forward to about midway, and then again widens to the front end, where it is broadest. The horny surface of the roof of the mouth is high at the hind end; it curves down thence to about midway, and then rises again to the front end, where it is highest. This curve from end to end is uninterrupted at the outer edge; but from this edge the surface descends inward and backward for some distance, then suddenly rises, like a step in a staircase, and then again curves up gradually inward and backward to its hind edge. The part in front of the step can hardly be called a furrow, or its inner edge a ridge, for it descends gently, and comprises about half of the whole horny roof; there is a depression in its inner edge at the symphysis; on either side of this depression, it has more than half the width of the whole horny surface. It narrows backward, and before reaching its hind end unites imperceptibly with the part in front of the step. It has a pit at the front end of the symphysis. The lower jaw is high at the angle, and at the front end is drawn out to a long, strong point, which is still higher than the angle. The outer alveolar edge, from the angle to the point, is deeply concave. The alveolar surface descends steeply inward, is very broad at the symphysis, and narrows backward to the angle. At its inner edge it rises to a small ridge, and from the crest of the ridge it descends steeply and on one

¹ Entwurf einer Syst. Anordn. der Schildkröten. Ann. des Wiener Museums, 1836, 4to. It is maintained in the Syst. Amph. of 1843, and adopted by J.

E. Gray in the Cat. Brit. Mus. 1844, under the new name of *Cnomam*. Duméril and Bibron consider this genus simply as a sub-genus of *Chelonia*.