

entirely inaccessible. I intended sinking a steel-trap, baited with beef, to secure this sagacious old fellow, but my removal to the city side of the Colorado probably saved his life; and I have but little doubt he yet lives and thrives upon the numerous fishes I left with him. If these two turtles made a nest or deposited their eggs while I had charge of them, I never discovered it. They kept all their love for one another, and their domestic affairs, a profound secret from their master. This species has a strong musky smell."

A comparison of the young, (Pl. 5, fig. 23-27,) and of the eggs, (Pl. 7, fig. 27,) with those of *Chelydra serpentina*, (Pl. 4, fig. 13-16; Pl. 5, fig. 18, 19, and Pl. 7, fig. 24-26,) will suffice to show the difference between these two remarkable Turtles. The color of *Gypochelys lacertina* varies from a light reddish or yellowish brown to an almost black tint.

II. CHELYDRA, *Schw.*

The head is smaller in *Chelydra* than in *Gypochelys*, the difference lying mostly in the relative size of the muscles which move the jaw, for the mouth is much broader here than in *Gypochelys*. The upper surface does not, as in *Gypochelys*, make an angle and lessen its descent in passing forward to the region of the eyes, but continues with one slope from the hind to the front end. The bony covering of the head, back of the eyes, is a low, flattened arch, spread out widely below, the sides making a very slight angle with the upper surface. The head widens downward also at the region of the eyes, and the orbits are near together at their upper edges and wide apart below, so that the eyes look upward as well as forward and sidewise. The upper and hind edges of the orbits project considerably beyond the skull, just between and behind them. The spreading apart downward of the sides of the front part of the head makes the mouth very broad. The nasal region is short, not high and flattened sidewise, as in *Gypochelys*, but rounded and conical, with the front end truncated. The outer surface of the jaw, at the front end, slants backward from the nose to the alveolar edge. The alveolar edge is prolonged downward at the symphysis to a small point; and on each side of the point the curve of the sides of the nasal region is continued down to the edge, and makes a short depression in it: the edge curves down only slightly under the eye. The pit, in the alveolar surface at the front end, is very small. The pterygoids are broad between the muscles of the jaw. The lower jaw, like the upper one, is spread wider, and is lower and not so strong, as in *Gypochelys*. Its alveolar edge is pointed at the symphysis; but the point is very small, and reaches no higher than the coronal angle. The ridges along the carapace are here less developed