

4th. *The Mexican Fauna.* I have to mention this Fauna on account of its extension into the boundaries of the United States. Among its characteristic Testudinata found along the Rio Grande, the most remarkable are *Xerobates Berlandieri* and *Aspidonectes Emoryi*. *Platythyra flavescens* extends further north, even as far as Arkansas, while *Thyrosternum sonoriense* occurs further west, in Sonora. The Turtles of Cuba, as far as I know them, differ specifically from those of this and the preceding Fauna.

5th. *The Californian Fauna* has a wide range from north to south, beginning at the straits of Juan de Fuca and extending to the Gulf of California, and yet over this whole extent of country only a single Turtle is found, *Actinemys marmorata*; for it is not true, that the Galapago Turtle occurs also in California in a wild state; and the existence of a distinct species of *Cinosternum* on that side of our continent appears very doubtful to me. (Comp. p. 429.)

There is a very striking resemblance with what obtains in Europe in this scarcity of Testudinata in California, contrasted with their extraordinary diversity and great number on the eastern side of the continent. This, again, recalls their profusion in eastern Asia; so that, even with reference to the special geographical distribution of the Testudinata, the great laws that obtain with regard to the similarity and differences of the continents are fully confirmed.

After what has just been stated, it is hardly necessary to call especial attention to the fact, that, upon a map representing the geographical distribution of the Testudinata in North America, the whole table-land between the Sierra Nevada of California and the Rocky Mountains, as well as the eastern slope of the latter, down to the Great American Desert, would be left entirely blank, not a single species of Turtles extending over any part of this extensive tract of land. It would be a mistake, however, to infer, from this fact, that these animals are excluded from mountainous regions. In the range of the Alleghanies there are many species, which ascend to the height of several thousand feet, and among those that reach the greatest heights are *Cistudo virginea*, *Chelydra serpentina*, and a species of *Aspidonectes*, probably *Asp. nuchalis* (comp. p. 406); but I regret that I am unable to give the absolute height with any degree of accuracy.