

acutus, *Cuv.*) ; their colour was dark-green on the back, and white below the belly, with yellow spots on the flanks. I counted, as in all the real crocodiles, thirty-eight teeth in the upper jaw, and thirty in the lower ; in the former, the tenth and ninth ; and in the latter, the first and fourth, were the largest. In the description made by M. Bonpland and myself, on the spot, we have expressly marked that the lower fourth tooth rises over the upper jaw. The posterior extremities were palmated. These crocodiles of Batabano appeared to us to be specifically identical with the *Crocodylus acutus*. It is true that the accounts we heard of their habits did not quite agree with what we had ourselves observed on the Orinoco ; but carnivorous reptiles of the same species are milder and more timid, or fiercer and more courageous, in the same river, according to the nature of the localities. The animal called the cayman, at Batabano, died on the way, and was not brought to us, so that we could make no comparison of the two species.* I have no doubt that the crocodile with a sharp snout, and the alligator or cayman with a snout like a pike,† inhabit together, but in distinct bands, the marshy coast between Xagua, the Surgidero of Batabano, and the island of Pinos. In that island Dampier was struck with the great difference between the caymans and the American crocodiles. After having described, though not always with perfect correctness, several of the characteristics which distinguish crocodiles from caymans, he traces the geographical distribution of those enormous saurians. "In the bay of Campeachy," he says, "I saw only caymans or alligators ; at the island of Great Cayman, there are crocodiles and no alligators ; at the island of Pinos, and in the innumerable creeks of the coast

* The four bags filled with musk (*bolzas del almizcle*) are, in the crocodile of Batabano, exactly in the same position as in that of the Rio Magdalena, beneath the lower jaw and near the anus. I was much surprised at not perceiving the smell of musk at the Havannah, three days after the death of the animal, in a temperature of 30°, while at Mompo, on the banks of the Magdalena, living crocodiles infected our apartment. I have since found, that Dampier also remarked "an absence of smell in the crocodile of Cuba, where the caymans spread a very strong smell of musk."

† *Crocodylus acutus* of San Domingo. *Alligator lucius* of Florida and the Mississippi.