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HERPETOLOGICAL NOTES FROM KANSAS AND TEXAS.

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Terrapene ornata, Ag., var. nov. *cimarronensis*.—I would propose this name for what appears to be merely a color variety of *T. ornata* in which the ordinarily yellow parts on the limbs and neck are replaced by bright red. This variety, with which I have been acquainted for some ten years, is common over most of the western half of Kansas and Oklahoma. In west-central and northwestern Kansas, it partly, and in the southern tier of Kansas counties from Barber westward almost if not quite supplants the typical variety. I have observed a single specimen in southeastern Colorado, about midway between Kansas and the mountains. The peculiar home of the variety is apparently the "Red beds" country of the Cimarron basin, upon whose red terranes it may possibly have had its origin, afterwards extending its range by migration.

Apropos of the western range of *Terrapene*, it would seem that it falls a little short of the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. Prof. Geo. H. Stone states that, in his twelve years of residence here, he has never observed it in the vicinity of Colorado Springs. Prof. William Strieby, who resided for two years at Santa Fé, states that he has observed a single specimen of the box-tortoise in New Mexico, though he does not now remember the exact locality.

The Three-toed Box-tortoise, *Terrapene triunguis*, Ag., seems not to have been recorded from Texas, though it is known from Indian Territory and Louisiana, so that its occurrence in Texas is not unexpected.

I am indebted to Mr. G. H. Ragsdale for several specimens of this species which are now before me from Gainesville, Texas, which is apparently the most westerly locality known for its occurrence. That it will be found yet a little further west in the valley of the Red river, is not improbable.

At Gainesville, as doubtless in Indian Territory, the range of this species and that of *T. ornata*, Ag., overlap. The *T. triunguis*, however, keeps mainly to the more or less wooded bottom-lands, as Mr. Ragsdale informs me, while *T. ornata*, chiefly an open prairie species, is sometimes found in the timber also.

The specimens of *triunguis* from Gainesville are larger than those of *ornata* from the same place: and the high, rounded carapace, with broad, flat, yet abruptly elevated carina on the third and fourth vertebral scutes and bones (usually seen also on the posterior part of the second), the much less transverse second to fourth vertebral scutes, the greyish olive-brown color, sometimes relieved by ornata-like, dark and yellow subradial markings especially upon the eccentric place of origin of the concentric imbrications, the more depressed skull and orbit and consequently more obliquely placed jugal bone, the possession of three claws only on each posterior foot, and the essentially woodland habit, are all peculiarities which distinguish the former species, as from the latter. Both the fore and the hind limbs of the only present example in which the skeleton is preserved have the phalanges 2, 3, 3, 2, 1, those of the fourth and fifth digits of the hind limb being rudimentary and these digits without claws.

I am also indebted to Mr. Ragsdale for a shell and skull of the Keeled Mud-turtle, *Goniochelys carinata*, Gray, and the same of *Chrysemys elegans*, Wied., which he collected in Elm Fork of the Trinity river at Gainesville.

Gerrhonotus infernalis, Baird.—Cope has recorded this species from Helotes creek, near San Antonio, and from Wichita county, Texas. It is common in Hays and in the western part of Travis county. In the summer of 1893, I observed it in the Cross-Timbers, between Roanoke and Lewisville, extending its known range somewhat eastward.

The little burrowing snake, *Stenostoma dulce*, B. & G., almost the sole representative of the family *Typhlopidae* in the United States, was also taken in the Cross-Timbers, at a

point about five miles west of Lewisville, considerably northeast of the most northeastern record with which I am acquainted (Bexar and Erath counties: Cope).

A red and black example of *Contia episcopa isozona*, Cope, was captured in the road a few miles west of Sun City, Kansas, on the point of the divide between Medicine Lodge river and Elk creek, and was sent to me several years since by Mr. Wm. A. Sherrill. Of the several phases described from western territories by Cope in the *Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences*, this specimen most resembles, and indeed almost precisely tallies with that from Utah. I may remark in this connection that, of a small collection of reptiles which I received a few years ago, through Mr. John Pym, from southwestern Utah, *all* were, to my surprise, species common in Kansas.

In September, 1886, coming down the valley of the Cimarron river from New Mexico, I first noticed the little Sonoran toad, *Bufo debilis*, Girard, near the Z H ranch in the Public Lands (now Beaver county, Oklahoma), at a point thirty-five or forty miles west of the southwest corner of Kansas. The species was observed a few days later in great abundance and activity (during rainy weather) in Morton county, Kansas, and in the southern part of Hamilton county. I have collected a single specimen in the western part of Barber county, Kansas, also.