

*Damonia oblonga*, a new Species of Freshwater Tortoise.

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S.

We have lately purchased of Mr. Edward Gerrard, jun., a specimen of a freshwater tortoise which he received from Batavia.

It is very like *Damonia macrocephala*, from Siam and Cambogia, but differs in being of a narrower oblong form and having very differently shaped shields over the vertebral line, and in the shell being of a more uniform black colour, especially on the underside.

*Damonia oblonga*.

Shell oblong, elongate, scarcely wider behind; back convex, black, obscurely 3-keeled, the lateral keels being on the upper edge of the costal plates; first vertebral shield longer than broad, urn-shaped—that is, contracted on the front part of the sides; the second nearly quadrangular, as long as broad, slightly angled on the sides; third and fourth hexangular, the fourth rather broader than long, and very narrow behind. Sternum flat, high, and keeled on the sides, black except where worn. Head very large, flat at the top, blackish brown, with a pale streak from above the nostril, continued over the orbit, becoming wider over the temple, and continued along the side of the neck; nose with three perpendicular streaks on each side, the outer ones continued below into a broader streak extending along the side of the jaw under the orbit to the angle of the mouth and on to the neck; under edge of the lower beak and of the shields on the side of the chin pale-edged. Head covered with thin smooth shields, one large plate extending from the nose to the occiput, with small subsymmetrical shields behind it, the shields on the side of the head being largest; a large temporal shield on each side extending from the back edge of the orbit to the front edge of the temple and the angle of the jaw; lower eyelid large, smooth, with two thin band-like plates.

The yellow lines under the nostrils are very similar to those in our largest specimen of *Damonia macrocephala*; but our smaller one of that species has only two perpendicular lines under the nostrils; so that probably the lines in this species also vary in this respect. The head-shields of the two species are very similar; indeed there is no doubt these species are very nearly allied; but they differ considerably in the dorsal shields and general colouring and form of the thorax. The first costal shield elongate, much larger than the same shield in *D. macrocephala*.

*Delphinus microps*.

Mr. Kreff has sent a photograph of the animal and skull of this species. He observes that the animal, which has not been before described or observed, is marked on the skin exactly like the figure of *D. Forsteri* in the 'Voyage of the Erebus and Terror,' from Forster's drawing in the Banksian Library. There is a darker stripe from the head to the fin: and the animal is about 8 feet long.—J. E. G.