

it entire to the new museum at Oxford, where it now is. Amongst the specimens included are those which formed the subjects figured in my work on the Testudinata. I have to add that the few duplicates (for such they were) of the shells of tortoises at Cambridge are, most of them, of common occurrence in collections.

THOMAS BELL.

*On Spatulemys Lasalea, a new Genus of Hydraspidæ from Rio Parana, Corrientes.* By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

Colonel P. Perez de Lasala has kindly presented to the Museum a water-tortoise from Rio Parana, Corrientes, which has not been recorded in scientific catalogues. It differs from *Hydraspis* in the general form of the head and thorax, and in the head being entirely covered with small shields. It is like *Hydromedusa* in many particulars, especially in the thorax of one sex at least being concave; but it has a regular small nuchal plate.

#### SPATULEMYS.

Thorax oblong, elongate, depressed, with a distinct elongate nuchal plate. First vertebral plate very broad; second, third, and fourth longer than broad; anterior marginal plates broad; the second and ninth largest, angular above. The sternum elongate, broad and rounded in front, deeply notched behind; gular plate large, marginal. Head broad, depressed, entirely covered with small polygonal shields; forehead convex, rhombic, with a broad flat crown between the very large temporal muscles; chin with two beards; mouth broad and rounded in front. The two outer hinder claws very small, rudimentary. Tail conical. Sternum in male (?) slightly concave, especially behind.

#### *Spatulemys Lasalea.*

Shell above olive, nearly uniform, with a few small black spots on the margin, which are more abundant and larger on the hinder plates. Thorax and underside of margin pale, with symmetrical black spots, which are largest on the front and sides of thorax. Length of thorax 15 in., breadth  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in.; length of head  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in.

*Hab.* Rio Parana, Corrientes (Colonel P. Perez de Lasala, November 5, 1872).

*Observations on the Metamorphoses of the Bony Fishes in general, and especially on those of a small Chinese Fish, of the Genus Macropoda, recently introduced into France.* By M. N. JOLY.

In a letter addressed to M. H. Milne-Edwards on the 24th of December 1864, M. Agassiz expressed himself as follows:—"I have lately observed among fishes metamorphoses as considerable as those which are known among reptiles. Now-a-days, when pisciculture is pursued with such success and on so large a scale, it is surprising that this fact has not long since been observed"\*.

\* See Ann. des Sci. Nat. 5<sup>e</sup> sér. tom. iii. p. 55.