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ON A NEW LAND-TORTOISE FROM THE GALAPAGOS
ISLANDS.

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Testudo becki sp. nov.

THIS species is intermediate between *T. abingdoni* and *T. ephippium*. It has the strongly compressed and elevated front of the carapace of *T. abingdoni*, while it has the broad and declivous hind-part of the carapace of *T. ephippium*; but it differs from both in being even wider, in proportion, across the carapace than *T. ephippium*, and in the fact that the declivity behind begins at the fourth vertebral plate, instead of abruptly at the fifth and last. Though the raised front of the carapace is more like that of *T. abingdoni*, it is not so strongly compressed and developed. The front marginal plates are more strongly recurved and somewhat more concave than in *T. abingdoni*.

Length of carapace, 1030 mm. (= 40.75 in.); greatest width 1010 mm. (= 40 in.); width above hindlegs 695 mm. (= 27.6 in.). The osteological characters cannot be described until the skin is relaxed and the bones taken out.

Hab. Cape Berkeley, northern point of Albemarle Island, Galapagos Archipelago, where the type has been collected by Mr. R. H. Beck, in whose honour it is named.

The discovery of this new form of Tortoise is of the greatest interest, because it demonstrates the presence, not only of a third species of Giant Land Tortoise on Albemarle Island, but also a tortoise of a type totally different from the other two species. While *Testudo vicina* and *T. microphyes* are round and in appearance somewhat similar to *T. gigantea* of Aldabra, this new species is of the type of *T. ephippium* and *T. abingdoni*, so appropriately likened to a Spanish saddle by Captain Porter.

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