TABLE,

SHOWING THE SUCCESSIVE CHANGES IN THE RELATIVE DIMENSIONS OF THE BODY IN EMYDOIDÆ.

Species.	Age.	Sex.	Height of the Box.	Dorsal Shield.		Ventral Shield.		Length of the Tail.
				Length.	Breadth in the Middle.	Length.	Breadth in the Middle.	
Emys picta,	Second year.[1]		12 Mil.	26½	25	25	18	16½
Auct. Now	Third year.	Male.	17	42	39½	37	24	17½
Chrysemys	Fourth year.	Female.	21½	51	49	44	37½	20½
picta, *Gray.*	Fifth year.	Female.	23½	54	51	50	39	21½
	Sixth year.	Female.	25	59	56	54	42½	23½
	Seventh year.[2]	Male.	26½	66	60	60	47	26
	Seventh year.	Male.	27	67	60	60	47½	26½
	Eighth year.	Male.	28	72½	61	68	50	27½
	Ninth year.	Male.	28	74	62	70	50	27½
	Tenth year.	Male.	30	77	64	73	53½	28
	Eleventh year.	Male.	30	80	67	76	54	28½
	Fourteenth year.	Male.	33	92	74½	85	60	28½
	Twenty-fifth year.	Female.	43	121	92	113	80	34
	Old.	Female.	47	129	96	120½	81	37
	Very old.	Female.	59	163	113	154	95	53
Chrysemys	Sixth year.	Male.	29	68	59	63	47	27
(Emys)	Old.	Male.	35	99	77	92	63	40
Bellii, *Gray.*	Very old.	Female.	59	155	110	145	93	50

There is another feature which, though of less importance, still allows a generalization worth mentioning, I mean the change of color in Turtles of different

[1] As Turtles lay their eggs in the spring, the specimens selected for examination were all collected in the spring; the starting point of comparison is, therefore, really the second year of their development. However, as the eclosion takes place only late in the summer, the young had only been hatched six months when picked up, though they are considered here as one year old, on account of the long period of incubation. Moreover, there is very little difference between specimens recently hatched and those collected the following spring.

[2] After the seventh year, it is much more difficult to distinguish the age of those Turtles, which, like Chrysemys picta, have a perfectly smooth epidermis, than during the earlier years. I have, however, been able to determine it with tolerable precision, by collecting large numbers of specimens at the same time and in the same season, and assorting them according to their size, and comparing the sets thus formed with specimens of other species, in which the successive lines of growth indicate the number of their years. During the first six or seven years the rate of growth is so uniform that numerous specimens collected at the same time are readily arranged in sets of the same age, simply by the difference they show in their size.