

either one continuous broad blade, or a club-shaped stump, terminating in flat, spade-like nails. The pelvis is long from the sacrum downward, and short from behind forward, over the pubis and ischium; it is wider across the hip joints than across the sacrum. It will be noticed, that the dimensions of the pelvis and shoulder apparatus agree with the proportions of their regions of the body, which are both high and short. The bones of the feet and ankles are short and close together, the last joint of the four inner toes only protruding free; these joints are covered with sharp nails, narrower and more pointed than those of the fore feet. There is little movement between the bones of the feet and ankles upon one another, or upon the end of the foreleg; the foot is turned forward at the ankle, and the nails turned down; and, when the muscles and skin are attached, the whole limb below the knee is club-shaped, largest at the bottom, resting on a flat, round base, and having four nails protruding forward and downward from the front part of its lower edge.

The end and sides of the front part of the head are high. The nasal region is broad, and the eyes wide apart. The nasal cavity reaches back, at the top, with its whole width, to the brain cavity, which is also wide here, and the two are separated from one another by a thin, narrow strip of bone, which is perforated by the foramen olfactorium; below this narrow strip the prefrontals do not meet, and there is a large round opening between them, above the vomer. These two cavities fill the upper part of the wide space between the eyes, but below they recede from one another, and the space between them is filled by the palate, which is raised high up at its back end, and continues so to the prefrontals, arching somewhat on the way. The alveolar margin is turned directly downward, and terminates in a sharp edge; the alveolar surface within is occupied by two other ridges, and the intervening furrows; one of the ridges on the inner edge, and one between it and the outer. The lower jaw is high, its alveolar surface narrow, with sharp edges, and both turned up so as to leave a trough between, which, when the jaws are closed, fits on to the middle ridge of the upper jaw. The front wall of the ear cavity does not reach so far forward, at its outer edge, as in the Emydoidæ. The mastoids are short and blunt, and reach no further back than the occipital condyle, so that the hind part of the head is broad and flattened.

The shield is entirely covered, on the outside, with epidermal scales, and the skin is everywhere more or less protected with them; and on the most exposed parts they are thick and stiff, and form a continuous hard covering, much more impenetrable than in the Emydoidæ. The parts thus protected are the top and sides of the head, the front surface and the edges of the front legs, from the elbow down to the finger nails, and up a little way toward the shoulders, the bottom