

The characteristic peculiarities of the eggs of the Cinosternoidæ have already been mentioned (p. 350). Those of *Thyrosternum pennsylvanicum* are represented Pl. 7, fig. 1-6; those of *Ozotheca odorata*, fig. 7-9.

In the young *Ozotheca odorata*, and still more in the young *Thyrosternum pennsylvanicum*, the characteristic features and forms of the family are already so fully developed during the first year, that we can hardly point out any change in their forms, from young to adult. This holds good, not only for the general proportions and outlines of the upper and lower shield, the feet, and the tail, but also for the scales. In the adult Emydoidæ, as well as in the Cinosternoidæ, the median scales of the carapace are generally narrower than the costal ones. This is already fully the case in all Cinosternoidæ, at the time of hatching; while in Emydoidæ exactly the reverse obtains. (See p. 293, note 1, for a description of the young *Chrysenys*, and also Pl. 4 and 5.) In *Thyrosternum*, *Platythyræ* and *Ozotheca*, the median scales of the back are, from the first year, not broader than long; while in Emyds they are at least twice, and often three times as broad during the first year as later in life. This peculiarity no doubt contributes to give them an oldish appearance from the beginning. There is another feature which makes the young Cinosternoidæ look old: the rounded margin of the carapace and its steep curve behind, which are already fully marked, during the first year, in *Thyrosternum* and *Platythyræ*. The sharper margin and the less prominent curve, which characterize *Ozotheca* in contradistinction to *Cinosternon*, are likewise strongly marked in the young *Ozotheca*, even more strongly than in the adult. Moreover, the tail has the same proportions from the first year to adult age. As the Cinosternoidæ are walking Turtles, living in mud like the Chelydroidæ, they do not need a long and high tail as a rudder. Notwithstanding this early development of the prominent features of these Turtles, we have to point out one interesting change in the Ozothecoids. When young, they are all high and carinated. These characters are brought out most fully in *Goniochelys triquetra*; while *Ozotheca odorata*, which, when young, shows the same height and the same keel on the back, grows more and more flat in course of time.

The family of Cinosternoidæ is composed of two well defined groups. In one, the true Cinosternoids, the plastron is large, and underlies nearly the whole body; the bridges which connect it with the carapace are long, and the first and fourth pairs of its bony plates are broad and rounded, and connected with the intermediate pairs by very flexible hinges. Thus the spaces around the free edges of the plastron are small, and, when the animal withdraws and raises the ends of the plastron, the soft parts of the body are almost entirely protected. In the other group, the Ozothecoids, the plastron is smaller; the bridges are shorter,