

sent to me by the Rev. Thomas S. Savage of Pass Christian, the Rev. Edw. Fontaine of Austin, Mr. W. Sargent of Natchez, and Mr. Jenks of Middleboro', are among the most valuable of the kind I have received; and to Mr. Jenks I am indebted for most of the eggs the development of which I have been able to trace. For a number of years he has provided me annually with many hundreds of eggs, of all our common species. I have also received many valuable invoices of eggs from Mr. T. W. P. Lewis, of Key West; from the Hon. J. Townsend, of Edisto, in South Carolina; from Dr. Jolin Rauch, of Burlington, Iowa; from Franklin C. Hill, of Logansport, Indiana; from Dr. Michener, of Arondale, in Pennsylvania; from Mr. Winthrop Sargent, of Natchez; from Mr. Eppes, of Tallahassee; from Dr. Nott, of Mobile; from Prof. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution; from the late Rev. Z. Thompson, of Burlington, Vermont; from Dr. A. Sager, of Ann Arbor; from Major and Dr. LeConte, of Philadelphia; from Dr. Hoy, of Racine; from the late Dr. Burnett, of Boston; from Mr. Sanborn Tenney, of Auburndale; and from a number of intelligent boys of the vicinity of Cambridge. I have myself obtained many rare eggs from species kept alive in my garden, and raised a large number of young Turtles.

It may not be superfluous to state, that most of these specimens were sent alive to Cambridge, so that I had the amplest opportunity of studying their natural attitudes, their modes of moving and of eating, and sometimes the manner in which they lay their eggs. I have of course availed myself of these favorable circumstances to examine and compare the largest possible numbers of specimens of the same species, in order to determine the range of variations of each of them. There are many species, of which I have examined many hundreds of specimens. I have also caused innumerable drawings of these specimens to be made by my tried friend, J. Burkhardt, representing their varieties of color and form, and their different attitudes. These drawings and sketches would fill over one hundred plates, and are too numerous to be published in this series; but I shall avail myself of every opportunity to publish them, in the style of Plates 26 and 27. Minor contributions are mentioned, in their proper places, in the text.

There is another kind of assistance, which I take great satisfaction in recording, as it comes from young friends and former pupils. Among them there is one, a lineal descendant of one of the great patriots of the American Revolution, whose modesty forbids that I should mention him by name. On hearing of my intention to publish a work on the Natural History of the United States, he immediately came forward with a most liberal pecuniary contribution to my undertaking. From other pupils I have derived assistance in the prosecution of the work itself. Mr. James E. Mills, of Bangor, (Maine,) has worked out for me the special characters of the families of the Testudinata; and Dr. Weinland has helped me in revising the anatomical characters of the order, in accordance with the principles laid down in the First Part of the work; while Mr. H. James Clark has assisted me from the beginning of my investigation of the embryology of these animals, and drawn, with