

found in many parts of America; but is very seldom to be seen. It is of a middle size, and receives its name from a thorn-like dart in its tail, with which it is said to inflict a mortal wound.

The **SPECKLED SNAKE** is an aqueous reptile about two feet and an half in length, but without venom. Its skin which is brown and white, with some spots of yellow in it, is used by the Americans as a cover for the handles of whips, and it renders them pleasing to the sight.

The **RING SNAKE** is about twelve inches long; the body of it is entirely black, except a yellow ring which it has about its neck, and which appears like a narrow piece of riband tied round it. This odd reptile is frequently found in the bark of trees and among old logs.

The **TWO HEADED SNAKE**. The only snake of this kind that was ever seen in America, was found about the year 1762, near lake Champlain, by Mr. Park, a gentleman of New England, and made a present to lord Amherst. It was about a foot long, and in shape like the common snake, but it was furnished, with two heads exactly similar, which united at the neck. Whether this was a distinct species of snakes, and was able to propagate its likeness, or whether it was an accidental formation, I know not.

The **TORTOISE** or **LAND TURTLE**. The shape of this creature is so well known that it is unnecessary to describe it. There are seven or eight sorts of them in America, some of which are beautifully variegated, even beyond description. The shells of many have spots of red, green, and yellow in them, and the chequer work, is composed of small squares curiously disposed. The most beautiful sort of these creatures are the smallest, and the bite of them is said to be venomous.

LIZARDS, &c.

Though there are numerous kinds of this class of the