

North America shortly after the establishment of the Late Cenozoic land bridge between the two continents, and that chlamytheres evidently continued to evolve in Florida and the Gulf Coastal Province throughout the Pleistocene.

Three hypotheses can be offered regarding the Pleistocene zoogeography and evolution of the chlamytheres. The first suggests that from a common *Kraglievichia* origin North and South American Pleistocene chlamytheres had separate but parallel histories. If so, *Holmesina* would be the correct name for the later North American chlamythere.

A second hypothesis suggests that *Kraglievichia* spread from South America into North America near the end of the Pliocene, after which it became extinct in South America. This would account for the absence of chlamythere records in the Early Pleistocene of South America. (A dermal plate that was questionably attributed to the Chapadmalalan stage by Kraglievich [1934] actually came from a locality near the major deposit, and its horizon is unknown. Since each chlamythere shell produces a high number of bony plates, they are usually abundant if present at all.) Later in the Pleistocene, then, *Pampatherium* spread back into South America.

The third hypothesis suggests that chlamytheres were continuously distributed through tropical America during most of the Pleistocene. Thus the evolution of *Pampatherium* from *Kraglievichia* was a single continuous event that spread through populations from the Gulf Coastal region and mesoamerican parts of North America into the northern parts of South America. The absence of Early Pleistocene deposits in tropical South America makes it difficult to test this hypothesis. This last hypothesis, here favored, may be partly tested by careful comparisons of later Pleistocene chlamytheres.

Dasypus bellus SIMPSON 1929

MATERIAL.—UF 16698: left nasal, right maxilla and mandible, right astragalus, and 51 isolated dermal plates from Haile XV A; UF 10449: right ulna from Santa Fe IA.

The dentigerous specimens probably represent one individual, because they articulate closely. Most of the plates also were found closely associated. The present material has been compared with other specimens of *Dasypus bellus* and with its closest living relative, *Dasypus novemcinctus*. The only other known *D. bellus* specimens containing teeth are the excellent skeleton from Crankshaft Pit, Missouri (UK 15544; Oesch 1967), and a fragmentary jaw from Melbourne (Ray 1958). Comparisons have been made with postcranial material from numerous Pleistocene sites in Florida.