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XXI.—Description of a new species of *Seisura*

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- magnified 2 diameters. The dark line *c* indicates the boundary of the coral.
- Fig. 3.* Two of the upright supporting pillars, with a portion of the cortical layer or roof, showing the relationship of the pin-head or "spinulate" spicule, $\times 25$ linear.
- Fig. 4.* A group of the small acerate spicula which occur principally in the cortical and basal investing layers of the sarcodæ, $\times 100$ linear. *4 a*, a few $\times 250$ linear.
- Fig. 5.* One of the larger acerate spicula which enter into the construction of the upright supporting pillars, $\times 50$ linear.
- Fig. 6.* Spinulate spicula of the cortex: *a*, the ordinary form; *b*, upper portion of one with head somewhat depressed, $\times 60$ linear.
- Fig. 7.* "Palmato-inequianchorate" spicula of the sarcodæ, $\times 250$ linear. The top figure is an example in profile.
- Fig. 8.* *Fieldingia lagettooides*, in section, nat. size, showing the spherical bodies with their radiating fibres contained within.
- Fig. 9.* One of these bodies isolated, with the investing and radiating fibres $\times 15$ linear: at *a* and at various other parts the minute "rectangulated hexradiate" spicules are depicted.
- Fig. 10.* A smaller one attached to the inner layer of the cortex. The upper part of the figure illustrates the finer reticulated laminae of the cortex, while below is shown a looser reticulation which usually intervenes between the former and the coarser network of the internal cavity, $\times 10$ linear.
- Fig. 11.* A transverse section of a small spherule, illustrating the internal reticulated structure, $\times 40$ linear.
- Fig. 12.* An isolated fragment of this internal reticulation, $\times 100$ linear.
- Fig. 13.* The general cortex in transverse section, $\times 10$ linear.
- Figs. 14 & 15.* Fragments of the inner reticulated laminae, $\times 50$ linear.

XXI.—Description of a new *Species of Seisura*.

By JOHN GOULD, F.R.S.

Seisura nana, Gould.

Head glossy greenish black; back and tail the same, but somewhat lighter; wings brownish black, the secondaries with paler edges; under surface white, tinged with buff on the chest; bill and legs bluish lead-colour.

Total length 6 inches; bill $\frac{3}{4}$, wing $3\frac{3}{4}$, tail 3, tarsi $\frac{3}{4}$.

Habitat. Northern Australia.

Remark. In form and colouring this species is very similar to *Seisura volitans*; but it is so much smaller as to preclude the possibility of its being identical with that bird. It was received from Mr. Waterhouse of Adelaide, South Australia, accompanied by a *Limosa uropygialis* in the red or summer plumage, and some other species common to the northern part of the country.