A RARE SOLE FROM THE BAHAMAS

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The American Museum of Natural History is in receipt of a banded dextral sole collected in the Bahamas (Heilner). It was picked up on the shores of North Bimini Bay in March 1928, having either floated there dead or become stranded on a receding tide. It is at least close and presumably referable to Gymnachirus nudus Kaup, 1858, from Bahia, Brazil, a species that the writers have not seen, and which does not appear to be well known or anywhere common. In any event the specimen to hand, with a total length of 6 and standard of 4¾ inches, represents a fish as rare in North American waters as it is beautiful, and it will be advantageous to publish a figure herewith, drawn by Mrs. Louise Nash, with a few words of description as follows:

Fig. 1. Gymnachirus nudus Kaup, from the Bahamas.

Depth (without fins) in length (to base of caudal), 1.7; head, 4. Dorsal rays, 62; anal, 43; ventral, 5. The lateral line (plainly visible on blind side) runs almost straight. There are indications of very small, rudimentary scales on the colored side (though Gymnachirus is supposed to be quite scale-less). Pectoral fins are absent.