

ON THE BOWER OF THE EASTERN BOWER-BIRD,  
*CHLAMYDODERA ORIENTALIS*, GOULD.

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(Plate xxxii.)

In Part II of "Nests and Eggs of Birds found Breeding in Australia and Tasmania"<sup>1</sup> the bower and nest of this species are fully described, but I was unable to give a figure of the former. This want has now been supplied by Mr. A. Forsyth Smith, who has kindly lent the negative of a photograph of one of these structures, which he had taken in North-eastern Queensland, and has also supplied the following notes.

"This bower, or playground of *Chlamydodera orientalis*, I photographed on the 22nd December, 1901. It was built about eighty yards from the front of the homestead of Mungulla Station, about a mile from the sea-beach and opposite the Palm Islands, lying between Townsville and Lucinda Point. The land about here is very sandy and although there is a thick patch of forest country between the bower and the sea-beach it was built among a few straggling *Acacias*. Judging from memory, the walls of the structure which were formed of twigs, would be about three feet long and eighteen inches high. The decorations consisted of a collection of bones and land shells at each end, a few land shells also being placed in the centre of the floor of the structure. The place was much frequented by the black servants of the station, also by numbers of domestic fowls and turkeys, which eventually destroyed the bower. The drought, which may have caused this species to visit the coast, set in about September, 1901, and with the exception of some good rain in February, 1902, the drought did not thoroughly break up until after the visitation of the cyclone 'Leonta' in March, 1903, which wrecked Townsville and Bowen."

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<sup>1</sup> North—Nests and Eggs Bds. Aust. Tas., Austr. Mus. Spec. Cat. i., 2, 1902, p. 56.