

## SCHINZ'S SANDPIPER.

*Tringa Schinzii*, Bonap.

THROUGH the kindness of Sir Rowland Hill, Bart., we are enabled to add this species to the list of British Birds; a single specimen killed at Stoke Heath near Market Drayton, Shropshire, a few years since, is now in that gentleman's collection. We have compared the individual from which our figure is taken, with others killed in America, between which we could discover no difference. Its shorter bill and white rump will at all times serve to distinguish it from the other European members of the group. We believe that the continent of America is the true habitat of this species, and that its occurrence in England must be attributed to accidental causes.

M. Temminck has forwarded us specimens of the *Tringa Schinzii*, Brehm, which he informs us were received from M. Brehm himself. On examining these specimens we cannot however but express our misgivings as to their specific value, resembling as they do in every particular the Dunlin (*Tringa variabilis*) of our island: the only difference we could discover between M. Brehm's bird and examples of the Dunlin killed in England was that the former were rather smaller in size; but we doubt not that among the numerous examples of the Dunlin brought to our markets we could find males equally diminutive. The bird here represented, and which is very distinct from the Dunlin, has been considered by American naturalists as the *Tringa Schinzii* of Brehm, in consequence of which much confusion has arisen, which confusion will perhaps be removed by allowing the name of *Schinzii* to remain for the present bird, and consequently to be the *Tringa Schinzii* of Bonaparte and not of Brehm, whose bird we firmly believe to be synonymous with *Tringa variabilis*.

"They are," says Mr. Nuttall, "either seen in flocks by themselves or accompanying other Sandpipers, which they entirely resemble in their habits and food, frequenting marshy shores, and borders of lakes and brackish waters. They associate in the breeding-season, and are then by no means shy; but during autumn, accompanying different birds, they become wild and restless. Their voice resembles that of the Dunlin, but is more feeble; and they nest near their usual haunts." The eggs are four in number, smaller than those of the Dunlin, and of a yellowish grey spotted with olive or chestnut brown.

Crown of the head, neck, wings, and tail dark brown with paler margins; centre of the back and scapularies blackish brown tipped with pale brown and margined on each side with rufous; primaries dark brown, with white shafts; rump pure white; throat and all the under surface whitish; the lower part of the neck, breast, and flanks ornamented with numerous oblong spots of dark brown; bill and feet black.

Our figure is of the natural size.