## WILLOW LOCUSTELLE.

Locustelle luscinoïdes.

Sylvia luscinoïdes, Savi.

Le Bec-fin des saules.

This elegant little bird, the Sylvia luscinoïdes of Professor Savi, constitutes the third example, as far as is hitherto known, of the restricted genus Locustella, of which our Grasshopper Warbler is the British representative: it is confined to the southern regions of Europe, where it appears to be very limited in the range of its habitat. According to Professor Savi it arrives in Tuscany about the middle of April, taking refuge among the willows, reeds, and other luxuriant plants of marshy districts, which afford it a secure retreat. It readily admits of approach, may be seen among the lower branches near the ground, and also runs nimbly on the earth among the reeds.

Its food consists of insects and their larvæ.

The Locustella luscinoï des is one of the birds lately added to the Fauna of Europe, and we have yet to learn all that respects its nidification and winter retreat, which we may reasonably conclude is Africa.

Head, all the upper surface, and tail reddish brown, the latter almost imperceptibly barred with lines of a darker tint; throat whitish; stripe over the eye, sides of the neck, and all the under surface pale buff; bill dark brown; feet pale brown.

Our figure is taken from a specimen kindly lent to us for the purpose, by the Directors of the Imperial Cabinet at Vienna, and represents the bird of the natural size.

The state of the s