

"Temminck states that the White-winged Marsh-Tern frequents the bays and inlets of the Mediterranean and is very common about Gibraltar; it also visits the lakes, rivers, and marshes of the countries in the vicinity of the Alps, is very common about the lakes of Lucerne, Lugano, Como, Iseo, and Garda, and is occasionally seen on the Lake of Geneva. Schinz includes it in the 'Birds of Switzerland;' but it does not seem to occur in the northern part of France or in Holland: yet Nilsson gives a figure of it in his 'Fauna of Scandinavia;' Savi includes it in his 'Birds of Italy;' and Malherbe says it appears in Sicily in spring, and is seen from Lake Lentini to the environs of Catania and Syracuse, but is more rare in the northern parts of the island. Mr. H. M. Drummond observed a pair on the river between the lakes at Biserta, about forty miles to the eastward of Tunis. Temminck also mentions that it is common in spring in Dalmatia, but does not breed there, and had departed in July."—*Yarrell, Suppl. Brit. Birds*, p. 52.

If I understand Schrenck rightly this bird frequents the Black Sea, the waters of the Ural districts, and Amoor Land; if this really be the case it is a fact of some interest, since it has not been found in India, nor, really, I believe, in China. The sexes are alike in plumage, but I am unacquainted with the young, unless some skins of Marsh Terns, which I have lately received from Cape York, Australia, which I am unable to verify, should prove to be immature examples of this species.

Bailly states that the *Hydrochelidon leucoptera*, like the *H. nigra*, lives upon *Libellulæ*, other aquatic insects, worms, and small fishes, which it captures in a similar manner. It breeds in the marshes in the southern part of Savoy, and lays four or five eggs, sometimes of a brownish-olive, at others of reddish-grey, spotted irregularly with black and brownish-black over the middle, and particularly towards the larger end; "leur grand diamètre a 3 cent. 6·8 mill. sur 2 cent. 7·9 mill. de petit diamètre."

In the summer the whole of the head, the upper and the under surface is deep black, slightly tinged with green in freshly shot specimens; upper and under tail-coverts and tail pure white; centre of the wings grey, fading into pure white on the shoulder and that portion of the feathers nearest the body; the first, second, third, and sometimes as many as the first five primaries greyish black, with white shafts, and a margin of white along their inner web, the remainder light grey; secondaries, tertiaries, and scapularies slate-grey; irides blackish-brown; bill, legs, and feet coral-red; nails black.

The figure represents two birds in the plumage of summer, of the natural size.