

exhausted. These Grebes are by no means shy, and when undisturbed, amongst the reeds and grass, keep up an incessant croaking. They swiftly glide through the water, and dart through thick, entangled masses of weeds and grass with the ease and rapidity of a fish." The late Mr. John Wolley, acting on information supplied him by Mr. Dann, found that this bird was well known on the Kalix Noir, in the north of Sweden, and subsequently succeeded in getting specimens of its eggs from the locality where that gentleman met with it many years before.

Independently of the countries mentioned above, I may state that it inhabits every other part of Europe; it is included in the 'List of North African Birds' by Captain Loche; and specimens have been transmitted from Trebizond in Persia. It does not extend its range to the peninsula of India; but I find it included by Schrenck in his account of the Birds of the Amur-land, and Temminck says it is found in Japan. In Greenland there is a bird of this form, which is so similar to the *Podiceps rubricollis* that they have been considered identical by some, while others have regarded it as distinct, and have assigned to it the specific designation of *P. Holbælli*. Among my MSS. I find a note to the following effect:—"American specimens agree with European, except in being somewhat larger." Dr. Baird, who calls it *Podiceps griseigena*, evidently considers the bird identical with ours. It is likely, however, the American and Greenland birds may be the same, and distinct from the true *P. rubricollis*, in which case the name of *P. Holbælli*, assigned to it by Reichenbach, should be retained.

In no respect do the sexes differ in colour: the same law which affects the male is also carried out in the female; both assume the ornamental head-dress in summer, which gives place to a more sombre hue in winter.

No difference occurs in the nidification of this Grebe from that of the other members of the genus; the nest is placed on the surface of the water, among aquatic herbage and reeds, of which materials it is also built. The eggs are four or five in number, of a pale greenish white, and are somewhat smaller in size than those of *P. cristatus*. They are often stained by the materials with which the nest is built, till they acquire a rich orange-red hue; and it seems commonly the case for eggs of the Grebe to be more brilliantly dyed than those of any other species.

Crown of the head and back of the neck dark olive-brown; upper surface of the body brownish black; cheeks and throat brownish grey, bordered with greyish white; primaries brownish black; secondaries white; front of the neck, chest, and upper portion of the flanks rich rusty red; breast and abdomen silvery white; bill brownish horn-colour, except at the base, which, with the gape, is orange-yellow; irides red; tarsi clouded with pea-green; upper side of the toe bluish white, particularly in the centre of the lobes.

The young bird of the year has neither the red neck nor the elongated head-feathers; the throat is brownish, and the abdomen less silvery; the part of the neck which is red in summer is brown in the youthful state; irides brown; base of the bill paler orange.

The Plate represents the two sexes of the size of life, and a reduced bird in the distance. The plant is the Buckbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*).