species is wavering and desultory, and its cry is a repeated shrill 'cheep.' When disturbed while feeding, it flutters about, frequently repeating its note, settles on a rock or stone, or on the grass, keeps vibrating its body, and waits until the intruder departs. But although shy, it is only after a fashion, for it seems to consider itself safe at no great distance; and, indeed, it may generally do so with impunity, for it is very seldom molested, neither its colours nor the quality of its flesh being sufficiently attractive to the sportsman to induce him to hold it in request. It is scarcely gregarious at any season, but in winter may be said to be at least not unsocial.

"About the middle of spring it pairs, and towards the end of April or the beginning of May forms a nest similar to that of the Meadow Pipit, being rather bulky, and composed of stems and blades of grass, with a lining of finer materials of the same kind and some hair. It is placed in a grassy bank, or among moss in some rocky place, generally overhanging the sea or not far inland. Sea-weeds and moss sometimes, but not generally, form part of the nest.

"The song is composed of a shrill whistle, not very agreeable, and is performed while the bird is hovering in the air. It is of the same general character as that of the Meadow Pipit, but is louder, not so protracted, and less pleasing. When its nest is approached, it hovers round, incessantly uttering its shrill querulous notes, and betraying its anxiety by its restlessness. I have never met with it at the distance of half a mile from the sea-shore; it appears, therefore, to be strictly maritime."

A nest taken at Alum Bay in the Isle of Wight, in May 1855, was thick and substantial, composed entirely of interwoven stems of dry grasses, and very tastefully decorated on the outside with many delicate sea-weeds. The four eggs contained therein were of a greenish stone-colour, almost entirely hidden, especially at the larger end, with confluent blotches of ashy brown.

Through the kindness of many friends, particularly Mr. Gatcombe, of Plymouth, Mr. Bond, Mr. Murray A. Mathews, and Mr. Harting, I have been enabled to compare skins of the Rock Pipit from nearly every part of England, Scotland, and the Hebrides, and I find them very consistent in their colouring. While the nestlings are perfecting their first primaries their colour closely assimilates to that of the adults after their autumnal moult, when the plumage is suffused with deep olive on the upper, and dull yellow on the under surface; the feathers are much lengthened, and the entire coating of the bird thick, smooth, and silky to the touch. As spring approaches, the tips of the olive-coloured feathers being worn off, the bird becomes of a browner hue, but still retains the spots on the breast and upper surface; the bill becomes olive-black; the legs and feet nearly black in lieu of the paler tint of the colours which pervaded those parts in winter.

The adults of both sexes have all the upper surface olive, with a darker centre to each feather; wing-coverts tipped with pale greyish olive; under surface pale yellowish buff, thickly streaked on the sides of the throat, breast, and flanks with brown; tail dark brown with an oblique mark of whitish brown across the apical portion of the outer feather on each side.

The figures are of the natural size.