that of Savi's or of the Grasshopper Warbler. About the first week in May of the following year, a bird, agreeing exactly in note and appearance with the above, was also seen by this marshman in a small sallow bush: not having his gun with him, he watched it for some time, and had no doubt of its identity. From the occurrence of this species in one or two instances in the middle of summer, there is little doubt that it had occasionally nested in our marshes; indeed a nest in the collection of Mr. Newcombe, of Feltwell, presented to him by the Rev. J. Burroughes, was said to have been found near Yarmouth. It is also most probable that, although so rarely recognized in this country, others may have been shot, and mistaken as the first was, by Temminck, for varieties of the Reed-Warbler, since the two species at first sight are very similar; but Savi's is not only a larger bird, but in the reddish tints of the upper parts more resembles the Nightingale. The following remarks upon the habits of this rare species as observed by Mr. Osbert Salvin in the Eastern Atlas, which appeared in the 'Ibis' for 1859, p. 304, will probably be read with interest, from the perfect confirmation they afford of the accuracy of the above descriptions:—'I found this bird abundant in the marsh of Zana. On approaching the margin of the reeds, its peculiar rattling note might be heard in every direction. The bird, when uttering this cry, climbs to the very top of a reed, often choosing the tallest, where it sits, if not disturbed, for several minutes, without changing its position. When singing, the head is moved slowly from side to side, by which means it may be that the ventriloquism ascribed to the Grasshopper Warbler is produced, the apparent change of position of the bird being, in fact, a change in the direction in which the sound of its voice is thrown. On taking alarm, the songster drops instantly into the thickest sedge, when pursuit is hopeless, as it carefully eludes observation, never showing itself in open flight; sometimes, however, its course may be traced by the shaking of the reeds as it springs from one to another. The peculiar nest of this species, a beautifully compact structure, composed entirely of dead flag, is artfully concealed in the thickest parts, and at Zana it can only be found by wading in mud and water up to the middle; and even then it is quite a chance to find one.' "

Mr. Stevenson remarks that, as the sale of Bullock's Museum took place in 1819, the specimen submitted to Temminck was very probably killed in that year, and at all events could not have been obtained later, and states that the bird presented to the late Mr. Lombe is still preserved in his collection now in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. E. P. Clarke, of Wymondham.

Mr. Bond believes that the bird is still found in the Cambridgeshire fens, and that it breeds there, and also in Huntingdonshire.

On the continent of Europe, I believe, this bird has been found in most of the marshy and fluviatile districts of its southern and central portions, and is not uncommon in similar situations in France and Belgium. In all these countries it is doubtless only a bird of summer passage, the winter being spent in Algeria and other parts of North Africa, where, as will have been seen by Mr. Salvin's note given above, some remain and breed.

Savi, by whom it was first noticed (in the 'Nuovo Giornale de' Letterati' for 1824, and in his 'Ornitologia Toscana'), states that it arrives in Tuscany about the middle of April, that it conceals itself among the willows and shrubs, creeping about among the low branches, and feeds on worms and insects. Malherbe mentions that it has been killed near Salerno, and that he had reason to believe that it migrates from Egypt and the coasts of Barbary, by way of Catania and Syracuse in Sicily, en route to Italy, where it spends the summer in marshy situations. The Rev. Mr. Tristram informed me that its unique and beautiful nest, which is rendered interesting from its being made of one material throughout, is most difficult to detect; only three rewarding several days' assiduous search by a large party.

A nest of this bird sent to me from Belgium was wholly composed of the dead and brittle leaves of a kind of flag, the coarser ones outside, and gradually diminishing in thickness towards the inside; the cup-like interior was well defined. Another, forwarded to Mr. Hewitson, from the fens a few miles from Cambridge, by Mr. F. Bond, was "beautifully symmetrical and round, and built entirely of the broad grassy top of the reed; it was placed in a thick bunch of sedge on the ground.

"The eggs are considerably larger than those of the Grasshopper Warbler, and bear some resemblance to them, but are much more like those of the Woodlark and the Pied Wagtail." The ground-colour is light olive, minutely freckled with a much darker tint forming a zone round the larger end.

Head, neck, back, wings, and tail-feathers reddish brown, the latter indistinctly barred with a darker tint; chin and throat whitish; fore part of the neck and the breast pale brown; under surface similar in colour, but paler than the upper; bill brown; legs and toes pale brown.

The Plate represents the bird, perhaps somewhat smaller than the natural size, and a female on her nest.