a few pairs were seen among the large terebinth trees near the foot of the hills of Judæa. They seem to roost and build there, feeding only in the plains, over which they hover, resembling the Kestrel in their habits and flight rather than the Hobby.

"The Orange-legged Hobby (Erythropus vespertinus)," says Lord Lilford, in his 'Notes on the Birds observed by him in the Ionian Islands, &c.,' "arrives in Corfu, occasionally in great numbers, about the latter end of April. In the spring of 1858 it was very abundant, particularly at Fano, a small rocky island to the north of Corfu, celebrated as a favourite resting-place for immense flights of quails during their vernal migration. It appears to be very fearless of man. I have watched a flock of five or six for upwards of an hour, during which time they often approached within ten or fifteen yards of where I sat, though I was in no way concealed. As far as my observation goes, this species only remains for a few days in Corfu, on its passage northwards; and I have never heard of its occurrence in the island, except in April and May. The stomach of a specimen I saw skinned contained the remains of large night-flying moths. Both this species and the Common Hobby are to be observed on the wing as late as 8 or 9 p.m. The Orange-legged Hobby often alights on the ground, and runs with great ease and speed."

About Talien Bay, in North China, "This handsome little bird-slayer," says Mr. Swinhoe (his remarks probably applying to the white-winged bird), "was not unfrequently met with flying along overhead or hovering poised in the air. Judging from the contents of the stomachs of the two I procured, I should say it committed great havoc among the Larks and other field-birds. It certainly caused considerable consternation wherever it appeared among them. I have had two opportunities of observing the nest of this species; one was placed among the topmost boughs of a willow, the other amid the leafy foliage of some umbrageous tree. The nests were large and round, and built of sticks, resembling somewhat those of the Magpie. When the old birds visited the nest, the young (balls of white down, with bluish bills) set up a chattering cry."

"This pretty little Hawk," says Mr. Wright, in his 'List of the Birds observed in the Islands of Malta and Gozo,' "visits us in the vernal and autumnal periods of migration, and in some years in much larger numbers than in others. It is sometimes to be met with in small flocks, when they will allow repeated shots to be fired at them without taking alarm."

Lord Lilford remarks that he once saw an Erythropus vespertinus in Andalusia, and that there is a specimen in the Museum of Valencia; but it is not, he thinks, a common bird in any part of Spain.

Turning to another part of the world, Africa—" The birds of this species," says the Rev. H. B. Tristram, "have the same gregarious habits in Algeria that Mr. Cochrane has stated them to have in Hungary; they are, however, very rare. The only breeding-place known to me is on the edge of a pine forest, near Djelfa, in Algeria proper; and there there are not more than four or five pairs; while in the eastern province of Constantine they do not seem to occur, except as stragglers. They return late from the south; and on my visiting their rookery in June, 1856, they were employed in repairing old nests, and had not yet commenced laying."

In Dr. Kirk's paper 'On the Birds of the Zambesi Region of Eastern Tropical Africa,' it is stated that "this pretty little Hawk is found near the river. It appears only at sunset and in the dusk, when, coming in great numbers from the shady forest or from among the fronds of the lofty Borassus-palm, it hovers, swallow-like, over the plains and water, catching dragonflies and locusts, which, with other insects, caught on the wing, seem to constitute its chief or only food. In February and March it was seen in numbers on the Shiré, where the bush-vegetation and palm-forest come down to the river." This note also probably refers to the bird with white under wing-coverts.

With respect to the nidification of this species, Mr. Cochrane (who had the good fortune to meet with it in Hungary during the breeding-season) informed Mr. Hewitson that it arrives in that country about the middle of April, and lays its eggs early in the following month. "They make no nest for themselves, but, after a fight with the lawful owners, take possession of those of the Crow, Rook, or Magpie, altering or repairing them to their own taste. Mr. Cochrane says he has found their eggs in a nest of *Corvus corone*, that they are sometimes six in number, but most commonly four or five. 'Sometimes in isolated trees, at others as many as six or seven pairs in one tree, in a rookery, exactly as Rooks in England.' The eggs most nearly resemble those of the Kestrel, being, however, for the most part considerably less; like the eggs of that bird they are sometimes finely freckled throughout, and much resemble those of the red Grouse."

The Plate represents an adult male and a female, of the size of life.