149. Melanocorypha leucoptera Vol. III. Pl. XX.

WHITE-WINGED LARK.

SHORT-TOED LARK.

The native country of this bird is Siberia and the eastern portions of Europe. In a single instance only has it been killed in England, for the particulars of which see the letterpress opposite the Plate.

Genus Calandrella.

150. Calandrella brachydactyla Vol. III. Pl. XXI.

A native of Central and Southern Europe, India, and China. Only four or five instances of its having been killed in England have been placed on record; consequently it must be regarded as purely an accidental visitant.

Family EMBERIZIDÆ.

The members of this great group of birds extend over Europe, Asia, and Africa, to which sections of the globe they appear to be confined, inasmuch as no true Bunting has yet been discovered in America, Australia, New Zealand, or, I believe, the islands of the Eastern archipelago. The numerous species of which the family is composed are divisible into many genera; and the ten species recognized as inhabiting Britain have been divided into six or seven. The food of all, both of those which frequent our islands and of those found in other countries, is of a mixed character, seeds of various kinds constituting its main portion; but insects and their larvæ are largely partaken of, and probably form at first the sole nourishment of the young.

Genus Emberiza.

151. Emberiza citrinella Vol. III. Pl. XXII.

Yellowhammer or Yellow Bunting.

Very generally dispersed over the three kingdoms; breeds and rears its young between spring and midsummer. British specimens differ considerably in the colouring of their plumage, and are very much less in size than continental examples.

A resident, but somewhat local; breeds in most of our southern counties, particularly in chalky districts, and annually as near to London as Cookham, in Berkshire; very scarce in Scotland, and never seen in Ireland.