RUFOUS SEDGE-WARBLER.

Spain, Greece, Asia Minor, and North Africa are among the countries frequented by this species, which, having been only twice killed in England, must be enumerated among its rarest visitants.

"The Rufous Sedge Warbler is evidently only a summer migrant in the north of Algeria. On my return from the Mzab country in May, I saw scores where there had not previously been one, and generally away from water. It has a curious habit of raising its tail; it is hardly ever seen in any other position. Our common British Nightingale has the same habit in a less degree; but with the Rufous Sedge Warbler it appears to be natural to keep it raised; whether the bird is in motion or at rest, the tail is only depressed at intervals."—J. H. Gurney, jun.

Family ACCENTORINÆ.

A group of Old-World birds, some species of which inhabit Europe and Asia, from the British Islands to Kamtschatka and Japan. They have been subdivided into three genera, Accentor, Spermolegus, and Tharrhaleus, the types of the first and third of which are natives of Britain, namely A. alpinus and T. modularis. I have, however, kept them both in the genus Accentor.

Genus Accentor.

ALPINE ACCENTOR.

Common in Switzerland and other rocky countries of Southern and Eastern Europe. An accidental visitant to England, where it has been killed or seen about a dozen times.

HEDGE-ACCENTOR OF HEDGE-SPARROW.

Resident in the three kingdoms; common in gardens. A tame, pleasing, and harmless little bird. Lives on insects. Inhabits most parts of Europe and Malta, where I have shot examples.

Family SYLVIIDÆ.

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Comprises a very large number of species, which are inhabitants of the older known portion of the globe.

About fifteen are enumerated in the British avifauna, as belonging to the genera Sylvia, Curruca, Luscinia, Melizophilus, Phyllopneuste, Ficedula, Regulus, Reguloides, &c.