Supra virescens, purpuroe praecipue ad nucham tintuctus, tectricibus candae superioribus quoque purpureis, alis et candae viridescenti-nigris, illarum secundaris intimis interdum albo terminatis; loris nigris, capitis lateribus infra et post oculos et corpore subitus omnino albis; uropygii lateribus albis; rostro nigro, pedibus fuscis. Long. tota 4-7, alae 4-5, candae rectr. med. 1-55, rectr. int. 1-85, rostri a rictu 0-5, tarsi 0-4. (Descr. maris ex San Gerónimo, Guatemala. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, Middle and Western Provinces, Arizona and New Mexico 9.—MEXICO, Saltillo (Couch 2, 3), Tableland, Real del Monte (Morgan 1), valley of Mexico (White 6), Hacienda de Tupatero (Dugès 7), Plateau, temperate and hot regions of Vera Cruz (Sumichrast 8), Orizaba (le Strange, Sumichrast 8); GUATEMALA, Dénias (O. S. 5), San Gerónimo (O. S. & F. D. G.), Coban (Sarg).

This pretty Swallow enjoys the privilege of having only the single specific name bestowed upon it by Swainson in 1827, when he described Mexican specimens obtained on the tablelands and at Real del Monte by Mr. Morgan 1. Since then Tachycineta thalassinus has been found in the middle and western provinces of the United States and in the adjoining provinces from British Columbia southwards.

In Mexico this species we believe to be only known as a winter visitant *, there being no positive evidence that it remains during the summer months for the purpose of breeding. It is almost certain, however, that the bird will be found to breed on the confines of the United States frontier, as it is well known to do so in Arizona 9. In Guatemala we only observed it in the winter months, from November till March; it was then common about the open lands near Dueñas, and about the plains of San Gerónimo, at an elevation of about 3000 feet. We noticed nothing peculiar in their flight; they were generally found associated with T. bicolor, hawking insects in the same flock. Southwards of Guatemala it has not yet been noticed, nor yet in any of the Antilles.

T. thalassinus makes its nest of sticks and straws, lined with feathers, either in the hole of a tree or in the cleft of a rock. The eggs, five in number, are pure white 9.

b. Ptilosis densa, dorso colore metallico tincto. (Iridoproene.)

2. Tachycineta bicolor. ✓


* In the ‘History of North-American Birds’ it is said to breed on the plateau of Mexico, on Prof. Sumichrast’s authority 4; this author, however, in his published work 8, makes no such statement; but, by including it amongst the resident birds of the State of Vera Cruz, he leaves us to infer that it does do so.