grasses with a lining of softer material. The eggs are five or six in number and vary considerably; in some the ground colour is greenish white with blotches of various shades of brown, red, and purple; these blotches are more numerous about the larger end, where they form a ring; in others the spots are so numerous as to hide the ground colour.

2. Passerculus rostratus.


Supra griseo-fuscus fere unicolor, striis obscuris fere absconditis; capite summo vix striato, alis et cauda fusco-nigris rufescente fusco limbatis; superciliis sordide albis, striae rictali fusca; subitus albidus, gutturate, pectore et hypochondriis guttulatis; rostro robusto corneo, mandibula pallida, pedibus corylinis. Long. tota 4-8, aede 2-7, cauda 2-0, rostri a rictu 0-55, tarsi 0-85. (Descri. maris ex Guaymas, Mexico. Smiths. Inst. no. 89010.)

*2 mari omnino similis.*

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, coast of California 1° 2° to Cape S. Lucas 3° 4°.—MEXICO, Guaymas (Belding 5°).

This species can readily be separated from *P. sandwichensis* by its very stout bill, more arched culmen, the absence of a vertical median stripe, the obsolete streaks of the back, which is nearly of a uniform colour, and the white superciliary streak with no yellow in the anterior portion.

*P. rostratus* appears to be restricted in its range to the coast of California and the shores of the Gulf of that name, and it is included in our Fauna from specimens having been obtained by Mr. L. Belding at Guaymas 5°. It was first discovered by Dr. Heermann near San Diego, on the coast of California 1°, where it frequented the sedge-grass near the sea-beach, feeding on seeds, &c., thrown up by the waves. Other observers have noticed it in similar situations. Of its breeding-habits nothing has been recorded so far as we know. Mr. Ridgway has carefully tabulated the measurements of a series of specimens of *P. rostratus* from Lower California, with a view to ascertain the status of the allied forms *P. guttatus* and *P. sancorum*; the result shows that both of these birds are probably inseparable from *P. rostratus* 4°.

POECETES.


This genus is very closely allied to *Passerculus*, from which it differs in the wings being longer in proportion to the tail, the primaries considerably exceeding the secondaries in length. The claw of the hind toe is rather shorter than in *Passerculus*, the