

tectricibus majoribus albo terminatis; tectricibus primariorum et remigibus sepiariis, scapis primariorum fere albicantibus, secundariis intus albis, interioribus longissimis dorso concoloribus; loris fuscescentibus; fronte basali, facie laterali et corpore subtus toto pure albis, pectoris summi lateribus cinerascenti-brunneis et præpectore medio angustissime brunneo lineolato; subalaribus et axillaribus pure albis; rostro nigro, mandibula ad basin viridescenti-olivacea; pedibus viridescenti-olivaceis; iride saturate brunnea. Long. tota circa 5·8, alæ 3·9, caudæ 1·6, culm. 1·1, tarsi 0·8. (Descr. maris adulti ex Chiapam. Mus. nostr.)

*Ptil. æstiv.* Supra nigricans, cinnamomeo variegatus; præpectore et pectore summo et corporis lateribus nigricanti-brunneo fasciatim maculatis. (Descr. feminae adultæ ex S. Barbara, California. Mus. nostr.)

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA, breeding in the Arctic and sub-Arctic Regions<sup>12</sup>. — MEXICO (*Wagler*<sup>5</sup>, *Deppe & Schiede*<sup>3 4</sup>, *Sumichrast*<sup>23</sup>), Matamoros (*Dresser*<sup>17</sup>), Cachuta, Sonora (*Robinette*<sup>19</sup>), Hermosillo, Sonora (*Ferrari-Perez*<sup>12</sup>), Mazatlan (*Forrer*<sup>12</sup>), Cordova (*Sallé*<sup>6</sup>), San Mateo, Tehuantepec city (*Sumichrast*<sup>22</sup>), Cozumel I. (*Gaumer*<sup>12 16</sup>), GUATEMALA, Dueñas<sup>14</sup>, Chiapam<sup>15</sup>, Carranza<sup>12</sup>, San José<sup>12</sup> (*O. S. & F. D. G.*); PANAMA (*M<sup>c</sup>Leannan*<sup>12</sup>). — SOUTH AMERICA in winter to Brazil and Peru<sup>12</sup>; SWAN I.<sup>8</sup>.

The breeding-habitat of *E. pusillus* is said to be "Eastern North America, north of the United States," and that of the race (*E. occidentalis*) is also given, in the A. O. U. 'Check-list,' as "chiefly the Western United States, frequent eastward to the Atlantic coast, breeding far north, and migrating in winter to Central and South America"<sup>10 20</sup>.

The true *E. pusillus* is supposed to visit the West Indies and South America. When we were in Guatemala we met with both forms, and Salvin's note was to the effect that these Sandpipers were very common at Chiapam, on the Pacific coast. He writes:—"The variation in the length of the bill in this bird is very remarkable. Out of the same flock I have shot specimens with bills varying in length at least a quarter of an inch"<sup>15</sup>. It is evident, therefore, that both these supposed races are found in Guatemala during the winter, and the idea of their possessing an eastern and a western habitat at all seasons cannot be entertained. In the 'Catalogue of Birds,' Dr. Bowdler Sharpe has given the length of the bill in the large series of specimens in the British Museum, and has found every gradation between the long- and short-billed forms<sup>12</sup>. This seems to be an analogous case to that of the European Dunlin (*Pelidna alpina*), in which it is possible to obtain specimens with every variation in size of bill out of the same flock.

The account given of the nesting-habits of this Sandpiper in Alaska is very interesting and amusing. The male, springing into the air, and hovering for nearly a minute, pours forth to the female a series of rather musical trills, the wings at the same time vibrating with such continuous motion that they appear to keep time with the rapid notes. On migration the species assembles in large flocks, which frequent the tidal rivers and mud-creeks<sup>11 21</sup>.

The nest is a depression amongst dried grass or in a tussock<sup>11 21</sup>. The eggs are four in number and pyriform in shape: Mr. Oates finds that there are two types