

Saddle Cay, and is also found in the West Indian Islands, but does not seem to visit the coasts of South America.

This is a social bird, and is found in great numbers in company with other Terns, especially the Noddies (*Anous*). Salvin found it common about the Cays of the Belize coast, where it is known to the Creoles as the "Rocky Bird." He discovered its eggs on Saddle Cay on the 10th of May: a little sand was scratched away for a nest, under such shelter as the bushes that grew nearest the beach afforded<sup>8 10</sup>. *S. anæstha* was also found nesting at Clarence Harbour by Mr. Cory, in company with *S. dougalli* and *S. fuliginosa*, the eggs resembling those of the last named bird, but being more spotted about the larger end; they were deposited in sheltered clefts in ledges of rocks or in cavities amongst the loose boulders which lined the sea-shore<sup>3</sup>.

According to Mr. Oates, the eggs are usually of a blunt oval form, but some are rather pointed at the smaller end. The ground-colour varies from cream to rich pinkish-buff, and this is marked with specks, spots, and blotches of reddish-brown. These markings are not very thickly distributed over the shell, nor are they of very large size, but they are distinct and sharply defined, and it is seldom that two or more are confluent, while the underlying pattern is of a pale purple colour<sup>7</sup>.

### 8. *Sterna fuliginosa*.

*L'Hirondelle de mer à grande envergure*, Buff. Hist. Nat. Ois. viii. p. 345<sup>1</sup>.

*Sooty Tern*, Lath. Gen. Syn. iii. 2, p. 352<sup>2</sup>.

*Sterna fuliginosa*, Gm. Syst. Nat. i. p. 605<sup>3</sup>; Baird, Brewer, & Ridgway, Water-Birds N. Amer. ii. p. 312<sup>4</sup>; A. O. U. Check-l. N. Amer. Birds, 2nd ed. p. 26<sup>5</sup>; Saunders, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xxv. p. 106<sup>6</sup>; Oates, Cat. Eggs Brit. Mus. i. p. 191<sup>7</sup>; Anthony, Auk, xv. p. 316<sup>8</sup>.

*Haliplana fuliginosa*, Coues, Ibis, 1864, p. 392<sup>9</sup>; Salv. Ibis, 1864, pp. 381<sup>10</sup>, 385<sup>11</sup>; 1866, p. 200<sup>12</sup>; P. Z. S. 1867, p. 161<sup>13</sup>; Lawr. Ann. Lyc. N. Y. viii. p. 184<sup>14</sup>.

*Onychoprion fuliginosus*, Scl. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1871, p. 572<sup>15</sup>.

*Haliplana fuliginosa*, var. *crissalis* (Baird, MSS.), Grayson, Pr. Bost. Soc. N. H. xiv. pp. 285<sup>16</sup>, 318<sup>17</sup>; Lawr. Mem. Bost. Soc. N. H. ii. p. 318<sup>18</sup>.

*Sterna fuliginosa crissalis*, Nelson, N. Amer. Fauna, no. 14, p. 24<sup>19</sup>.

*Ptil. æstiv.* *S. anæstha* similis, sed major: supra fuliginoso-nigricans, interscapulio minime pallidiore, sed dorso concolore; fronte alba latiore et supercilio haud pone oculum posticum producto; corpore subtus albo, lateribus et crisso vix cineraceo lavatis: rostro et pedibus nigris, vix rubro tinctis; iride castanea. Long. tota circa 16.0, alæ 11.5, caudæ 3.1, rectrice extima 6.0, culm. 1.8, tarsi 0.95. (Descr. maris adulti ex Southern Water Cay. Mus. nostr.)

*Ptil. hiem.* *ptilosi æstivæ* similis, sed loris pileoque albo maculatis distinguenda.

*Juv.* notæo toto fuliginoso-brunneo, plumis singulis albido marginatis: subtus fuliginosa, plumis basaliter albidis, abdomine imo albo: rostro et pedibus rubro-brunneis. (Descr. avis jun. ex insula "Ascencion" dicta. Mus. Brit.)

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA, Carolinas, casually to New England<sup>5</sup>.—REVILLAGIGEDO Is., Socorro I. (*Grayson*<sup>16 18 19</sup>, *Anthony*<sup>8</sup>).—W. MEXICO, Mazatlan (*Forrer*<sup>6</sup>), Isabel I., off San Blas, Tres Marias Is. (*Grayson*<sup>4 16 18</sup>, *Nelson*<sup>19</sup>); BRITISH HONDURAS, Cays of the Belize coast<sup>12</sup>, Curlew Cay<sup>10 11 12</sup>, Saddle Cay<sup>9 12</sup>, Southern