

like the members of the genus *Anous*, but are of a slighter and more graceful form. The bill is slender and long, the distance from the angle of the genys longer than that to the gape, while in the tail the third pair of rectrices from the outside are the longest.

The range of the genus is the same as that of the true Noddies, viz. the tropical and subtropical seas. Mr. Howard Saunders recognizes three species: *M. tenuirostris* and *M. leucocapillus*, with a wide range in the Old World, the latter species alone occurring within our limits; a third form, *M. hawaiiensis*, is confined to the Sandwich Islands.

1. *Micranous leucocapillus*.

Anous leucocapillus, Gould, P. Z. S. 1845, p. 103¹.

Micranous leucocapillus, Saunders, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xxv. p. 145²; Oates, Cat. Eggs Brit. Mus. i. p. 199³.

Anous tenuirostris (nec Temm.), Salv. Ibis, 1864, p. 383⁴; 1866, p. 200⁵; Coues, Ibis, 1864, p. 393⁶; Scl. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1871, p. 566⁷.

Supra fuliginoso-niger, plumbeo adumbratus; alis caudaque nigricantibus, rhachidibus brunneis; corpore subtus toto fuliginoso-nigro, facie laterali colloque, gutture et pectore summo plumbeo distincte adumbratis, abdomine sordidiore; pileo canescenti-albo, nucham versus clarius cinereo; loris et plumis anteocularibus et oculum circumdantibus nigerrimis: rostro nigro; pedibus saturate brunneis. Long. tota circa 12·5, alæ 9·0, caudæ 4·6, culm. 1·8, tarsi 0·85. (Descr. maris adulti ex Glover's Reef. Mus. nostr.)

♀ haud a mari distinguendus. Long. tota circa 12·5, alæ 8·9. (Descr. maris et feminae adultæ ex Glover's Reef. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. BRITISH HONDURAS, Glover's Reef⁶, South-west-of-all Cay (*O. S.*^{4 5}).—INTER-TROPICAL ATLANTIC OCEAN²; INDIAN OCEAN²; MALAYASIA²; AUSTRALIA²; PACIFIC OCEAN to Society Is.²

This species is distinguished from the typical Noddies by its small size and white head. It has been found only in one place in Central America, viz., on the islets off the coast of British Honduras⁷. Here it was discovered by Salvin nesting on "South-west-of-all," a small Cay on the outer margin of Glover's Reef^{4 5}.

In habits *M. leucocapillus* resembles the larger kinds of Noddies (*Anous*). Salvin says that the nest of the "Piccary Noddy" was small and compact, made of slender twigs, seaweed, and bits of grass, and glued together in every available fork and on every horizontal branch. This species almost exclusively monopolized the high mangroves on the windward side of the island. In one tree there were over seventy nests.

The eggs are described by Mr. Oates as mostly of a broad oval form, though some are quite elliptical, the ground-colour varying from pure white to cream and pale pink, with the markings occasionally evenly distributed, but generally collected at the larger end, and consisting of specks, lines, and dashes, and varying in size from spots to blotches of reddish-brown or chocolate-brown, with a few underlying markings of pale purple. As with the Noddies, feebly marked specimens are not unfrequent³.