

Larus cucullatus (Licht. MSS.), Reichenb. Natat. t. 23. fig. 296¹⁰; Salv. Ibis, 1865, p. 188¹¹.

Chroicocephalus cucullatus, Licht. Nomencl. Av. Mus. Berol. p. 98¹²; Coues, Ibis, 1864, p. 388¹³; Salv. Ibis, 1866, p. 198¹⁴.

Chroicocephalus atricilla (nec Linn.), Sclater, P. Z. S. 1864, p. 179¹⁵.

Ptil. æstiv. Supra cinerascens-schistaceus; collo postico et laterali et corpore subtus pure albis, hoc roseo induto; pileo undique nigerrimo; fascia supra- et infraoculari albo; uropygio et supracaudalibus lateralibus albis; supracaudalibus reliquis et rectricibus cinereis, lateralibus fere albis; alis cinereis dorso concoloribus, primariis intimis et secundariis albo terminatis, primariis externis albo terminatis, subterminaliter nigro fasciatis, primarii primi pogonio externo nigro: rostro corallino; palpebris corallinis; pedibus sordide rubris; iride sordide grisescenti-brunnea. Long. tota circa 13·5, alæ 11·5, caudæ 4·2, culm. 1·35, tarsi 1·6.

♀ haud a mari distinguendus. Long. tota circa 13·9, alæ 10·7. (Descr. maris et feminae ex Champerico. Mus. nostr.)

Ptil. hiem. ptilosi æstivæ similis, sed pileo albo, nigro notato.

Juv. Sordide cineraceus, alis brunnescentibus, torque collari albo indistincto, cinereo adumbrato; fronte et facie laterali albis, pileo reliquo albicante nigro marmorato, plumis nigris, albido marginatis; cauda pallide cinerea, terminaliter late brunneo fasciata. (Descr. feminae junioris ex Chiapam. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. INTERIOR OF NORTH AMERICA, chiefly west of the Mississippi River and east of the Rocky Mountains, breeding from Iowa northward⁵.—MEXICO^{10 12} (*Wagler*⁹), west coast⁶, lakes of Mexico (*Keerl & Boucard*²), city of Mexico (*White*^{6 15}), Zacatecas (*Richardson*⁶), Mazatlan (*Grayson*^{3 8}), Laguna de San Baltazar, Puebla (*Ferrari-Perez*⁴), Progreso, Yucatan (*mus. nostr.*⁶); GUATEMALA, Pacific coast^{2 14}, Chiapam^{6 13}, Champerico^{6 11} (*O. S.*); PANAMA (*Suckley*²).—WEST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA to Chile⁶; WEST INDIES, St. Bartholomew⁶.

The present species, like the preceding, belongs to the hooded section of the genus *Larus* and has a black head in summer. It differs from *L. philadelphia* in its dark slaty-grey mantle, and has the outer quills grey above, with a broad white tip and a broad black subterminal bar.

L. franklini breeds in marshes and is found in the interior of North America in summer, occurring in Central America only in the winter months. Grayson procured a few specimens at Mazatlan in December, but it was not common and was only observed during that month^{3 8}. It is scarcely known on the eastern coasts of Mexico, and appears to migrate through the interior, being found on the lakes and in the Valley of Mexico in winter; it has, however, been met with at Progreso in Northern Yucatan⁶.

Salvin noticed the species on the Pacific coast of Guatemala, where it was generally a short way out at sea¹⁴, and he procured specimens at Champerico¹¹ and on the lagoon of Chiapam¹³. It ranges along the west coast of South America as far as Concepcion in Chile⁶.

The nest is placed upon the water among the bulrushes, of which it is composed³. The eggs in our collection vary in form from pointed to a blunt oval; the ground-colour is olive-buff, spotted and blotched with dark and light brown, and underlying pale