

purple. On two eggs in the British Museum the markings take the form of streaks and lines, which are interlaced and show an intricate pattern <sup>7</sup>.

### ✓ 3. *Larus atricilla*.

*Laughing Gull*, Catesby, Nat. Hist. Carol. i. p. 89, t. 89 <sup>1</sup>.

*Larus atricilla*, Linn. Syst. Nat. i. p. 225 <sup>2</sup>; Salv. Ibis, 1864, p. 381 <sup>3</sup>; 1865, pp. 188 <sup>4</sup>, 190 <sup>5</sup>; 1889, p. 379 <sup>6</sup>; Scl. & Salv. P. Z. S. 1871, p. 576 <sup>7</sup>; Baird, Brewer, & Ridgway, Water-Birds N. Amer. ii. p. 254 <sup>8</sup>; Ferrari-Perez, Pr. U. S. Nat. Mus. ix. p. 179 <sup>9</sup>; Herrera, La Nat. (2) i. pp. 188 <sup>10</sup>, 329 <sup>11</sup>; Stone, Pr. Acad. Phil. 1890, p. 202 <sup>12</sup>; A. O. U. Check-l. N. Amer. Birds, 2nd ed. p. 20 <sup>13</sup>; Saunders, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xxv. p. 194 <sup>14</sup>; Oates, Cat. Eggs Brit. Mus. i. p. 206 <sup>15</sup>.

*Chroicocephalus atricilla*, Scl. & Salv. Ibis, 1859, p. 233 <sup>16</sup>; Coues, Ibis, 1864, p. 388 <sup>17</sup>; Dugès, La Nat. i. p. 142 <sup>18</sup>; Lawr. Mem. Bost. Soc. N. H. ii. p. 317 <sup>19</sup>; Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus. no. 4, p. 51 <sup>20</sup>; Sumichr. La Nat. v. p. 234 <sup>21</sup>; Zeledon, Cat. Aves Costa Rica, p. 36 <sup>22</sup>.

*L. franklini* similis, et interscapulio saturate schistaceo-cinereo, sed remigibus exterioribus nigris distinguendus: rostro coccineo; pedibus sordide rubris; iride brunnea. Long. tota circa 14.0, alæ 12.1, caudæ 4.7, culm. 1.4, tarsi 1.75. (Descr. maris adulti ex Lighthouse Reef. Mus. nostr.)

*Hab.* NORTH AMERICA, Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States, north to Maine and Nova Scotia <sup>13</sup>.—MEXICO, Pacific coast (*Mathew* <sup>14</sup>), Mazatlan (*Grayson* <sup>8 19</sup>), Manzanillo, Colima (*Lloyd* <sup>14</sup>), Guanajuato, Guadalajara (*Dugès* <sup>18</sup>), coasts of the Gulf of Tehuantepec, Juchitan, Ventosa, San Mateo (*Sumichrast* <sup>20 21</sup>), Valley of Mexico (*Herrera* <sup>10 11</sup>), Vera Cruz, Jalapa, Vega de Alatorre (*Ferrari-Perez* <sup>9</sup>), Progreso, Yucatan (*Stone & Baker* <sup>12</sup>), Cozumel I. (*Gaumer* <sup>6</sup>); BRITISH HONDURAS, Belize <sup>14 15</sup>, Saddle Cay <sup>3</sup>, Lighthouse Reef <sup>14</sup> (*O. S.*); GUATEMALA, Atlantic and Pacific coasts <sup>7</sup>, Chiapam <sup>14 17</sup>, Champerico <sup>4 5</sup> (*O. S.*), Vera Paz (*Hague* <sup>14</sup>); COSTA RICA (*Zeledon* <sup>22</sup>).—GUIANA <sup>14</sup>; N. BRAZIL <sup>14</sup>; W. COAST OF AMERICA to N. Peru <sup>14</sup>; WEST INDIES <sup>14</sup>.

The Laughing Gull is a maritime species, chiefly frequenting the tidal waters on the eastern side of North America to the Gulf of Mexico and extending to the West Indies, breeding throughout this area <sup>14</sup>. Salvin found *L. atricilla* common near Belize in May, and it is said to nest on the Cays along the coast <sup>3</sup>. In Vera Cruz, Ferrari-Perez met with the species at Vega de Alatorre in July <sup>9</sup>. On the eastern coast of America it ranges in winter to Guiana and Northern Brazil <sup>14</sup>; westward the species reaches California and the coasts of Mexico. Sumichrast met with this Gull in Tehuantepec from August to February <sup>20</sup>, and Herrera says that it comes to the Valley of Mexico early in October <sup>10</sup>. We have specimens from both coasts of Guatemala, those from the Atlantic in summer plumage, either perfectly or partially assumed, while those obtained from Chiapam on the Pacific side are in winter or immature dress.

According to Dr. Brewer, this species breeds in large companies. Audubon says that it never travels beyond the tidal waters on the south and east coast of North America. It is timid and shy as a rule, but when its breeding-places are attacked it becomes very bold in their defence <sup>8</sup>.