

the Gannets, and about the breeding-places they feed largely at the expense of the latter ⁸.

Heermann's Gull feeds on small fish, crustacea, and mollusca, and sometimes robs the Pelicans of their prey ⁸. The egg is described by Dr. Brewer as of a deep drab-colour, with large dark bistre blotches scattered over the surface and a few lilac under-markings ⁵.

5. *Larus argentatus*.

Larus argentatus, Brünn. Orn. Bor. p. 44. no. 149¹; Baird, Brewer, & Ridgway, Water-Birds N. Amer. ii. p. 235²; Saunders, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. xxv. p. 260³; Oates, Cat. Eggs Brit. Mus. i. p. 215⁴; Allen, Auk, xix. p. 283⁵.

Larus smithsonianus, Coues, Pr. Philad. Acad. 1862, p. 296⁶.

Larus argentatus smithsonianus, Coues, Key N. Amer. Birds, p. 312⁷; Stone, Pr. Acad. Phil. 1890, p. 202⁸; A. O. U. Check-l. N. Amer. Birds, 2nd ed. p. 19⁹; Nelson, N. Amer. Fauna, no. 14, p. 23¹⁰.

Supra pallide margaritaceo-cinereus; tectricibus alarum majoribus, secundariis et scapularibus late albo terminatis, fasciam transalarem conspicuam exhibentibus; primariis nigris, plus minusve interne griseo notatis, omnibus albo terminatis, internis autem plerumque pallide griseis, subterminaliter nigris; pileo colloque undique, uropygio et supracaudalibus, cauda tota et corpore subtus pure albis; collo postico pallide brunneo striato: rostro flavo, ad angulum genydis rubro; pedibus pallide carneis (in exuvie flavidis); iride straminea; annulo ophthalmico albo vel pallide flavicante. Long. tota circa 24.0, alæ 17.0, caudæ 6.7, culm. 2.35, tarsi 2.45.

♀ haud a mari differt. Long. tota circa 23.0, alæ 17.4. (Descr. maris et feminae hiem. ex Corpus Christi. Mus. nostr.)

Ptil. æstiv. pileo colloque postico pure albis, minime brunneo striatis.

Juv. Grisescenti-brunneus, saturatiore brunneo marmoratus vel maculatus; primariis nigris, vix intus grisescentibus; secundariis brunneis, albido marmoratis; cauda brunnea, basin versus albido vermiculata; pileo cum collo et facie laterali et præpectore albis brunneo striolatis vel maculatis; corpore reliquo subtus pallide grisescenti-brunneo. (Descr. feminae junioris ex Ventura, California. Mus. nostr.)

Hab. NORTH AMERICA³ generally, breeding from Maine, Northern New York, the Great Lakes, and Minnesota northwards, south in winter to Lower California⁹.—MEXICO, eastern coast (*Berlandier*²), off Progreso, Yucatan (*Stone & Baker*⁸), western coast of Mexico³, Isabel I., off San Blas, Tres Marias Is. (*Nelson*¹⁰).—WEST INDIES³.—ARCTIC AND TEMPERATE EUROPE³.

The Herring-Gull of North America is by some authors separated from the European *L. argentatus*, under the name of *L. smithsonianus*. It has been recognized as distinct by the Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union⁹; but recently Professor J. A. Allen has shown conclusively that the Herring-Gulls of the Old and New Worlds are identical⁵, thus confirming the opinion of Messrs. Baird, Brewer, and Ridgway in America², and Mr. Howard Saunders in this country³.

L. argentatus breeds in the arctic and subarctic regions of North America, and on the inland lakes as far south as 40° N. on the Atlantic coast³. In Central America it is a winter visitant and has been seldom recorded. Mr. Nelson procured an immature