

brown, the under part nearly white. In winter, its head is variegated with black and white; its breast and back of a dull orange, with dusky spots; its quill feathers dark brown, and its under parts dusky white; the bill is dusky; the iris of a deep brown, approaching to black; the legs of a yellowish buff colour. It is said to live twelve or fifteen years."

The whidah bird is allied to the finches, of which we have several examples in this country, such as the goldfinch, the linnæus, the greenfinch, and the chaffinch.

Another species, the red-billed whidah bird, is found in the same regions as the preceding one, but is of less size. "Of the four middle and greatly-elongated tail feathers, two are convex, and two, one within the other, concave, so that when all four are closed together, they form a sort of cylinder, and, but for their extremities, appear at first sight as one. The general colour of the male in full plumage is glossy blue black, with a white collar, and white wing coverts and scapularies, of which hue are also the lower part of the back, the throat, the chest, and the under parts. In habits it agrees with the other species."