

coloration, not shape, of the wings, and in three especially (Dryades, Najades and Andropoda), the coloration seems to be the essential part of the definition.

Who can possibly know from the definition what is embraced in Napacæ, or in Dryades, or Hamadryades, or Potamides, or Najades, or Andropoda ! or in Lemoniades, "the wings tolerably common formed, the abdomen stout and long." What idea does that language convey? Andropoda, "all the members pretty badly shaped," applied to the beautiful Coliades and Teriades ! It is the merest rubbish and does not deserve one moment's toleration. Moreover, these divisions accord with no modern system whatever. All through the Verzeichniss, we find that the members of distinct Stirps are ranged by Kirby (whose General Catalogue, 1871, is the latest work of classification of the Rhopalocera, and the one which for convenience I shall mainly use for comparison) in the same sub-family and even the same genus, while, on the other hand, the Hübnerian Stirps, families and coitus dissolve into distinct and unrelated sub-families and genera in Kirby. For example, Melitæa (species Phaeton, Cinxia, &c.) stands in Hübner among the Lemoniades, whose wings are "tolerably common formed," but Phyciodes (species Tharos, &c.), which is closely allied to Melitæa, and has by nearly all authors been considered as but a group under that genus, is put in another Stirps, Najades, where the wings must be intolerably common formed, or tolerably uncommon formed, I do not know which, by the side of the Argynnidæ. The Vannessidæ go in still another Stirps, and Limenitis in a fourth, and all these and others stand in Kirby in the single sub-family Nymphalinæ. So far as appears, Hübner regarded the barriers which separate these Stirps as substantial as those between any of the series—the Papilios (Archontes) from the Pierides (Andropoda), for instance. As to the species brought within the several Stirps, every lepidopterist knows that a very large proportion of the Butterflies naturally fall into groups so distinct that the veriest tyro in collecting can scarcely make a blunder in assorting his specimens. And what the tyro sees Hübner could not well help seeing, but the moment there was doubt he was completely at fault, and as a consequence several of his Stirps have no foundation in nature and his definitions of them from necessity are as vague and misty as are those of his families and coitus.

The family divisions are made up almost wholly from coloration, and a large part of the names chosen for them are simply puerile, as voracia, fugacia, sapientes, adolescentes, armati, festivæ, etc. And in assorting