

also, a revision of the European species; the result of which I here submit, although the work is not so thorough as it should have been—some subjective deficiencies pertaining to it, as the non-examination of the neuration of the wings, etc.

The European Hesperian Fauna is so poor in species that, in comparison with the Fauna of the whole world, it is almost lost: even with the addition of the much richer Fauna of temperate North America, still appearing as only a small fragment of the whole, affording no satisfactory insight into the correlation of the forms, and causing the arrangement and limitation of the species to remain uncertain.

But so long as we are without a general System of the Hesperidæ which would meet present requirements, nothing remains to be done but to work up the individual Faunæ for one's-self: in order, in the first place, to meet the absolute wants of our collections and special catalogues, and secondly, to prepare the way for a complete work at some future time. That the attempts made hitherto to divide this multiform family into genera have remained rather unsatisfactory will not be disputed, and possibly least of all by the excellent authors themselves. Herrich-Schæffer, at least, who in the true scientific spirit undertook such a task in his *Prodromus Systematis Lepidopterorum* (1868), plainly understood its imperfection. It is, however, much to be regretted that this great work, based upon such comprehensive studies, has not been completed, for, as is known, it remains as a fragment.

---

already made in the Catalogue which I have received through the kindness of the author (*Catalogue of the Lepidoptera of America, North of Mexico, Part I., Diurnals*: By W. H. Edwards, Philadelph., 1877), I would remark, that, of the one hundred and eleven species there included, only forty-four have been in my possession, and that the American representatives of the genera *Carterocephalus*, *Thymelicus*, *Lintneria*,† *Achlyodes*, *Erycides*, *Pyrrhopyga* and *Megathymus* have been entirely wanting. That the generic diagnoses prepared by me somewhat hastily should have the honor of publication, I neither expected nor desired. How far these diagnoses will be sustained in their extension to the species unknown to me, and whether, and how far especially, the entire classification would have been modified, if instead of a part only, the whole number of species in nature were known to me, I am at present unable to judge. Finally, that Mr. Scudder, and not myself, is the author of the genera *Amblyscirtes* and *Pholisora*, has already been mentioned by Mr. Edwards. The genus *Thymelicus* Herrich-Schæffer (*Prodromus*, etc., p. 44, 1867) had already been well characterized.

† [This name having been previously used by Mr. Butler, for a genus of the Sphingidæ, it has been withdrawn by its author, and *Systasa* substituted for it. See this journal, vol. ix., p. 120.—J. A. L.]