

to the various parts of the ♂ genitalia as determined strictly by the law of priority; we can promise nothing startlingly new, but consider the lack of a uniform terminology sufficient warrant for thus obtruding ourselves upon the public notice.

The older writers, such as Burmeister, Kirby and Spence, and Siebold and Stannius, dismiss the subject of the ♂ genitalia of Lepidoptera in a few words. All the above authors use the term *valvæ* or *valves* for the two lateral outer appendages. Just who originated the term we have not been able to discover, but it dates back before 1815. Mention of further portions of the genital armature is first made by *De Haan* in 1842. This author has examined the genitalia of several exotic Papilios; he uses the term valves (kleppen) in the sense of the older writers, and makes further mention of two inner lateral appendages (zijdelingsche aanhangsels), and a blunt-pointed spine with two lateral plates at the extremity of the abdomen; he, however, applies no particular terms to these parts.

The first work of importance after this date dealing with ♂ genitalia is that of Scudder and Burgess in 1870. Here we meet with the term *clasp* employed instead of *valve*; a reference to the figures leaves no doubt that the two terms are identical. A "short, frequently bent or curving process, ordinarily somewhat triangular in shape, and very often armed with spinules," which arises from the basal portion of the lower half of the clasps (in the genus under discussion, Nisoniades, each clasp is divided into an upper and lower portion), is termed "*basal process*." The dorsal portion of the armature is simply referred to as the "*upper organ*."

In 1876 Buchanan-White issued a profusely illustrated monograph on the ♂ genital armature in the European Rhopalocera. Owing to the poor technical methods employed, the hair being simply removed from the anal segments, and the portions thus exposed delineated, little reliance can be placed on the figures. The author employs the term "*Harpago*" for the lateral valve, and designates the dorsal portion—the *upper organ* of Scudder and Burgess—by the name of *Tegumen*.

This work was followed in 1882 by a monograph of the clasping organs of the genus *Papilio* by Ph. H. Gosse. Besides a review of the existing literature, the author gives for the first time fairly exact definitions of the various portions of the genitalia. The term *Valves* is again employed for "two broad plates, which by free-working joints are united to the overlapping edges of the eighth abdominal segment. They are clothed on the exterior with scales like those of the body. Their direction