## ON THE TERMINOLOGY OF DIPTERA.

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vein; the second belongs to the first section of the posterior part of the wing, and extends as far as the anterior basal transverse vcin; the third belongs to the second section of the same part of the wing, and joins the posterior basal transverse vein. These three cells may, in general, be called the three basal cells (cellulæ busales). The foremost of them is generally much longer than the two others, a proportion which is usually indicated by the expression of "one large and two small basal cells;" against this mode of expression nothing can be objected, since it implies no we retainty. It is, however, a little puzzling to invent a convenient term, when the posterior basal transverse vein, instead of running to the sixth longitudinal vein, assumes the character of a longitudinal vein, and runs to the border of the wing, so that the hindmost basal cell joins the border of the wing. Not only in this case, but also when the hindmost basal cell, though closed, is distinguished from the second basal cell by a much more considerable length, it is usually named the annl cell (cellula analis), and then, consequently, two basal cells are considered to be present. Badly chosen as the term "anal cell" may be, it is, nevertheless, so settled that it will be difficult to remove it by the introduction of a more convenient one. In certain families the great and very symmetrical development of the three basal cells is characteristic; they are then called the ternated cells (cellulæ ternutæ), which term, though expressive of the thing, seems to be superfluous. One of the most important cells is that belonging to the first section of the posterior part of the wing, and extending from the anterior basal transverse vein to the posterior transverse vein, and bearing the little transverse vein on its anterior margin; it is generally called the discoidal or discal cell (cellula discoidulis). When the anterior basal transverse vein is wanting, which is characteristic in many families and genera, this cell coalesces with the second basal cell, which then must be considered as a part of the discoidal cell; if the posterior transverse vein has disappeared, there is no discoidal cell at all. In those Diptera which possess the anterior intercalary vein, sometimes the part of the posterior transverse vein situated before or behind this intercalary vein is wanting, and in that case the existence of a discal cell is granted, which, in the former instance, is considered as anteriorly opened, in the latter, as posteriorly opened.

The second cell of the middle of the wing opening in its border, and those of the two first sections of the posterior part of the