ON THE TERMINOLOGY OF DIPTERA.

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logical expressions, since it is not so much the nature of the received terms as the consent in their application which we must aim at. I therefore think it most advisable to retain such names for the denomination of the wing-cells, as are already in general use. But in adopting these names I cannot but mention that many of them do not seem to be well chosen, and that I accept them only with the intention of bringing about a terminology generally agreed upon.

I shall, therefore, call the cells belonging to the first section of the wing the costal cells (*cellulæ costales*), these of the second the marginal cells (cellulæ marginales), and those of the third the submarginal cells (cellulæ submarginales). The latter are of the greatest importance for characterizing families and genera, as well as for the distinction of species. When the second and third longitudinal veins are simple, and the third anterior section is consequently undivided, there exists only one submarginal cell; but when the third longitudinal vein has a branch running to the border of the wing, we count two such cells, an anterior and a posterior one; when the anterior branch of the third longitudinal vein is also connected with the second longitudinal vein by a transverse vein, the number of submarginal cells amounts to three, among which that, formed by the inner part of the anterior submarginal cell, is called the interior submarginal cell; when the anterior branch of the third longitudinal cell assumes the form of a transverse vein running to the second longitudinal vein, only an interior and an exterior submarginal cell are distinguished.

A mong the existing names, none is well applicable as a common denomination either to the cells belonging to the middle of the wing or to those of each of the two first sections of the posterior part of the wing; I am compelled, therefore, though not without relactance, to give up the application of such names. Among the cells of the portion just mentioned, there are three that have generally been too little noticed in the description of the neuration of the wing. Their different forms give very good characters, the more so as, on the whole, the differences, which the neuration shows in the neighborhoad of the base and costal border, have always a higher systematic value than those occurring near the tip or the posterior border of the wing. Those three cells are placed nearest to the base of the wing; the first of them belongs to the middle of the wing, and reaches as far as the small transverse

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