

not go either way, but obstinately retains its original primitive central position. This happens in the Skippers and Noctuids. The result is that the vein becomes isolated by the disintegration of the supporting discal cross-vein, a process which is never stayed. Then the second median branch, deprived of support and nutriment, fades away. For particulars of this theory of the movement of the median branches, see various articles issued by me in the years 1897 to 1899. The radial position is assumed by the Pierids and Nymphalids, also the Nemeobiidæ. The cubital, by the Papilionides and Dismorphians, which latter include *Leucophasia*. The central position is retained by the Skippers, apparently yielding to the cubital in the Megathymidæ. The movements of the radial branches and the median may be traced in all lepidoptera. Although I have worked them out chiefly from the diurnals, they are intelligible only as part of a system generally applicable. All genera of butterflies show the wings in comparative stages of advance in this respect. For instance, let us compare the wings of *Parnassius* with those of *Papilio*. These movements, which are frozen in the Swallow-tails, are released in the Apollo butterfly and its kindred; in other words: *Parnassius* is seen to be here the specialized and *Papilio* the relatively generalized form. I say *relatively*, because all these changes are gradual and one form must be compared with another to ascertain the difference in extent of these two movements. The grades are innumerable, established by the delicate differences of these natural instruments of measure. Another truth, which I have dwelt upon elsewhere, may now find its place: *The specializations, of the two systems and of all other features in the wing, are unequal.* This prevents snap judgment as to which is *ahead*, and which is *behind*, when we discuss the position of different groups and endeavor to establish it by a single feature. Rank is not an absolute and determinable condition in all cases; the specializations of moths may exceed those of butterflies. Moths may represent younger forms and butterflies may be older than we might suppose. We now come to

*The anal veins,*

which are theoretically four in number. The first anal (submedian fold) has disappeared as a vein, and appears only as a fold in most generalized forms. The fourth and third anal veins depart one after the other; the second anal is alone permanent. The Hesperiades have two anal veins remaining, the second and third; the Papilionides only one, the second.