

coat of felt, the color of which differs from that of the rest of the surface. With only one exception (*Pyrgus Poggei*), it is, in all the European Hesperians, either well developed or entirely absent; in this respect it is a good characteristic, but as a generic character, is only to be taken *cum grano salis*, unless we would separate, without good reason, forms which are naturally associated.

I call that the discoidal stigma which Dr. Herrich-Schaeffer has designated as "schuppenwulst" (a pad of scales), forming a peculiar structure in the disk of the fore wings. The expression employed by Herrich-Schaeffer would give a quite false idea of the nature of this structure. The deep black streak of which it consists wholly or in part, is neither a puffy elevation nor formed of scales, but is composed of a dense felt-like substance of very fine, short, stiff and bristly fibres, as may be seen by placing scrapings of it beneath the microscope. In its simplest form (*Thymelicus lineola*) it is nothing but a slender black streak, the surrounding part of the wing, presenting no alteration in its normal scaly covering. In case of increased extension of the streak, however, the change affects also the surrounding area. The scales of the wing that encircle it are raised and undergo various alterations, some of them assuming the form of the antenna of a Diurnal butterfly. Still greater changes take place in the structure of the whole area in the midst of which this streak is placed in some American species (*Pamphila Huron* Edw.).

Less diversity appears in the situation and direction of the black streak. It generally starts from the dorsal-vein,\* either at the end of the first third of its length, or a little before that point; then it runs across the first branch of the median-vein, where it is frequently contracted or sometimes interrupted by raised scales, advancing in an oblique course upward and outward to the origin of the second and third branches of the median at the lower corner of the middle cell. Among the species known to me, there occurs only in *Pamphila mathias* F., an essential deviation in the situation and direction of the stigma.

While the stigma furnishes good specific characters, it is of no generic value, since in nearly related species it is at one time present and at another absent. What appears to be of greater importance is the presence or absence of a hair-tuft on the posterior tibiae. Of the Hesperidae here

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\* [Generally known to American Entomologists as the submedian vein.—L.]