

What has been thus proven in Crustacea will certainly be observed also with other Articulates. Since insects do not possess a post-abdomen, there cannot occur the same differences as in the case cited, but analogous ones will not be wanting. It is obvious that so-called "salt insects" are the first ones which will need new and careful study. Those known are Coleoptera, Diptera, Hemiptera and Orthoptera, and the species are often nearly related to other ones which do not live in salt regions. Further, it is evident that similar changes will be the result of different conditions of life. So-called "local varieties" are certainly nothing else, and a vast field of observation and study is opened by the remarkable discoveries of Mr. Schmaukevitch. I believe that we are now justified when we exclude from generic characters all the following ones :

1. Every character based on the number of parts, when the number ceases to be a small one ; the more so when it varies in related species. If a number is larger than about a dozen, we can never rely upon the constancy of the number in antennal joints or anal appendages. In spines, bristles, spurs, a much smaller number is constant ; transversal veins of the wings belong to the same category.

2. The external coating of the body, consisting in hairs, scales and other appendages, is not a generic character. The hairs, tufts, brushes, spines, spurs, are often only sexual and can not be considered generic characters ; also, hairy eyes, since we find this character changing in the most related species and probably in the same species in Diptera.

3. The presence or want of the ocelli or eyes is not a generic character.

4. The veins of the wings give only to a certain degree generic characters, viz : the principal branches, but certainly not after their bifurcation.

Having arrived so far by exclusion, it is important to state what is left for generic characters.

So far as I am advanced in the study of generic characters, I think the following should be used :

1. The form and relation of the three principal parts of the body.
2. The organs providing nutrition (mouth parts).
3. The organs making possible the working of the mouth parts, *i. e.*, the organs of locomotion.

The anatomical characters may be of prominent help. At present our knowledge as to their details is too limited to admit our using them to a