

family is somewhat limited. It appears to be American, and to be confined to the plains east of the rocky backbone of the continent from north to south. In our fauna it seems to be a southern element. Hübner calls this group *Communiiformes*. Perhaps he intended thereby to indicate a return to the more usual moth form, the fore wings tending to become narrower, the secondaries subordinating, the abdomen lengthening. I have in my "Hawk Moths" alluded to the probability that the Hawk Moths may be a further offshoot from the Lepidopterous stem in a parallel direction with the *Ceratocampinæ*.

#### Sub-family *Lachneinæ*.

In this group there is a return to the normal moth form with a tendency to the lengthening of the abdomen noticeable in the caterpillars. This lengthening of the abdomen and a certain weakness in structure dependent upon this lengthening, seems to be indicative of lower rank in insects generally and in the several suborders. The moths of the *Lachneinæ* resemble preceding groups in the absence of ocelli and frenulum. The hind wings are subordinate to the primaries, the colors mostly of shades of brown and gray, with oblique transverse bands, more or less broken. The palpi are more prominent than in the preceding groups, the tongue remaining weak. The ornamentation of the long-bodied caterpillars consists of tufts of hair. Our North American fauna is poor in species. We have two genera derived from a former circumpolar fauna, also found in Europe, *Clisiocampa* and *Gastropacha*. We have, then, two genera which seem to me of South American extraction, *Tolype* and *Artace*. The species of *Clisiocampa* are very closely allied. They offer ground for the correctness of the view which I have expressed that in North America, species tend to vary, to throw off local, perhaps, what Walsh called phytophagic varieties or species. The wide extent of country, with its differing climate and flora, inhabited by *Clisiocampa*, has led to the throwing off of specifically appearing forms, which may have hardened in most cases into true species, separable in nearly all stages by external characters. An instance is offered also by *Datana*, which I regard as an offshoot from *Phalera*; while there are only two species of *Phalera*, there seem many closely allied species of *Datana*. The eggs are laid in a ring-form on twigs, and the caterpillars of *Clisiocampa* are well-known as enemies by the orchardist.