ON THE LEPIDOPTEROUS INSECTS OF THE DISTRICT AROUND LIVERPOOL.

By Charles Stuart Gregson.

(Read 21st February, * 1856.)

In preparing this list, I have arranged the species in the position in which they would stand, in the great world of Lepidoptera. All who have gone before me have prepared their local lists as if there were not any other countries where Lepidoptera abound. This will explain the seeming irregularity of passing from Group "one" to "three" or "five" in a Genus, or of commencing a Family or Genus at "two," "four" or "six."

Part I contains the Diurnal Lepidoptera.

Part II the Sphingidae and Bombycidae.

Part III (previously printed) the true Noctuidae, and

Part IV the Pyralidae.

I propose that Part V shall include the whole of the Geometridae.

Part VI, the Tortricidae, and

Part VII, the Crambidae and Tineidae.

OMITTED FROM PART III, SECTION 4.

Genus Miana, St.

M. erraticula, Hb.—Plentiful on flowers on the coast at dusk. July and August.

Genus Mania, Tr.

Group 2.

M. maura, Lin.—Plentiful on sugar in August. Hale and Croxteth.

* The former portion of this paper is printed; Transactions volume vii. pp. 237–254.
PART I.
Class INSECTA.
Order LEPIDOPTERA.
Section 1. RHAPALOCERA Bdv.
PAPILIONIDEÆ.

FAMILY 2. PIERIDÆ.

Genus PIERIS, Bdv.

*P. Brassica*, Lin.—Abundant about Gardens. Larva on Cabbages, particularly in September and October.

*P. Rapo*, Lin.—In profusion about gardens in summer.

*P. Napi*, Lin.—Plentiful at Linacre and Garston.

Genus ANTHOCARIS, Bdv.

*A. Cardamines*, Lin.—Abundant from Allerton to Hale, and plentiful in the district between Crosby, Sefton, and Lydiate; a few may be met with in the swampy parts of Wirral, on the wing. April and May.

Genus LEUCOPHASIA, Steph.

*L. Sinapis*, Lin.—In a rough plantation between Hooton Station and Mollington. May.

Genus GONEPTERYX, Leach.

RHODOCERA, Bdv.

*G. Rhamni*, Lin.—Mr. Nixon took it at Hale in April. I took it at Simonswood in the end of July.

Genus COLLAS, Bdv.

*C. Edusa*, Lin.—I have seen three specimens captured within this district;—one by T. Dean, in Pigue Lane; one by Mr. Cauty, at New Brighton; and one by a non-collector, at Saughall Massey. August and September.

FAMILY 3. LYCÆNIDÆ.

Genus THECLA, Fab.

*T. Quercus*, Fab.—I have taken this species in a piece of rough ground beyond Eastham. The Chester railway crosses this fine collecting ground. End of July and August.


Genus CHRYSOPHANUS, Hub.

LYCÆNÆ, Och. POLYOMMATUS, Bdv.

*C. Phlaas*, Bdv.—Generally distributed, the finest specimens between Bootle and Walton, in August.
Genus Polyommatus, Steph.

Lyceana, Bdv.

P. Argiolus, Bdv.—Taken around Eastham and Hooton, by T. Harris, Esq., and at Hale, by Mr. Nixon. May.

P. Alsus, Fab.—Two specimens by myself, at Neston. Several between Rainhill and Ditton. Early in June.

P. Aepon, Bork.—Plentiful on dry heaths, particularly on Bidston Hill in July.

P. Alexis, Fab.—In profusion on the sand hills and on the railway banks at Olive Mount.

Family 4. Erycimide.

Genus Nemebius, Steph.

N. Lucina, Steph.—I have taken a few specimens of this species at the place at which I got Thecla Quercus. End of May.


Genus Argynnis, Och.

A. Aglaia, Och.—Plentiful a few years ago at New Brighton; a few specimens may still be seen at this side of the Red Noses; not scarce from Little Brighton to Hightown, on the Lancashire coast, in July.

A. Euphrosyne, Och.—Not scarce in the rough woods beyond Bromborough. May.

Genus Melitea, Fab.

M. Artemis, Fab.—Plentiful from Maghull to Lydiate, particularly on the canal bank. May.

Genus Vanessa, Fab.

V. Cardui, Fab.—Plentiful where its food abounds; its larvae may be detected upon the thistles by the discolouration of the lower leaves. Flies in Spring and August.

V. Atalanta, Fab.—Plentiful where nettles grow. September.

V. Io., Linn.—Abundant, larvae gregarious on nettles. Spring, July, and August.

V. Urtica, Linn.—Larvae in profusion on nettles.

V. C. album, Fab.—Hooton, Hale, Woolton, not plentiful; one in my garden September 12, 1854.


Genus Satyrus, Bdv.

S. Semele, Linn.—Abundant on waste lands in July and August.


S. Tithonus, Linn.—Plentiful on sandy banks in lanes. July.
S. Megera, Linn.—In lanes everywhere in Summer.
S. Ægeria, Linn.—Taken from Bromborough to Eastham, by Mr. Edmondson, on the high road. April.
S. Davus, Fab.—In profusion on Simonswood moss. June.
S. Pamphilus, Linn.—Common on unenclosed grounds.

**Family 10. Hesperide, Bdv.**

*Genus Pamphila*, Steph.

*(Hesperide Auct.)*

P. linea, Fab.—A single specimen taken by myself, July, 1841, is the only instance of its capture in this district, that I am aware of. I took it near Gill Brook, Birkenhead.

P. sylvanus, Fab.—Is abundant on Simonswood moss, and plentiful upon Crosby sand hills, in May.

*Genus Thanaos*, Dup.

T. Tages, Linn.—In profusion in the same localities as Pamphila sylvanus.

**End of Part I.**

**PART II.**

**Section 2. Heterogera, Bdv.**

**Family 2. Sesiaes, Bdv.**

*Genus Trochilium*, Sco.

Sesia, Lasp. Ægeria, Fab.

T. Tipuliformis, Leach.—Taken at Hale Hall garden by Mr. Almond, and at West Derby by B. Cooke, Esq.

**Family 3. Sphingidae.**

*Genus Ægeria*, Fab.

Æ. Bombyciformis, Hub.—May be taken on poplar trees at Birkenhead, before 11 a.m.; it sits on the trunk of the tree. I have naturalised this species around Old Swan and Highfield. I placed the eggs on various poplars and willow trees ten years ago; it is now an abundant species here.

*Genus Sesia*, Fab.

S. Bombyliformis, Fab.—I have only seen one specimen; it was taken at Bidston. One by Mr. Leyland from same locality. (Mr. Almond.)

*Genus Macroglossa*, Och.

M. Stellatarum, Och.—Plentiful on Wallasey and Crosby sand hills; flies on the highest hills when the sun is hottest. Larvae on Galium verum.
Genus *DEILEPHILA*, Och.

*D. Porcellus*, Linn.—Plentiful flying over yellow Iris flowers, and over catch-fly flowers, about the coast. Dusk. May and June.

*D. Elpenor*, Linn.—May be taken with Porcellus. Larva on E. hirsutum in August.

**GROUP 2.**

*D. Euptiorbice*, Och. A specimen of this species taken in an out-house at Bidston, by W. Morgan, is now in my cabinet; two of its larvae have been taken between Little Brighton and Hightown, from Euphorbia Paralias.

*D. Galii*, Fab.—A specimen taken by Mr. Rainford, between Bootle and Linacre Marsh.

*D. lineata*, Fab.—I possess a fine specimen taken by F. Hitchmough, at Hale, April, 1847.

Genus *SPHINX*, Linn.

*S. Convolvuli*, Linn.—Oxton Hill, Liscard, Hale, and New Brighton, over petunias and hollyhocks. Dusk.

Genus *ACHERONTIA*, Och.

*A. Atropos*, Och.—Hale, Bidston, and Bootle, on potatoes; 17 bred by W. Rainford; fed upon *Lycium lanceolatum*.

Genus *SMERINTHUS*, Lat.

*S. Ocellata*, Linn.—Plentiful under overhanging banks at New Brighton, in June; larva on sallows in August.

*S. Populi*, Linn.—Plentiful where Ontario poplars grow, in June; larva in August.


Genus *ANTHROCERA*, Scop.

*A. Trifolii*, Esp.—In profusion on Hale Marsh. June.

*A.*—5 spot, Loniceræ? near St. Helens, on a dry hill-side on the road to Eccleston.

*A. Filipendula*, Linn.—Common on waste lands and about old pastures.

Genus *PROCRIS*, Fab.

*P. Statices*, Fab.—Hale Marsh, the Dungeon, and below Crosby. June.


Genus *EUCHELIA*, Bdv.

*E. Jacobæa*, Linn.—Plentiful on the coast and upon the mosses, in June. Larvae on Senecio Jacobæa, July.
Genus Lithosia, Fab.

*L. Rubricollis*, Fab.—I have bred this species from pupa in moss about Jackson's Wood, and Bidston.

*L. complana*, Linn.—Simonswood Moss; two specimens taken on the wing at dusk; others seen end of July, 1851.

*L. Complanula*, Bdv.—Plentiful around West Derby, where beeches grow. Larvae on beech trunks when covered with Lichen ——?

*L. Mesomella*, Linn.—I meet with this insect sometimes in a wood between the Little Britain inn and Simonswood Moss. June.

Genus Nudaria, Haworth.

*N. Munda*, Linn.—Abundant from Tranmere Hall to Prenton, in June; feeds upon Lichen on old stones. Bred freely by Mr. Almond.

Family 6. Arctiidae, Leach.

Cheloniades, Bdv.

Genus Nemepheila, Steph.

*N. Russula*, Linn.—In the swampy ground in Jackson's Wood, and at the Decoy at Hale. July.

*N. Plantaginiis?*—Prenton Hill and Stourton; flies before noon.

Genus Arctia, Steph.

Group 1.

*A. Caja*, Linn.—Abundant in the larva state in lanes.

Group 2.

Genus Phragmatobia, Steph.

*P. Fuliginosa*, Linn.—Common on waste lands. May and August.

Group 3.

*P. Lubricepeda*, Fab.—In profusion about gardens in June.

*P. Mentastri*, Fab.—In lanes and gardens; common.

*P. mendica*, Linn.—About dirty gardens in Wirral, where chick weed grows freely, particularly if there are lettuces growing amongst the chick weed.

Family 7. Liparidae.

Genus Liparis, Och.

Group 3.

*L. Salices*, Och.—Larvae plentiful at Crosby; feeds upon Ontario poplar in May.

Group 4.

*L. Auriflua*, Fab.—Larvae abundant in the thorn hedges at Bidston and Wallasey, in July.
**Genus OHGYIA**, Och.

**GROUP 1.**

*O. Ccenosa*, Hub.—My friend, T. Townley, first discovered this species at Altcar, and afterwards at Bidston Marsh. Larva on reeds in May.

**GROUP 2.**

*O. pudibunda*, Och.—Plentiful near woods and plantations.

*O. fasciculina*, Och.—Larvae in profusion on the sallows at Crosby, in April and May.

*O. Coryli*, Och.—A few bred from larva, taken at Croxteth Park.

**GROUP 3.**

*O. antiqua*, Och.—Abundant throughout the district, on the wing. August and September.

**FAMILY 8. BOMBYCIDÆ.**

*Genus CLISIOCAMPA*, Curtis.

*C. Neustria*, Linn.—Plentiful from Upton to West Kirby. July.

*Genus ERIOGASTER*, Germ.

*E. Lanestris*, Germ.—Larvae plentiful on dog rose and thorn, about old pits in Wirral. May and June.

*Genus PÆCILOCAMPA*, Steph.

*P. Populi*, Linn.—Bidston Light House, and at lamps in West Derby. October and November.

*Genus LASIOCAMPA*, Steph

*L. Rubi*, Linn.—Common on heaths and waste lands. May.

*L. Quercus*, Schr.—Plentiful at the same places as Rubi. June and July.

*L. Trifolii*, Fab.—Larvae abundant in May at New Brighton and at Crosby; perfect insect in August.

*Genus Odonestes*, Ger.

*O. potatoria*, Germ.—Common in lanes.

**FAMILY 9. SATURNIDÆ.**

*Genus Saturnia*, Sch.

*S. Carpini*, Bork.—Plentiful on heaths and mosses. April and May.

**FAMILY 11. ZEUZERIDÆ.**

*Genus Cossus*, Fab.

*C. Ligniperda*, Fab.—Has been taken all around the district.

**HEPIALIDÆ, Steph.**

*Genus Heptialus*, Fab.

*H. Humuli*, Linn.—Common on grass land in June.
H. Velleda, Esp.—Wood near Simonswood Moss, on honey-suckle in July.
H. sylvinus, Linn.—Liscard and New Brighton; on the wing at dusk in July.
O. lupulinus, Fab.—Abundant in old lanes. June.
H. Hectus, Fab.—In damp woods; flies about at 7 o'clock, p.m., at Bromborough, Hale, and Croxteth. June.

**Family 14. Drepanulidae.**

*Genus Cilex,* Leach.
*C. spinula,* W. V.—Plentiful in lanes. June.

*Genus Platypteryx,* Lasp.

**Group 1.**

*P. lacertula,* Esp.—Birch Wood, and near Simonswood Moss.

**Group 2.**

*P. falcula,* Hub.—Common where Lacertula is taken. May and June.

**Family 15. Notodontidae.**

*Pseudo-bombicina,* Boisd.

*Genus Cerula,* Sch.
*C. bifida,* Hub.—Prenton Wood and Wallasey, on poplar trees. May.
*C. Vinula,* Sch.—Plentiful where poplars and willows grow. May.

*Genus Notodonta,* Och.

**Group 1.**

*N. camelina,* Och.—Larvae plentiful on sallows in the pleasure grounds at Bidston, in September; also on birches.

**Group 2.**

*N. dictcea,* Och.—Larva on sallows and poplars; perfect insect; comes to lights.
*N. dictceoides,* Esp.—Comes to Bidston Light House on dark nights in July. Larva on birch August and September.

**Group 3.**

*N. Dromedarius,* Och.—I take its larvae at Simonswood and at Birch Wood, by beating in September.
*N. ziczac,* Linn.—Larva on willows on the coast. September.

**Group 5.**

*N. chaonia,* W. V.—First taken by B. Cooke, Esq., on a gate-post at Eastham. Two at Hooton by T. Harris, Esq. April.

*Genus Diloba,* Boisd.

*D. caeruleocephala,* Linn.—Common at lamps in Autumn. West Derby.

*Genus Pygæra,* Boisd.

*P. bucephala,* Linn.—Larvae common on oaks and willows in August.
Genus CLOSTEEA, Hoff.
C. Reclusa, Fab.—One specimen taken at the old wood in Kirkby, is all I have seen in this district.

End of Part II.


PART IV.

SECTION 6.
HETEROCERA.
DELTOIDE.

FAMILY 2. HYPERNOIDE, H. S.

Genus HYPERNA, Schrank.

GROUP 3.

H. probosidalis, Och.—Abundant in stables.

Genus HYPERNODES, Gn.

H. costa-strigalis, St.—Plentiful on Prenton and Bidston Hills. Comes to sugar in July.

FAMILY 3. HERMINIDE, Dup.

Genus RIVULA, Gn.


Genus HERMINIA, Lat.

GROUP 4.

H. tarsicrinalis, Knock.—Taken by W. Skellon at Green Bank.

H. Grisealis, W. V.—Not uncommon in Bidston Plantation, and plentiful at Kirby Old Wood, and at Hale.

GROUP 7.

H. cribralis, Hub.—Specimens taken by Mr. Nixon, at or near Hale.

SECTION 7.
PYRALIDE.

FAMILY 1. Genus PYRALIS, Linn.

GROUP 2.

P. farinalis, Linn.—In profusion in granaries.

GROUP 3.

P. glancinalis, Step.—One taken at Hale Bank is in my cabinet.
Genus Aglossa, Lat.

*4. pinquinalis*, Lat.—Plentiful in old stables.

Section 8.

Luride, Gn.

Family 2. Ennychidae, Dup.

Genus Pyrausta, Sch.


*P. purpuralis*, Curt.—Sutton, Parkgate, and Ditton.

*P. ostrinalis*, Curt.—Plentiful on the sand hills.

Genus Rhodaria, Gn.

*R. sanguinalis*, Linn.—Wallasey sand hills, where wild thyme grows. Evening, June.

Genus Herbula, Gn.

*H. cespitalis*, W. V.—Not scarce on the Cheshire coast sand hills.

Genus Ennychia, Tr.

*E. cingulata*, Step.—Plentiful, but local, on the Wallasey sand hills; flies about 5 p.m. May and August.

Family 5.

Hydrocampidae, Gn.

Genus Cataclysta, H. S.

*C. Lemnalis*, H. S.—In every old pit.

Genus Paraponyx, Step.

*P. Stratiotalis*, Step.—May be found in a large pit behind New Brighton, on the lower side, opposite the stile road to Wallasey Church; is also in a round pit on Bidston Marsh. Flies at dusk, June.

Genus Hydrocampha, Lat.


Family 8. Botydae, Gn.

Genus Botys, Lat.

Group 4.


Group 5.

*B. Urticalis*, Step.—Abundant at Liscard, and pupae plentiful on white poplar, under loose bark.
**Genus Ebulia, Gn.**

*E. crocealis*, Tr.—Woods around Kirkby, Eccleston, and Lydiate. June.

*E. Sambucalis*, Albin.—Plentiful at Wallasey, Ford, and Linacre, in garden hedges.

**Genus Pionea, Gn.**

**Group 2.**

*P. forficalis*, Linn.—May be bred from larvae found in curled leaves of Silene inflata, in May.

**Genus Spilodes, Gn.**

**Group 2.**

*S. sticticalis*, Linn.—Two specimens taken by N. Cooke, Esq., and five specimens taken by R. S. Edleston, Esq., at Wallasey sand hills, are all that have yet been taken here. July, in the sun.

**Genus Scopula, Sch.**

**Group 1.**

*S. lutealis*, Haw.—Abundant about ditches; bred from Silene inflata. June.

**Group 2.**

*S. olivalis*, W. V.—Plentiful in damp places, particularly in woods.


**Group 4.**

*S. Ferrugalis*, Hb.—I once met with this species in a clump of trees, at the bottom of Mrs. Peacock's garden, at Saughall Massey. I have not heard of it in any other locality.

**Scoparia, Gn.**

**Genus Stenopteryx, Gn.**

*S. hybridalis*, Hb.—Plentiful on Bidston Marsh, and on the sand hills.

**Genus Scoparia, Haw.**

**Group 2.**

*S. ambiqualis*, Tr.—May be taken at Jackson's Wood, and at Birch Wood. July.

*S. centralalis*, Haw.—Neston and Woodchurch. June and July.

*S. muralis*, Curt.—Prenton Hill. June.

*S. mercurialis*, Haw.—Bidston Hill and Fir Grove. End of May.


*S. frequentalis*, Sta.—Bidston, Edge Lane, and Green Bank. End of May.

*S. disputalis*, Greg. N.S.—Simonswood Moss. May. This distinct species is nearest allied to Frequentalis, Sta., and Mercurialis, Haw., but is readily distinguished from both these species, by its more suffused
appearance, the first fascia being less sharply defined, and the outer fascia more acutely bent outwards, the upper wings broader, and the under wings lighter, than in either of the above insects. Plentiful.

*S. resinalis*, Haw.—Fir Grove, Croxteth, and Allerton Hall. May & June.

*S. coarctalis*, Zell.—Plentiful throughout the district. Summer.

**GROUP 3.**

*S. palidulalis*, St.—Bidston Marsh, and on the wet land below Crosby, Simonswood, and other mosses.

*End of Part IV.*

**ABBREVIATIONS OF AUTHORS REFERRED TO.**


*Bork.* Borkhausen Europaischen Schmetterlinge. Franckfurt, 1792.

*Cl.* Clerck James, Insectorum Rariorm. 1764.


*Dalm.* Dalman Anatecta Entomologica. 1823.

*De Geer.* De Geer. History of Insects.

*Dup.* Duponchel. Natural History of Insects, and Catalogue. 1844.

*Esp.* Esper. Die Schmetterlinge in Abbildungen nach der natur. 1786.

*Fab.* Fabricius Entomologia Systematica. 1793.

*Ger.* Germar. Magazin der Entomologia. 1813-1821.


*Haw.* Hawarth Lepidoptera Britannica. 1803.

*Hb.* Hubner Sammlung Europäischer Schmetterlinge. 1796.


*Linn.* Linne Systema Naturae. 1767.

*Och.* Ochsenbeimer Systema Glossatorum Europæ. 1811.

*H. S.* Herrich Schoeffer. 1844 to 1846.

*Sch.* Schrænek Fauna Boica. 1801.

*Scop.* Scopoli Entomologia Carniolica. 1763.

*St. or Steph.* Stephen's Illustrations of British Entomology. 1829.

*Tr.* Treitschke Schmitterlinge von Europa. 1825-1826.


*W. V.* Wiener Verzeichniss. 1801.