

in the male; the tubular pit at the distal end seems to be always present. We have made use, in a subsidiary sense, of the difference in the length of the terminal joint in the sexes; but the gradation between different species in this respect is so complete, that the character is not available for any higher division.

*The eyes.*—In both sections of the family of which we are treating the eyes are in all cases more or less hairy. In a majority of cases the hairs are numerous and very distinct; but in others they are much less plainly visible and more sparsely distributed, and the extent of their presence does not furnish any satisfactory points for classification.

*The frontal scales.*—The head between the eyes is clothed with scales; as a rule, those in the upper portion are directed downwards until we come close to the base of the palpi, where their direction is reversed. With the flattened scales, narrow hair-like scales are more or less freely intermingled. Certain species depart from this rule—the hair-like scales in some wholly disappearing; in others the upward direction of the scales prevails throughout the space between the eyes. We have used these divergencies in our classification, giving it, we believe, thereby a natural aspect.

*The legs.*—The front legs throughout this family present, as a rule, very little diversity. In the male the tarsal joints are all fused into one piece, the claws are absent, but the under surface is furnished with strong spines, which at the proximal end are oblique, but towards the distal end become more transverse, the terminal spines standing at right angles to the axis of the tarsus. The trochanter is attached to the end of the coxa, except in the Old-World genus *Curetis*, where the coxa projects slightly beyond the trochanter, somewhat as in the family Erycinidæ. In the genus *Theclopsis*, described below, we have a singular departure from the usual structure of the male front leg, every joint being complete, and the terminal joint furnished with claws and the usual appendages of a perfect foot. So unusual a divergence from the ordinary type surprises us not a little, the outward resemblance of the species to the ordinary type of *Thecla* being complete. Still we cannot but suppose that similar structures remain to be discovered when more extensive researches are made. We have not noticed any characters in the other legs of the male, nor in any of those of the female, to help us in our classification.

*The shape of the wings.*—So far as *Thecla* is concerned, the shape of the wings is profoundly modified in the various species; a stronger contrast than exists between the primaries of *T. damo* and *T. syncellus* is hardly to be found elsewhere in the Rhopalocera. But not only does *T. damo* vary individually in this respect, but every intermediate gradation is to be found in the genus; moreover, as is so often the case in other families, the males have more pointed wings than the females. Regarding the secondaries, the shape of the anal angle, the extent to which it is produced, and the development of the anal lobe seem to us to afford tangible grounds for division; but we do not profess to be satisfied with the system we have adopted, the exceptions being