

XXVI. *A Synopsis of the genus Clothilda.*

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[Read 15th November, 1869.]

DURING an examination of a small collection of Diurnal *Lepidoptera* which was sent to this country by Mr. Ramsden, from the Island of Cuba, I discovered that errors have been made with respect to the identification of two members of the limited genus *Clothilda*, by all recent writers on Cuban *Rhopalocera*. In one case, the Haitian *C. pantherata* and its Cuban representative have been considered as one and the same species, though the latter received a different name from Hübner, which was afterwards recognized by Klug. In the other case, I found that the second Cuban form of this genus usually stands in collections as *C. jaegeri*, from which, however, it differs materially, as will be seen below. Besides these additions to the Antillean species, I have another to add to *C. euryale*, hitherto known as the sole representative of the genus on the continent of America; thus raising the whole number of species in this genus to six.

As stated in Doubleday and Hewitson's "Genera of Diurnal Lepidoptera," the genus *Clothilda* was first established by Blanchard, in 1840, upon *Argynnis briarea*, of Godart (*C. pantherata*). In all probability, Hübner's genus *Anicia* is of prior date to *Clothilda*, but as much uncertainty prevails regarding the years when the various portions of Hübner's great work were issued, and, moreover, as *Anicia* was never characterized, I think Hübner's title had best be set aside, and the arrangement of the "Genera" adhered to. For the same reasons, Hübner's name *Anelia*, applied in the third volume of the "Exotische Schmetterlinge" to *C. euryale*, must also be considered as a synonym.

The genus bears a strong resemblance to *Argynnis*, but differs chiefly in possessing a well-defined lower discocellular nervure to the posterior wing. Indeed, this feature is so well developed, that it renders the position of *Clothilda*, in the *Nymphalinae*, somewhat anomalous, if the character of the open or closed cell be taken as of primary importance.

In its distribution, *Clothilda* is one of the very few genera possessed in common by the Antilles and Central

America, to the exclusion of the rest of America. Two species are peculiar to Haiti, and two to Cuba; whilst one inhabits the highlands of Mexico and Guatemala, and another the mountainous parts of Costa Rica. All the species are, I believe, inhabitants of the damp forests of the higher mountainous districts, where a temperate climate prevails.

The following table will serve to separate the six species.

Clavis specierum.

- A. Species alis ochraceis, nigro-maculatis.
 - a. posticis, maculis nigris in serie duplici (margine excepto) positis, notatis. . . . 1. *C. pantherata.*
 - b. posticis, maculis nigris in serie triplici (margine excepto) positis, notatis. . . . 2. *C. numida.*
- B. Species alis fuscis, anticis supra aut subtus rubro-notatis.
 - a. anticis suprâ et subtus distinctè rubro-notatis.
 - a. posticis fuscis, haud fasciatis. . . . 3. *C. euryale.*
 - b. posticis fuscis, ochraceo late transfasciatis. 4. *C. insignis.*
 - b. anticis supra fuscis, subtus rubro-notatis.
 - a. anticis maculis albis, haud transfasciatis. 5. *C. jøgeri.*
 - b. anticis maculis albis distinctè vittatis. . 6. *C. cubana.*

The following generic titles have been applied by the following authors to members of the group.

- Clothilda*, Blanch. Hist. Nat. Ins. iii. 440 (1840). Type *C. pantherata.*
- „ Doubl. & Hew. Gen. Diurn. Lep. vol. i. (1846-50).
- „ Ménét. Enum. Corp. An. Mus. Petrop. p. 21 (1855).
- „ Herr.-Sch. Schm. Ins. Cuba, in Correspondenz-blatt, Regensburg (1863).
- Anicia*, Hübn. Exot. Schm. vol. ii. Type *A. numida.*
- Anelia*, Hübn. Exot. Schm. vol. iii. Type *A. euryale.*
- Argynnis*, Godt. Enc. Méth. ix. 261 (1819).
- „ Klug, Neue Schm. Mus. Berl. p. 2 (1836).
- „ Ménét. Nouv. Mém. Soc. Nat. Mosc. ix. 125 (1840).
- Papilio*, Martyn, Psyche, t. 12, f. 27; t. 14, f. 35 (1797).

1. CLOTHILDA PANTHERATA.

Papilio pantherata, Martyn, Psyche, t. 12, f. 27; t. 14, f. 35 (1797).

Clothilda pantherata, Doubl. & Hew. Gen. Diurn. Lep. i. 156.

Argynnis briarea, Godt. Enc. Méth. ix. 261 (1819).

Hab.—Haiti (*Jæger, Tweedie*). In Mus. Salv. and Godm.

This species has been long known to Entomologists, having been well figured by Martyn in the year 1797. Since that date, specimens appear to have been obtained by every collector who has visited the Island of San Domingo. The species was described by Godart in the year 1819, under the name *briarea*, and mention is made of it by Ménétriès in his list of Jæger's collection. Specimens were also procured in the neighbourhood of Port-au-Prince by the late Mr. Tweedie, from whose collection our specimens were derived. As Hübner's figure of *C. numida* is, perhaps, the best known, and more accessible than that of Martyn, I will here shortly point out the differences between *C. pantherata* and its Cuban representative. The most noticeable difference on the upper surface is on the hind wings, which bear a double instead of a triple row of black spots inside the dark margin; beneath, instead of a simple dark margin to the hind wings, there is a series of well-defined V-shaped black markings, bordered inwardly with white; the markings, too, of the posterior wings are much clearer, the row of black spots outside the cell being very conspicuous.

The sexes do not differ in coloration, but females are rather larger in size.

2. CLOTHILDA NUMIDA.

Anicia numida, Hübn. Ex. Schm. ii. pl. 22, 23.

Clothilda pantherata, H.-Sch. Schm. Ins. Cuba, p. 4.

Hab.—Cuba (*Ramsden*).

3. CLOTHILDA EURYALE.

Argynnis euryale, Klug, Neue Schm. Mus. Berl. p. 2, pl. ii. f. 1, 2 (1836).

Clothilda euryale, Doubl. & Hew. Gen. Diurn. Lep. i. 156, pl. 21, f. 4.

Anelia thirza, Hübn. Ex. Schm. iii. pl. 24.

Hab.—Mexico (*Deppe*; *Fenochio*) ; Guatemala (*Salvin* and *Godman*). In Mus. Salv. and Godm.

The specimens from which Klug took his original description were collected by Deppe, through whose exertions the Berlin Museum owes, in a great measure, its extensive series of the natural productions of Mexico. Deppe's discoveries, however, have so long remained unnoticed in the stores of that Institution, that the majority of the species have since been rediscovered by more recent explorers, and thus the fruits of his expedition have been fore-stalled. The present species, however, escaped the fate of many others, and was described by Klug as long ago as 1836.

The species is not uncommon in the highland districts of Guatemala. On one occasion, in the month of September, I captured several specimens which were flying lazily about the foot of a precipice reeking with moisture in the high mountains above the old Indian town of Quichè. The altitude of this spot is about 8000 feet above the sea level. It also occurred in the ravines of the Volcan de Fuego, at an elevation of about 7000 feet; and in the mountains surrounding the Plain of Salamá, in Vera Paz, at an elevation of 4000 feet. Specimens have also been forwarded to us from the northern slopes of the mountains of Alta Vera Paz, below the village of San Christobal.

As in *C. pantherata*, the male of this species does not differ in coloration from the female; it is, however, smaller, and has the anterior wings more pointed.

4. CLOTHILDA INSIGNIS, sp. n.

C. alis fuscis, anticis supra et subtus rubro-maculatis; posticis fuscis, ochraceo late transfasciatis.

♀. Antennæ black; palpi white, with a lateral black streak; head black, with three minute white spots; prothorax brown, thorax and abdomen very dark brown; wings rich brown, the posterior half of the cell of the anterior wings and outside the cell black, including rich red curved marks, just as in *C. euryale*; beyond this patch are ochre spots, two pairs on the costa, others in pairs along the outer margin; there are also others between the median branches; on the hind wings a broad curved ochre band, deeply sinuate on its outer edge, crosses the wing from the apical to the posterior angle, where it becomes almost white; the cilia of the hind wings bear white spots, inside which are other indistinct spots in pairs: beneath, rich ochre, with black and red spots corresponding to those of the upper surface, the latter being larger; at the base of the wing are some transverse and longitudinal pale marks, and the ochre marks on the rest of the wing correspond with those of the upper surface; on the hind wing there is a prominent red spot on the middle of the costa, an irregular black line, bordered with white, crosses the wing, three transverse white lines cross the cell to the submedian nervure, between which and the inner margin are longitudinal white lines; beyond the cell the nervures are black, and cut a deeply sinuate band of whitish; on the margin are large pale spots in pairs.

Hab.—Highlands of Costa Rica (*Arce*). In Mus. Salv. and Godm.

This species is closely allied to *C. euryale*, and evidently represents that species in the highlands of Costa Rica. For some time I considered this specimen to be a female of *C. euryale*, but having acquired true females of that species, I am now convinced that the Costa Rican *Clothilda* must be distinct.

My reasons for separating it may be thus shortly given. Individuals of *C. euryale* do not vary from one another in any appreciable degree, nor do members of other species of the genus, as *C. pantherata*, or *C. numida*. The sexes also are alike, both in *C. euryale* and *C. pantherata*, and, moreover, species from the highlands of Costa Rica, though evidently closely allied to their representatives in the highlands of Guatemala and Mexico, very frequently are appreciably different. Hence the

Costa Rican *Clothilda* would, *a priori*, very probably differ from the more northern species. We find that it does, and that the specimen does not represent the normal female of *C. euryale*. As shown before, the species of this genus have no apparent tendency to vary; I have, therefore, though at present only a single specimen has reached us, no further hesitation in considering that it belongs to a representative of the Mexican species, and is distinguishable by well-marked characters.

These differences consist in the presence of a well-marked band on the hind wings, and in the absence of the red spots seen in *C. euryale* on the same wings; beneath, the ochraceous colouring is bright, and instead of being brownish and the light markings forming a band beyond the cell, are very much larger, and more clearly defined; the margin of the hind wing is not so deeply sinuate, and the curvature of the outer margin of the anterior wing not so deeply concave.

5. CLOTHILDA JÆGERI.

Argynnis jægeri, Ménétr. Nouv. Mém. Soc. Nat. Mosc. ix. 125, pl. x. f. 3, 4 (1840).

Clothilda jægeri, Doubl. & Hew. Gen. Diurn. Lep. i. 157.

Hab.—Haiti (*Jæger*, *Tweedie*). In Mus. Salv. and Godm.

This species is quite distinct from the preceding. It differs in being smaller in size, in having the costa of the anterior wings less abruptly arched, and in being destitute of the brilliant red spots on the upper surface of the same wings, which have only a reddish tinge at the base; beneath, the markings are very indistinct compared with those of *C. euryale*.

This species seems to be very rare. Our specimen formed part of Mr. Tweedie's collection.

6. CLOTHILDA CUBANA, sp. n.

Clothilda jægeri, H.-Sch. Schm. Ins. Cuba, p. 4.

C. alis fuscis; anticis maculis albis distincte transfasciatis, subtus rubro-notatis.

♀. Antennæ black; palpi white, with a longitudinal black stripe; head, thorax, and abdomen, very dark brown; wings dark brown; anterior wings with a ma-

cular band of conspicuous white spots, extending from the costal margin to the posterior angle; outside this band is another white spot, between the third median branch and the lower radial; on the posterior wings a pale ochraceous band, cut by the nervures, stretches across the wing from the apical to the posterior angle: beneath, in addition to markings corresponding to those of the upper surface, there are faint blueish pencillings on the basal half of the cell, and red marks are situated one across the cell, others close to the median nervure, while others cross the interspaces between the median branches; the hind wings are mottled with grayish about the apical angle, and near the transverse band, and very faint dark and light stripes are placed transversely nearer the base of the wing.

Hab.—Cuba.

The form of the wings in this species is much the same as in *C. euryale*, but the apex of the anterior wings is more produced.

This species has been considered by Lepidopterists to be the female of *C. jægeri*; but besides the very different character of the markings, the close relationship of both with *C. euryale* would lead us to conclude that, as in that species, the sexes do not differ materially in outward form and markings.

The specimen from which my description was taken is in the collection of Mr. Cornthwaite.



Salvin, Osbert. 1869. "XXVI. A Synopsis of the genus *Clothilda*." *Transactions of the Entomological Society of London* 17, 391–397.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2311.1869.tb01114.x>.

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2311.1869.tb01114.x>

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