

## Lepidoptera - Rhopalocera

obtained by Mme J. Visser—Hooft of the Hague  
(Holland) during an exploration of previously  
unknown country in the Western  
Karakorum, N.W. India,

by

Colonel W. H. EVANS.

D.S.O. F.Z.S. F.E.S.

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The collection consisted of 410 specimens belonging to 27 species. In addition there were 27 moths, which have been sent to Mr. TAMS of the British Museum to work out. There are several interesting features regarding the collection and attention may be drawn to the paucity of species in the area. Since Mme VISSER was catching at elevations from 3,000 to 4,500 metres this might not perhaps be a matter for surprise, but in parts of Chitral and Central Asia many more species occur at similar elevations.

*Papilio machaon* is ubiquitous in Palaearctic territory and calls for no remark. Of *Parnassius* more species should occur, viz *simo* and *acco* as well as an *actius* form; of the three species encountered there seem to have been very few individuals. The *Pieridae* call for no remark except that *deota* appears to have replaced *brassicae*; I am not sure whether these two species occur together anywhere and if not, as I rather suspect, then *deota* is to be considered as a local race of *brassicae*. In the *Satyridae* one would have expected to find a *Karanasa* species; *Maniola pulchella* has probably reached its limit as it does not occur in C. Asia. In the *Nymphalidae*, *Argynnis hegemon* is an interesting capture and so also is *Melitaea saxatilis*, which has not previously been recorded from India, but has I understand



been obtained by General TYTLER from the Gilgit area. It is remarkable that no specimens of *Melitaea trivia* or *didyma* were obtained and it would seem that *saxatilis* has replaced and very likely is conspecific with one of them. Nymotypical *saxatilis* is Persian and it is not altogether certain whether the C. Asian forms usually regarded as *saxatilis* really belong to that species. The *Lycaenidae* were all rather rubbed specimens, but the two forms of *Polyommatus* are of especial interest. The *Hesperiidae* are represented by a single species; one would have expected to find *Hesperia sao* and *Pamphila comma*.

The nomenclature followed in the ensuing list is that used in my recent papers in the Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society on the "Identification of Indian Butterflies".

#### PAPILIONIDAE.

1. *Papilio machaon* L. 17 examples. All darker and rather more heavily marked than the Indian race *asiatica* MEN.

Localities; Khunjerah, 3700 M, 20—24<sup>th</sup> June; Ghujerab, 4000—4600 M, 28<sup>th</sup> June—3<sup>rd</sup> July; Shimshal, 4000 M, 18—20<sup>th</sup> July; Khurdapin, 3800 M, 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

2. *Parnassius epaphus* OB. 14 examples; typical.

Localities; Ghujerab, 4500 M, 4—6<sup>th</sup> June; Khunjerah, 4000 M, 25—26<sup>th</sup> June; Ghujerab, 4000—4500 M, 28<sup>th</sup> June—4<sup>th</sup> July; Mandi Kushlag, 4200 M, 6<sup>th</sup> July; Shimshal, 3500—3600 M, 20—25<sup>th</sup> July.

3. *Parnassius delphioides* EVERS. 2 examples referable to the small pale race *hunza* GG.

Locality; Mandi Kushlag, 4200 M, 6<sup>th</sup> July.

4. *Parnassius charltonius* GRAY. 3 examples; typical,

Locality; Shimshal, 3000—3500 M, 12—20<sup>th</sup> July.

#### PIERIDAE.

5. *Pieris chloridice* HUB. 3 examples; typical.

Localities; Pasu, 2400 M, 5<sup>th</sup> June and 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug.; Shimshal, 3000 M, June.

6. *Pieris callidice* ESP. 11 examples; typical of race *kalora* M.

Localities; Khunjerah, 3150—4000 M, 12—26<sup>th</sup> June;



Ghujerab, 4000 M, 2<sup>nd</sup> July; Batura, 3000—3200 M, 29—31<sup>st</sup> Aug.

7. *Pieris daphidice* L. 1 example; typical of race *moorei* ROB. Locality; Batura, 3250 M, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept.

8. *Pieris deota* DE N. 5 examples.

Localities; Khunjerah, 3950 M, 25<sup>th</sup> June; Shimshal, 3350—3600 M. 19—20<sup>th</sup> July.

9. *Pieris rapae* L. 71 examples. Very variable as usual. Localities; Baltit, May; Gircha, June; Shimshal, 3000 M, June and 8<sup>th</sup> July; Pasu, 2400 M, 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug.

10. *Colias hyale* L. 16 examples.

Localities; Shimshal, 3000 M, June; Pasu, 2400 M, 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug.

11. *Colias eogene* FD. 6 examples; typical.

Localities; Ghujerab, 4500 M, 4<sup>th</sup> July; Shimshal, 3300—3600 M, 19—22<sup>nd</sup> July; Batura, 3100 M, 12<sup>th</sup> Sept.

12. *Colias croceus* FOUR. 1 example; referable to race *edusina* BUT.

Locality; Peshwari, 2700 M, 29<sup>th</sup> Oct.

### SATYRIDAE.

13. *Maniola pulchella* FD. 25 examples; more or less typical. Localities; Batura, 3000—3250 M, 30<sup>th</sup> Aug.—30<sup>th</sup> Sept.

14. *Eumenis mnischechii* HS. 1 very worn specimen referable to the race *lehana* M.

Locality; Khaibar, 21<sup>st</sup> Aug.

15. *Aulocera swaha* KOLL. 1 very worn specimen.

Locality; Batura, 3000 M, 29<sup>th</sup> Aug.

16. *Erebia mani* DE N. 4 examples; more or less typical.

Locality; Shimshal, 3350—4000 M, 19—20<sup>th</sup> July.

### NYMPHALIDAE.

17. *Vanessa cardui* L. 10 examples.

Localities; Baltit, May; Tragbal, April; Pasu, 5<sup>th</sup> June; Gircha, 8<sup>th</sup> June; Khunjerah, 3150 M, 12<sup>th</sup> June; Shimshal, 3300 M, 19<sup>th</sup> July.

18. *Vanessa egea* CR. 2 examples; belonging to race *undina* GG.

Localities; Khunjerah, 3150 M, 12<sup>th</sup> June; Batura, 3000 M, 29<sup>th</sup> Aug.



19. *Argynnis aglaia* L. 80 examples, belonging to the race *vithata* MOORE.

Localities; Batura, 3000—3600 M, 29<sup>th</sup> Aug.—30<sup>th</sup> Sept.

20. *Argynnis pales* SCHIFF. 1 example belonging to the race *sipora* M.

Locality; Khunjerah, 3800 M, 21<sup>st</sup> June.

21. *Argynnis hegemone* STG. 4 examples; typical.

Localities; Ghujerab, 3800 M, 3<sup>rd</sup> July; Mandi Kushlag, 4000 M, 6<sup>th</sup> July.

22. *Melitaea saxatilis* CHRIST. 10 examples; a rather pale form of the race *fergana* STG.

Localities; Khunjerah, 3900 M, 9<sup>th</sup> June; Chapdangal, 4100 M, 29<sup>th</sup> June; Ghujerab, 4300—4600 M, 3—5<sup>th</sup> July; Mandi Kushlag, 4000 M, 6<sup>th</sup> July.

### LYCAENIDAE.

23. *Lycaena metallica* HUB. 28 examples, rather smaller and paler than the typical form, but the specimens are all very worn.

Localities; Shimshal, 3300—3600 M, 18—22<sup>nd</sup> July.

24. *Polyommatus eros* OCHS., race *hunza* GG. 21 examples.

Localities; Shimshal, 3300—3600 M, 18—22<sup>nd</sup> July.

25. *Polyommatus eros* OCHS., race *janetae* nov. 57 examples.

Localities; Khunjerah, 3700 M, 21<sup>st</sup> June; Ghujerab, 4000—4500 M, 2—6<sup>th</sup> July; Batura, 3000—3600 M, 29<sup>th</sup> Aug.—30<sup>th</sup> Sept.

The males of both these forms of *eros* are dark shining blue above with a thread-like black border. The females are dark brown with shining dark blue bases with traces of orange marginal spots near the tornal area on the hindwing and some times visible on the forewing. Below *hunza* is greyish white with rather more extensive green basal scaling on the hindwing; the discal dark spots on the hindwing are faintly white ringed and very small, the central spots vestigial; on the forewing the discal spots are small or absent and there is no spot in the cell; the marginal orange lunules are more or less wellformed but faint on the hindwing and just traceable on the forewing. Below *janetae* is rather dark leaden grey with prominently white ringed well



developed dark spots on both wings; on the hindwing the white rings swamp the spots and there is a more or less well developed broad white streak from the centre of the cell to the middle of the termen; the marginal orange lunules are completely replaced by large sub-triangular white spots between the veins on both wings. The race *hunza* averages 36<sup>mm</sup> in expanse and *janetae* 33<sup>mm</sup>. *hunza* was only found in the Simshal valley; it corresponds with Groum Groums-haillio's description. *janetae* was found in the Khunjerah, Ghujerab and Batura valleys; it lies between the Chitral *droshana* and Himalayan *ariana* and is a perfectly good race of *eros*. *hunza* is a good deal different to any form of *eros* and may turn out to be a distinct species. *janetae* is named after Mme JANET VISSER—HOOFT, the discoverer.

26. *Heodes phlaeas* L. 1 example referable to the race *stygianus* BUT.

Locality; Khunjerah, 3950 M, 25<sup>th</sup> June.

#### HESPERIDAE.

27. *Hesperia alpina* ERSCH. 8 examples. Typical.

Localities; Batura, 3100—3600 M, 31<sup>st</sup> Aug.—6<sup>th</sup> Sept.



Evans, William Harry. 1927. "Lepidoptera - Rhopalocera obtained by Mme J. Visser-Hooft of the Hague (Holland) during an exploration of previously unknown country in the Western Karakorum, N.W.India." *Tijdschrift voor entomologie* 70, 158–162.

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