

## The Lepidoptera of Derbyshire. (Butterflies—Rhopalocera.)

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THE Lepidoptera form such an attractive order for entomologists that it is somewhat surprising to find that up to the present time only one list of the Butterflies and Moths of the county has been published, and even this did not appear till 1895. On the other hand, it must be confessed that while a more than respectable list of moths can easily be compiled, the number of butterflies which are regularly to be found within our limits is exceedingly small. In fact, the greater part of the forty species included in the present list can only be regarded as rare or accidental visitors, and only about fifteen species can be considered really common anywhere.

Unproductive though it is in Rhopalocera, Derbyshire has been the collecting ground of several well-known workers. The Rev. Joseph Greene was Vicar of Doveridge (1858-68), and the late Rev. H. Harpur Crewe, who communicated many of the Derbyshire records to Newman's book, frequently collected in the Breadsall district.

But perhaps the most productive part of the county and the most thoroughly worked, is the Trent Valley and the district between it and the Leicestershire border. Here, since the days of Mr. Edwin Brown and Mr. W. Garneys, quite a long list might be compiled of entomologists who have helped in the systematic study of the Lepidoptera of this district. Amongst the best-known names we may mention Mr. P. B. Mason, Mr. J. T. Harris, and the Rev. C. F. Thornewill. Under the

auspices of the Burton-on-Trent Natural History Society, two lists of the Macro and Micro-Lepidoptera of the country round Burton were published in 1885-9 and 1892 respectively, and these lists, which include the records of Messrs. Brown and Garneys, form the foundation of our county list. In 1895, Mr. F. W. G. Payne published a paper on the Macro-Lepidoptera of Derbyshire in *The Entomologist*. Lists from the Bakewell district by the Revs. C. F. Thornehill and R. H. Fuller were incorporated for the first time, as well as some notes from Chesterfield, and, in spite of some errors, it marks a distinct increase in our knowledge of the northern part of the county.

Since the publication of this paper, Mr. J. Hill has kindly furnished me with an authorized list of Lepidoptera, chiefly from Little Eaton; Mr. Hugo Harpur Crewe has contributed notes on the Melbourne district; and Mr. E. A. Cockayne from the moors between Ashopton and Baslow. The Rev. R. H. Fuller, Mr. G. Pullen, and others have also provided much useful information.

Abbreviations used in the following list:—

J.G. : Joseph Greene (Doveridge, 1858-68).

E.B. : Edwin Brown (*Natural History of Tulbury*, p. 185, 1863).

W.G. : W. Garneys (*Wild Flowers, etc., of Repton*, 2nd Ed., 1881, including notes by F. Spilsbury).

P.B.M. : P. B. Mason. J.T.H. : J. T. Harris. G.B. : G. Baker. H.A.S. : H. A. Stowell. G.A.S. : G. A. Smallwood. T.G. : T. Gibbs. C.F.T. : C. F. Thornehill.

W.J.P. : W. J. Pickering (*Ent.*, 1885, and *Trans. Burton-on-Trent Nat. Hist. Soc.*, Vol. I., p. 114, 1889).

W.G.S. : W. G. Sheldon (*Ent.*, 1885) (Breadsall, Repton, etc.).

R.H.F. : R. H. Fuller. E.M.A. : Miss E. M. Alderson.

J.H. : J. Hill. F.W.P. : F. W. Payne (*Ent.*, 1895).

W.H.P. : W. H. Purchas (Alstonfield).

H.H.C. : Hugo Harpur Crewe (Melbourne district).

G.P. : G. Pullen (Little Eaton, Derby, etc.).

E.A.R. : E. A. Rhodes (Ashburne and Heanor).

J.R.B.M. : J. R. B. Masefield (Dovedale).

E.A.C. : E. A. Cockayne (Ashopton, Baslow).

The nomenclature adopted is that of R. South's list (1884).

## RHOPALOCERA.

### PAPILIONIDÆ.

[The Swallow-Tail (*Papilio machaon*, L.). Glover mentions this insect in his history of the county (Vol. I., p. 175, 1829), and possibly it may have existed at that time in the marshes of the Trent and Sinfin Moor, but little dependence can be placed on this record. Two were taken near Matlock by Mr. T. Lighton; but Mr. J. Wolley afterwards wrote to the *Zoologist* (1st §, p. 944) to explain that he had turned out many hundreds during the springs of 1843 and 1844, chiefly in the Matlock district.]

### PIERIDÆ.

1. The Black-veined White (*Aporia crataegi*, L.). The only record of this species is a note by the Rev. F. M. Spilsbury to the effect that a nest of larvæ were found by him in his garden at Barrow-on-Trent, feeding on apple.

2. The large Garden White (*Pieris brassicae*, L.). Very common and universally distributed.

3. The small Garden White (*P. rapæ*, L.). Also very common everywhere. A yellowish variety is said to have occurred occasionally at Repton (W.G.).

4. The Green-veined White (*P. napi*, L.). Common and generally distributed.

5. The Orange-Tip (*Euclloe cardamines*, L.). This is a dale-haunting species, and does not, as a rule, occur on high ground. It appears to be also absent from the head waters of the Derwent (not found north of Bamford (E.A.C.)), and the upper valley of the Dove, but is common enough everywhere else.

6. Pale-clouded Yellow (*Colias hyale*, L.). A very rare accidental visitor. One was taken many years ago in the Via

Gellia by the late Mr. J. Wolley; two are said to have been taken near Melbourne in 1859, and one near Calke in 1901 (H.H.C.).

7. Clouded Yellow (*C. edusa*, Fb.). Occurs at irregular intervals, sometimes in considerable numbers, in south and south-eastern Derbyshire. Clover fields, Repton (W.G.); Newton Solney and Brizlincote (J.T.H.); Winhill (G.B.); Melbourne district, abundant in 1877, and frequent in other years (H.H.C.); Little Eaton, plentiful, 1877, absent since (J.H.); Little Eaton about 1898 (G.P.); Kirk Langley, one seen 1900 (R.H.F.); Bradley, one taken Sept. 2nd, 1900 (E.A.R.), etc. Var. *helice*, Hb., has only been once recorded, from Repton (W.G.).

8. Brimstone (*Gonopteryx rhamni*, L.). Occurs occasionally south of a line drawn from Hartington through Matlock, usually in the valleys; and more frequently in the Trent Valley and the south. In the Dove Valley it has been observed as high as Dovedale and Alstonfield, and in the Derwent near Cromford.

#### NYMPHALIDÆ.

9. The small pearl-bordered Fritillary (*Argynnis selene*, Schiff.). Apparently now extinct, although formerly recorded in abundance from Repton Shrubs (W.G.) and Dovedale (J.T.H.).

10. The pearl-bordered Fritillary (*A. euphrosync*, L.). This species was also formerly common at Repton Shrubs and Seal Wood (E.B., W.G.), though not found there at the present time. One was taken in the Melbourne district in 1865 (H.H.C.) and another reported from near Cromford, June, 1891 (R.H.F.).

11. The dark green Fritillary (*A. aglaia*, L.). Not recorded since Mr. E. Brown gave Dovedale as a locality in 1863.

12. The high-brown Fritillary (*A. adippe*, L.). The Rev. H. Harpur Crewe gave "Breadsall, Dovedale, Matlock, and Cromford" as localities for this species, but the only recent capture is that of a single wasted specimen in 1894 or 1895, about three miles south-west of Melbourne (H.H.C.).

13. The silver-washed Fritillary (*A. paphia*, L.). Like the other fritillaries, this species appears to be less frequent than

in former years. Repton Shrubs and Seal Wood (E.B.); Repton Shrubs and Anchor Church, but not in late years (W.G.); wasted specimens occur occasionally in the Melbourne district (H.H.C.); one seen, Burnaston, 1901 (R.H.F.).

14. The greasy Fritillary (*Melitæa aurinia*, Rott.). Cromford (Rev. H. H. Crewe, quoted by E. Newman); one was taken at Burton by G. H. Whitlock; and another is said to have been caught at Repton.

15. The Comma (*Vanessa C.-album*, L.). A scarce, accidental visitor. Several at Little Eaton in 1858 (J.H.); Breadsall (Rev. H. H. Crewe); scarce (E.B.); on ripe fruit and Michaelmas daisies, Repton (W.G.); Little Eaton, one, many years ago (G.P.); Calke Abbey (H.A.S., H.H.C.); one Handley, near Eckington, 1893 (Mr. Hooke).

16. The large Tortoiseshell (*V. polychloros*, L.). Scarce; near Hartshorne and Calke (W.G.); Breadsall (Rev. H. H. Crewe); Calke Abbey (H.A.S.); Dovedale (J.T.H.); one Burton (W.J.P.); one Barrow (G.A.S.); worn specimen, Calke (H.H.C.); several Little Eaton in 1858 (J.H.); one (G.P.); one Alstonfield 1875 (W.H.P.).

17. The small Tortoiseshell (*V. urticae*, L.). Common throughout the county, and in some years abundant.

18. The Peacock (*V. io*, L.). Much less common than *V. urticae* or *V. atalanta*, especially of late years, though still widely distributed and fairly numerous in fine autumns in the Dove Valley, etc.; only once Bakewell (R.H.F.); Little Eaton not common (J.H.); near Derby scarce, one Chester Green 1902 (G.P.); only one seen Kirk Langley, 1902 (R.H.F.).

19. The Camberwell Beauty (*V. antiopa*, L.). A rare straggler, which has occurred several times. Seen at Burton, and taken at Repton (E.B.); one near Milton (probably the same) (W.G.); one taken at Melbourne Hall in 1872 by Mr. Pearce; one seen at Stanton-by-Bridge 1872; altogether ten taken in Derbyshire during 1872 (C. G. Barrett); one seen in Little Eaton Park in 1886 or 1887 (J.H.); one seen within the borough of Derby Sept. 16th, 1899 (H.H.C.). In addition

to the above records, several were seen and two or three taken not far from the county boundary in north-east Staffordshire in 1872; also one taken at Worksop, Sept. 21st, 1846 (*Zool.*, 1846).

20. The Red Admiral (*V. atalanta*, L.). Common and widely distributed throughout the county; very numerous in some autumns, such as 1893 and 1900.

21. The Painted Lady (*V. cardui*, L.). This species affects high ground, and is most numerous on moors and rough pastures, especially in the Peak. To the south it is an occasional straggler, though common in some seasons at Little Eaton (J.H.).

#### SATYRIDÆ.

22. The Wood Argus (*Pararge egeria*, L.). Occurs in wooded districts: Seal Wood, etc. (E.B.); scarce, Repton Shrubs, flying in shade (W.G.); once at Calke in 1867 or 1868 (H.H.C.); seen once in Lathkill Dale, 1892 (not Bakewell) (R.H.F.).

23. The Wall Butterfly (*P. megæra*, L.). Formerly common in the south, and still appears occasionally in some numbers. Common (E.B.); scarce since 1861 (W.G.); three seen, one taken (R.H.F.); some years abundant in Melbourne district, others very rare (H.H.C.).

24. The Grayling (*Satyrus semele*, L.). Only recorded from Dovedale (E.B., J.T.H.).

25. The Meadow Brown (*Epinephele ianira*, L.). Generally distributed over the southern half of the county; not seen north of Matlock (R.H.F.).

26. The large Heath (*E. tithonus*, L.). Occurs throughout south, much less frequently than the preceding species; scarce north of the Trent; once Allestree (J.H.).

27. The Ringlet (*E. hyperanthus*, L.). In the wooded districts south of the Trent; common in woods (E.B.); Repton Shrubs and Findern Covert, but not lately (W.G.); Repton Shrubs (G.B.); Melbourne district (H.H.C.).

[The Marsh Ringlet (*Cænonympha typon*, Rott.). This species is said to occur on the moors near the Cat and Fiddle, Buxton, but no definite record of its capture is forthcoming, although it might naturally be expected to occur there.]

28. The small Heath (*C. pamphilus*, L.). Generally distributed over the whole of the county, and especially common on hilly ground.

## LYCÆNIDÆ.

29. The White Letter Hairstreak (*Thecla w.-album*, Knoch). Very local: Darley and Calke Abbey (Rev. H. H. Crewe); one Cubley (J.G.); Burton and Brizlincote, but rare (E.B.); Repton (P.B.M., W.G.S.); Repton Shrubs, abundant (G.B.); Repton Wood (J.H., G.P.); Hoofies Wood (T.G.).

[The black Hairstreak (*T. pruni*, L.). Mr. J. R. Hind found one in a box of insects from the Chesterfield district (*Intelligencer*, IX., p. 27, quoted by Newman).]

30. The purple Hairstreak (*T. quercus*, L.). Only common near the southern border of the county: Repton Shrubs, etc. (E.B.); Seal Wood (G.B.); always common in Melbourne district, and sometimes very numerous (H.H.C.).

31. The green Hairstreak (*T. rubi*, L.). Dovedale, plentiful (E.B.); *ibid.* formerly (J.T.H.); *ibid.* 1900-01 (R.H.F.); Alderwasley (J.H.); several seen for first time on Breadsall Moor, 1902 (G.P.).

32. The small Copper (*Polyommatus phlœas*, L.). Generally distributed over southern Derbyshire, and fairly common. Once seen Bakewell (R.H.F.); Ashburne fairly common (F.J.); Burton, common (E.B.); Repton (W.G.); Brethby, etc. (T.G.); Melbourne (H.H.C.); Kirk Langley, occasional (R.H.F.); Little Eaton, common (J.H.); Heanor (E.A.R.), etc.

33. The brown Argus (*Lycana astrarche*, Bgstr.). Absent from the High Peak, but found in most of the Dales of mid-Derbyshire. Dovedale (E.B.); plentiful in Monsal, Lathkill, and other dales (R.H.F.); Dovedale (F.J., E.A.R.); Monsal and Lathkill Dale, common (C.F.T.); fairly common Miller's Dale (J.H.).

34. The common Blue (*L. icarus*, Rott.). Common everywhere, except the High Peak district and the northern moors.

35. The azure Blue (*L. argiolus*, L.). Scarce, but has occurred at Repton (W.G.); in the Melbourne district (H.H.C.); and at Kirk Langley in 1901 (R.H.F.).

36. The little Blue (*Z. minima*, Fues). Formerly common Dovedale (E.B., J.T.H.); Dovedale (C.F.T., F.J.); *ibid.*, very rare (J.R.B.M.); Middleton Dale (E.M.A.).

## ERYCINIDÆ.

37. The Duke of Burgundy (*Nemeobius lucina*, L.). Only recorded from the Via Gellia by the Rev. H. H. Crewe (quoted by Newman).

## HESPERIIDÆ.

“ [The grizzled Skipper (*Syrichthus malvæ*, L.) is included in Mr. F. W. G. Payne's list in error, apparently mine, R.H.F.] ”

38. The dingy Skipper (*Nisoniades tages*, L.). Common along hillsides, etc. Dovedale (E.B., J.T.H.); Lathkill Dale, common (W.G.S., C.F.T.); Longstone Edge (J.H.); common in Dales (R.H.F.).

39. The small Skipper (*Hesperia thaumas*, Hufn.). Not uncommon in the south (E.B., F.W.P.).

40. The large Skipper (*H. Sylvanus*, Esp.) Occasional in the district south of the Trent. Not uncommon (E.B.); Melbourne district, but rare (H.H.C.).