

genus *Methona*. *Papilio ilione* of Cramer, about which also there is no uncertainty, became a member of the genus *Ituna*. The sole representative left in Hübner's genus is *Papilio psidii* of Linnæus. It remains to determine what this species is.

Writers have usually been content to take Cramer's interpretation of the Linnean name; but to get at a correct conclusion Linnæus alone must be his own interpreter. Turning to the 'Museum Ludovicæ Ulricæ,' we find a reference to Madam Merian's 'Insects of Surinam' (t. 19); and this we consider to give the best clue to what the Linnean species was. It will be observed in this figure that the secondaries possess a submarginal row of white spots, pointing exclusively to the insect usually known as *Thyridia ino*, Feld. Hence the type of *Thyridia* is *T. ino* (= *Papilio psidii* of Linnæus). Cramer's figure, as Mr. Bates justly says, appears to us to represent a *Methona*, notwithstanding the opinion of Messrs. Butler and Druce to the contrary; but we disagree with Mr. Bates in considering it to be the Linnean species. If Mr. Bates's view were correct, *Thyridia themisto*, Hübn., and *P. psidii*, Linn., would be congeneric, and should both be placed in the genus *Thyridia*, Hübn., including *Methona* of Doubleday and Hewitson as a synonym. A new generic name would thus become necessary for *Thyridia aedesia* and its allies. This is Mr. Kirby's view, who proposed the name *Aprotopos* to supply the want. By keeping *P. psidii*, Linn., in the genus *Thyridia* this difficulty is obviated. The conclusions we come to are practically the same as those arrived at by Messrs. Butler and Druce, though our reasons are not identical.

*Thyridia*, as thus interpreted, has a wide range in tropical America, extending from Southern Brazil as far north as Nicaragua. Four species are included within this area, only one of which occurs in Central America.

### 1. *Thyridia melantho*. (Tab. I. fig. 4.)

*Thyridia melantho*, Bates, Ent. M. Mag. iii. p. 50 (1866)<sup>1</sup>; Butl. & Druce, P. Z. S. 1874, p. 331<sup>2</sup>.

*Aprotopos melantho*, Kirby, Cat. p. 20<sup>3</sup>.

Alis anticis nigris, maculis duabus intra cellulam, proxima indistincta, macula subapicali venis divisa, altera submarginali subrotunda inter ramos medianos secundum et tertium et una subquadrata ad angulum analem ochraceis; posticis fulvis nigro marginatis, puncto ad terminum cellulæ nigro: subtus, velut supra, margine serie punctorum minorum alborum notato.

*Hab.* NICARAGUA, Chontales (*Belt, Janson*); COSTA RICA (*Van Patten*<sup>2</sup>); PANAMA, Chiriqui (*Arcé, Zahn*), Lion-Hill station (*M'Leannan*<sup>1</sup>).

This species was originally described from a single specimen sent us by the late James M'Leannan from his station on the Panama railway. As no other example has reached us from the same locality, it would appear that this point is probably near the southern limit of the range of the species. None of Arcé's collections formed in the vicinity of Santiago de Veraguas contained examples; but numerous specimens have been sent from the Pacific slope of the Volcano of Chiriqui; and from this