

Subfam. *NYMPHALINÆ**.

METAMORPHA.

Metamorpha, Hübner, Verz. bek. Schmett. p. 43 (1816).

Colænis, Section III., Doubleday, Gen. Diurn. Lep. p. 149.

The butterfly usually known as *Colænis dido* presents so many differences from the species with which it is usually placed that we think it ought to be regarded as belonging to a distinct genus. To this Hübner's name *Metamorpha* may be applied, a title originally proposed for *M. dido* and two other species having a slight colour-resemblance to it, viz. the species now known as *Victorina steneles* and *V. sulphitia*. These latter we now remove from this association, and reserve *Metamorpha* for *M. dido* alone.

As already pointed out by Doubleday, the first subcostal nervure is thrown off before the end of the cell. The tarsi of the front legs of the male are very short, being not more than one third the length of the tibia; and both femur and tibia are rather stout. Besides these characters, the secondary sexual organs of the male present peculiarities. The harpagones are bilobed, with a long recurved hook on the lower lobe on each side, the upper lobe being blunt. The tegumen is much as in *Heliconius*, with two points, an upper decurved and a lower recurved one. This latter portion of these organs is very similar in true *Colænis* as now restricted.

At present, so far as we know, *M. dido* is the sole representative of this form, a common tropical American insect having a wide range, as given below.

1. ***Metamorpha dido*.**

Papilio dido, Linn. Syst. Nat. i. p. 782¹; Cram. Pap. Exot. t. 196. f. E, F².

Metamorpha dido, Hübner, Verz. bek. Schmett. p. 43³.

Colænis dido, Bates, Journ. Ent. ii. p. 186⁴.

Alis nigris viridi maculatis; subtus ut supra, sed colore nigro paginæ superioris rubiginoso argenteo tincto.

Hab. NICARAGUA, Chontales (*Belt, Janson*); PANAMA, Lion Hill (*M^r Leannan*).—SOUTH AMERICA, from Colombia to Brazil.

This is a very peculiar insect, both in its style of marking and coloration, differing widely in these respects from all other species of the genus with which it has hitherto been associated. It has an extensive range, being distributed generally throughout

* As already stated (*anteà*, p. 113), we omit the subfamily Morphinae from Mr. Bates's Nymphalinae (Journ. Ent. ii. p. 177); but in other respects we treat this group of Butterflies as he has done, and we also follow him in the consecutive arrangement of the genera. As to the classification of the subfamily itself, we regret that we are obliged to relinquish any attempt to do more than follow in the old lines. As Mr. Bates well observes, any satisfactory subdivision of the Nymphalinae must necessarily involve an examination of the representatives of these butterflies wherever they are found throughout the whole world; and as they are everywhere numerous both in genera and species, such a task is far beyond the scope of our present work.