

PREPONA.

Prepona, Boisduval, Sp. Gén. i. t. 7. f. 13 (1836); Westw. Gen. Diurn. Lep. p. 299.

This genus contains, according to Mr. Kirby, nineteen species; but the lines of demarcation between some of them are drawn with such uncertainty that a closer examination of the different species will probably result in a considerable reduction of their number. In Central America we only recognize six, three of which reach to Guatemala, and one to Mexico. Four of the six species belong also to the southern continent.

All are inhabitants of the hotter forest-region. As might be expected from their strong build, these insects have a powerful and rapid flight.

The subcostal nervure of the primaries emits two branches before the end of the cell—the first branch starting from the middle of the costal side of the cell, the third branch starts just beyond it, and the upper fork of the subcostal bends rather abruptly downwards near the end. The upper discocellular is very short, and directed slightly outwards; the middle discocellular is short, and there is an atrophied lower discocellular which reaches the median nervure beyond the second branch; the secondaries have a rudimentary nervule across the cell, which reaches the median nervure at the origin of the second branch. There is a narrow predisoidal cell. The front legs of the male have a stout coxa about = femur + trochanter; tibia < femur; tarsus slightly > tibia. Terminal joint of the palpi short, about $\frac{1}{4}$ middle joint, which is flattened and curved and of nearly uniform width throughout. The antennæ have about 56 joints and terminate in a slender club. The secondary male organs have a tegumen terminating in a short, slightly depressed point, and in the centre of the anal cavity depending from the tegumen is an opaque, transverse strap, the outer edge of which is rounded: the harpagones are elliptical lobes, with their outer edges slightly rolled inwards; they are turned up at the end and terminate in two spines, below which they have long hairs directed outwards. The penis is short, straight, and stout. These organs do not suggest any close affinity to any of the genera near to which *Prepona* is placed.

a. Tuft near the inner margin of the secondaries in the male black.

a'. Under surface of wings not divided by a straight black line.

1. *Prepona demophon*.

Papilio demophon, Linn. Mus. Ulr. p. 215¹; Clerck, Icon. Ins. t. 29. f. 2².

Prepona demophon, Bates, Journ. Ent. ii. p. 337³; Butl. & Druce, P. Z. S. 1874, p. 342⁴; Aurivill. Kongl. Sv. Ak. Handl. xix. no. 5, p. 35⁵.

Papilio sisypheus, Cr. Pap. Ex. t. 158. f. C⁶.

Potamis superba thalpius, Hübn. Samml. ex. Schm. i. t. 71⁷.

Alis nigris, fascia communi lata maculisque ad finem ejus in costam anticarum viridi-cæruleis; subtus sordide argenteo-fuscis fusco nebulosis et lineis variis nigris notatis, linea nigra a costa posticarum fere ad angulum