Not far from one end the mine was widened a little and the cuticle puckered, forming a small nidus like that of a *Philocnistis* pupa. Within this nidus a small larva was visible. It was white, with the head pointed before, but widened behind, and with the thoracic segments much swollen and tapering rapidly from thence to the tail. (There is a good deal of resemblance between the very young larvae of *Gracillaria*, *Philocnistis* and *Lithocolletis* of the cylindrical group.) In a day or two it changed its form, becoming cylindrical and pale yellowish white, and it left the mine and went to the *under* side of the leaf, where it turned down the edge over it, and, after eating out the parenchyma, turned it down in another place, repeating this operation two or three times until it finally became a pupa under the edge last turned down. Sometimes (at least in the breeding jar) it leaves the leaf and pupates under a sheet or coverlet of white silk like *G. salicifoliella* and many other species. Which mode it follows in a state of nature I am unable to say, having never found it in the pupa state. *G. juglandiella mihi* mines the *under* surface of the leaves, but the mine is larger and more blotch like, and when it leaves the mine it goes to the *upper* side of the leaf which it curls *upwards* over itself and there passes the pupa state. I do not mean to say that this habit of going to the side of the leaf opposite the mine is universal in either species, but only so far as I have observed it in some ten specimens of each. *G. blandella* is a very handsome specimen.

A BALLOON SPIDER.

BY WILLIAM COUPER, MONTREAL

"The American Naturalist" for May, 1871, contains an interesting article on "Flying Spiders," by J. H. Emerton. The species noticed by him are, no doubt, allied to the gossamer of Europe, and the phenomenon occurs early in autumn on the Islands of the St. Lawrence.

During the month of July, 1871, while trout-fishing on a large lake near the Upper Assumption, about one hundred miles north of Montreal, my attention was drawn to an inflated transparent substance of an oblong cocoon shape, passing about fifty yards over my head. To the miniature balloon, a thread was attached, and, on tracing it downward, its architect was seen struggling on the surface of the lake. Taking up the

paddle and forcing the canoe in order to secure this curious spider, imagine my disappointment, just as I was within a yard of it, to see it swallowed by a trout. The day was fine, with just sufficient wind to waft a delicate body of this nature across the lake. My curiosity being aroused, I kept a good look out for another specimen, but no more were seen that day.

On another lake further north, and during similar weather, I was pleased to witness a number of these in their aeronautic excursions, and on a rock in the centre of the lake was fortunate in capturing a specimen of the spider. In size it is as large as the house spider. The body and legs are densely covered with stiff hair; its mandibles are long and sharp. It was extremely active, and lived about three weeks in a box after its capture. I am at a loss to account for the mode in which this spider produces the structure with the extraordinary length of attached thread, which it manages to send off in the air. The woods near the lakes are principally pines, which are moss-covered and rugged, and yet, these curious balloons are evidently constructed on trees on the margin of the lakes.

ON THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF SOME GENERA OF CANADIAN INSECTS.

BY FRANCIS WALKER, LONDON, ENGLAND

The following communication includes two genera of *Chalcididae*, *Perilampus*, and *Callimome*. *Perilampus* is known in America from Canada to Mexico. *P. hyalinus* Say, inhabits Canada; *P. cyaneus* Brulle and *P. Entellus* Walk. are synonyms of it. Say has described two other species, *P. platigaster* and *P. triangularis*; the latter is distinguished from all other species by the dark tips of the wings. *P. Alexinus* Walk. differs from *P. platigaster* by not having a brassy tinge, by the luteous tips of the femora, and by the luteous tibiae with a black band. The specimen of *P. Lepreos* is too much mutilated to ascertain if it agrees with *P. platigaster*. *P. hyalinus*, above mentioned, has some resemblance to the European *P. violaceus*, but has an elongated scutellum; in this character it is far exceeded by the Mexican *P. gloriosus*, which far surpasses all other known species in size and beauty. *P. gloriosus* is also peculiar in the development of the secondary veins of the forewings