Cryptoleon, new genus.

Antennæ about as long as head and prothorax; pronotum rather narrow; legs rather short and not slender, no spurs, anterior tarsus about as long as the tibia; last joint of labial palpi but little swollen. Two or four crossveins before origin of radial sector; first branch of radial sector arises much before the end of anal vein; costals in a single or double series; in the hind wings the cubital fork runs parallel to the anal vein for some distance.

Type, *Myrmeleon conspersus* Rambr.

CURIOUS EFFECT OF THE ATTACK OF AN ASILUS FLY ON COLIAS PHILODICE.

BY ALBERT F. WINN, WESTMOUNT, P. Q.

During the last week of my holidays at Biddeford, Maine, this summer, *Colias philodice* was abundant and in fine condition, and a great many were taken, in the hope that among them there might be some *C. interior*, but none of this species were found.

On July 19th, however, I noticed on the wing a yellow butterfly whose flight was most peculiar, and on capturing it, it proved to be a ♀ *philodice* in the clutches of a robber-fly (*Asilus* — sp.). Both were immediately put in the cyanide bottle, and about an hour later were folded up in the same paper, and the butterfly was not noticed as being in any way different from the usual well-known colour, but on the evening of July 24th, while looking over my captures with Mr. Chagnon, I came across these two specimens, and, to my surprise, the under side of the *philodice* was, by electric light, of a pale greenish colour. I was still further astonished to find that it was quite soft, although it had been in paper for six days, and all my other specimens were dry. I spread it, without relaxing, and it was duly taken off the boards to show to Mr. Lyman, who, I knew, would be interested in anything odd in the way of a *Colias*.

About a week later Mr. Lyman brought it back to me, remarking that "it was very curious that the colour of the under side should have become that greenish colour, by artificial light, and that *I had better spread it properly*. I thought I had done this already, but a slight breath closed its wings over its back and another flattened them out again. Three weeks more were given it on the setting-board, and it was still soft,

and now, 11 weeks after its capture, it remains, wings, antennæ and all, in as nice a condition for spreading as you could wish,—but it won't stay spread !

NOTE ON *BÆUS*.

BY W. HAGUE HARRINGTON, OTTAWA.

About ten years ago, in sifting swamp mosses for Coleoptera, I met with certain active little insects which, despite their wingless form and almost microscopic size, were recognized as members of the order Hymenoptera. Some of the individuals so captured were afterwards described by Ashmead, in his Monograph of North American Proctotrypidæ, as *Bæus minutus* and *B. piceus*. Subsequently, *B. americanus*, Howard, and *B. niger*, Ashmead, were also discovered at Ottawa. My solitary example of the former species was found sluggishly crawling on the under surface of a stone in the chilly temperature of early spring, and one example of *B. niger* was taken with a sweeping-net at the end of September. With these two exceptions, all my specimens of the genus were taken from moss collected at the beginning of winter. All were females, as might be expected, for it is the females only of bees and wasps, and probably of all hymenoptera hibernating in the imago condition, that survive the winter in these northern lands.

It was, therefore, with much pleasure that, in examining a tube in which a spider's cocoon had been placed, I found that a number of minute creatures had emerged, which required only a glance to show that they belonged to *Bæus*. The cocoon was a small spherical one, of mottled gray colour, about three millimeters in diameter, and was probably constructed by a member of the Therediidæ. It was collected toward the end of June, but, unfortunately, the tube was laid aside unlabeled, and the time of emergence of the parasites is not known. Many of the spiders had also hatched, and had spun many delicate lines throughout the tube before perishing.

The parasites had apparently emerged later, as the majority of them had been entangled in the spiders' threads. They were twenty-four in number, and, to my delight, four were males, for individuals of which sex my searches had hitherto been in vain. Probably if they had not appeared with the females I should have had considerable difficulty in placing them.