

are also more easily discovered. [Considered to be merely a variety of *P. lucublandus* by LeConte.]

50. *PÆCILUS* [*PTEROSTICHUS*] *CHALCITES*, Say.—Only a single specimen taken.

[Not uncommon in Canada ; for description *vide* Say's Ent. Works, ii, 479.]

ON THE ECONOMY OF A SPECIES OF *FEONUS*.

BY WM. COUPER, MONTREAL.

On the 8th of January last, while searching for hibernating Coleoptera in the woods near Ottawa, I had occasion to strip the bark of a decayed ash tree, under which, among other insect store, I found a small transparent and curiously-formed cocoon containing a larva of a fly which was at that time unknown to me. The cocoon was imbedded in the bark, occupying what I am now led to believe the excavation made by a grub of *Cerambyx*, or some other Coleopterous bark-borer. When cocoons belonging to the genera *EVANIIDÆ* or *ICHNEUMONIDÆ* are found under bark of trees, or stones imbedded in the earth, we may safely assume that they are accompanied by parasites, and that the original possessor has been devoured because it was just the food that suited them. Thus it is not difficult to trace the economy of many species of the above-named genera ; but as I am not certain that either cocoon or insect were hitherto described, I have taken the trouble to send you the following. The shape of the cocoon is oblong, surrounded by a band, and covered by a thin pellucid lid, and the form resembles a small coffin. The head of the insect was placed at the small end, and the space in front of it is packed with minute particles of dust, evidently produced from the bark by the original occupier. Length of cocoon $\frac{3}{8}$ ths inch.

Feonus arca, n. sp.—Head black, glossy, impunctured ; eyes black, round ; antennæ black, two-eighths of an inch long ; thorax not so black as head ; the sides beneath and between the wings dark chestnut, interspersed with short fulvous hairs ; wings fuliginous ; nervures and stigma black ; legs black, hairy ; base of the femora fulvous ; abdomen bright red, with scattered fulvous hairs ; ovipositor black, as long as antennæ. Length $\frac{3}{8}$ th inch.

I have another cocoon of the same form in my collection, but the work of a larger species, being half an inch long. It therefore behoves that persons who wish to study the economy of these useful insects, should search for them early in autumn, when they will be discovered either destroying the larva or forming the cocoon in which they rest during the winter.