

## THE COCOON OF THE RAY SPIDER (*THERIDIOSOMA GEMMOSUM*).

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The Ray Spiders live a retired life along the banks of some creek, where overhanging bushes and projecting rocks afford the gloom which they seem to seek. In such locations, especially in the dark recesses

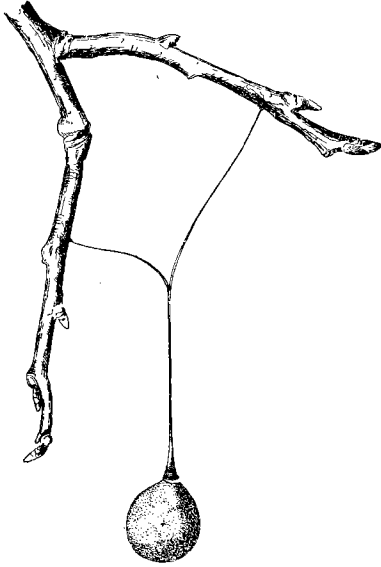


FIG. 6.

under clusters of roots, we may look for their cocoons in mid-summer. They are among the most interesting to be found—little golden-brown balls, about one-eighth of an inch in diameter, suspended by a single glossy-white thread nearly an inch long. They are paper-like in texture and are attached to their stiff silken pedicels by a dilation of the latter in the form of a cone. At the time of hatching this little cone lifts up like a lid, adhering by merely a point of the circumference, and uncovers a small circular hole through which the young escape. The pedicel itself usually hangs suspended from two or three cross lines of silk

attached to surrounding objects. (Fig. 6.)

From some cocoons collected in the vicinity of Ithaca, N. Y., on August 23, the young spiders emerged August 28. Females imprisoned in glass tubes about the same time also spun cocoons.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MONTREAL BRANCH.

The 31st annual meeting of the Montreal Branch of the Entomological Society of Ontario was held on May 9th in the Library of the Natural History Society. All the reports of the officers showed good progress during the past year. The membership roll contains twenty-two names, two of whom are honorary members. The following officers were elected