

# The Canadian Entomologist.

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VOL. II.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 1, 1869.

No. 3.

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## THE GRAPE-SEED INSECT.

(*Isosoma vitis*, n. sp.)

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In Vol. i., No. 3, page 20, of the *Canadian Entomologist*, I published a description of a larva found infesting the seed of the grape, and in the *Canada Farmer* for October 15, 1868, page 316, a fuller description of its habits and destructive powers, and ventured the opinion that it would probably produce, when mature, a small curculio. In this I was in error, for the perfect insect proves to be Hymenopterous, a small four-winged fly belonging to *Isosoma*, and as it is believed to be undescribed, I propose for it the name of *vitis* (*Isosoma vitis*, n. sp.). The following notes on its history were made subsequent to the date of the issue referred to.

In October I detached a larva from the inside of the seed, and placed it in a small glass cell between two plates of glass, in which state it remained until early in January, when it became a chrysalis, having first attached itself to the sides of the cell by a few short silky threads. It had now contracted in length, become nearly oval, and assumed a yellowish tint, with a few short loose silky threads adhering to different parts of its surface. On the 11th of February I examined some seeds and found the larva within still alive and active, just as it appeared in the fall. On the 7th of July further specimens were opened and the inmates found soft and motionless, these appeared to be in the chrysalis state, but I did not examine them with sufficient care to enable me to be positive. During the remaining part of July I looked many times into the bottles in which the grapes were enclosed but could not discover anything. On the 9th of August, feeling sure that the time for the appearance of the insect must be fully come, if not already past, I resolved on a thorough search for it. As soon as the contents of the bottles had been emptied on a piece of white paper, I observed a number of small four-winged flies among the dried-up grapes. They were all dead and stiff, some of them more brittle than others. From the observations made I should judge that they made their