

G. pectenatælla. *N. sp.*

The ground color appears to be pale yellowish, but it is almost entirely obscured by dense fuscous dusting and fuscous spots; apex of the primaries more deeply fuscous; head a little iridescent; antennae annulate with sordid yellowish. *Al. ex.* $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. Season, September.

(To be Continued.)

THE MEXICAN HONEY ANT.

(*Myrmecocystus Mexicanus*.)

BY THE EDITOR.

During the summer of 1873 we received from an esteemed correspondent, Mr. Jacob Krummeck, residing in Santa Fe, New Mexico, several packages of this most curious insect, accompanied by letters giving interesting details of their habits and of the uses to which the

Fig. 1.



honey they secrete is put. In fig. 1 our readers will find excellent figures of a worker, a honey secreter and cocoons, commonly known as eggs, drawn by Miss Peart, of Philadelphia. At the meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association, held in Baltimore in 1873, we presented a paper on this insect, from which we quote the following:

Very little can be found in Entomological works relating to this insect. Some thirty years ago, a Belgian naturalist, M. Wesmael, received specimens from a party travelling in Mexico, and published some observations on it in the fifth volume of the Bulletin of the Royal Academy of Brussels, giving it the name of *Myrmecocystus Mexicanus*. The discoverer found them very common near the town of Dolores, where they were known under the native name of Busileras. He states that they live in underground nests, which are not distinguishable from without. In early life none of these insects present any unusual distension of the body, but when arrived at a certain period of maturity some individuals begin to