

fibrillose stratum beneath binding it to the soil; when this is cleared away it leaves a smooth, whitish outer surface. In most of the dried specimens the inner peridium is distinctly pedicellate. The peculiar feature of this species, however, is the minute, scaly or granulose warts which invest the surface of the inner peridium; there is no other species with a similar surface, unless it be the *G. granulatus*, Fuckel, which is described as "covered with a white granulose powder." Moreover, it has a filamentous peristome, and belongs among the *Fimbriati*, while our species belongs to the *Striati* of Dr. DeToni's arrangement."—*Am. Naturalist*, Nov. 1887.

This species is very common. They are usually found in grass or weeds, growing together or isolated. The first specimens were collected in the fall of 1885, on the corner of G and Eleventh streets. They have since been found in numerous places in the city and surrounding country, in woods, on prairies, on banks of creeks, and on the almost barren ground of the Salt basin. The reflexing of the outer peridium forces them out of the soil; and on a summer day after a rain storm, even a casual observer cannot fail to notice them as they project from three-fourths to sometimes more than an inch above the surface, upheld by the points of the star (the reflexed peridium). When fresh they are indeed pretty little things to the unscientific as well as the scientific observer.

"*Geaster delicatus*, Morg. (Figure 2.)—Outer peridium thin, multifid; the segments (six to ten) unequal, revolute, whitish below, alutaceous within. Inner peridium depressed globose, sessile, puberulent, pallid, the mouth lacerate. Spores globose, verruculose, fuscous, .005—.006 mm. in diameter.

Inner peridium  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter the expanded segments an inch or more. The segments when fresh or wet are revolute, and become inflexed when dry, after the manner of *G. hygrometricus*; they are nearly papyraceous, the inner fleshy stratum being remarkably thin; the color outside is whitish or glaucous, and the external surface is very smooth. There is no determinate circular areola to the inner peridium and the mouth is stellately lacerate or sometimes a mere slit or puncture. The nearest relative would appear to be *G. bovista*, Klotsch, from which it differs in several particulars; it belongs to the same section, the *Exareolati* of Dr. DeToni's monograph."—*Am. Naturalist*, Nov. 1887.

This species, unlike the former, is very uncommon. It was first found in the fall of 1886, on a limited spot of clayey soil, in the salty region west of the city on Middle Creek; but was not brought to particular notice until last summer, when it was again found in the city on K street. These are the only two places where they are as yet known to occur. The first mentioned region from which the greater number of specimens have been obtained is not over four feet square, but has in the last summer furnished nearly fifty specimens. It is otherwise entirely barren of vegetation, but within twenty feet of it, six related species (*Geaster campestris*, *Talostoma mammosum*, *Simblum rubescens*, *Lycoperdon wrightii*, *Bovista plumbea* and *Bovista campestris*) and various weeds grow. The second region is a grassy spot, and, like the former, limited in extent. Here they are found growing mixed with *G. campestris*. As its name indicates, this species is very delicate. On account of this and its smaller size, it is not raised above the surface so much, and, consequently, is not so conspicuous. Indeed they sometimes mature below the surface, the outer peridium rupturing irregularly, the reflexing power not being great enough to force it out and raise it to the surface.

H. J. W.

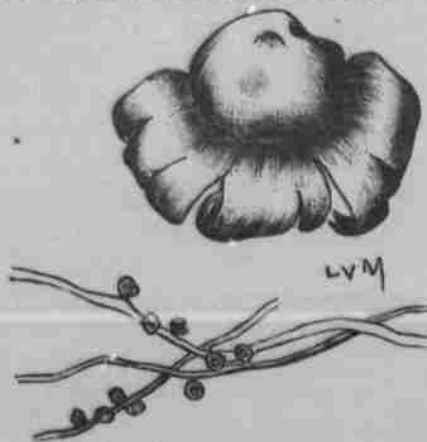


FIG. 2.

### STRAY PICK-UPS.

F. C. Taylor is teaching at Franklin.

The college hat epidemic threatens us.

Theo Bregman is a new student from Bellvue.

The Sophs say they have too much work to do.

Frozen ears promise to be all the go this winter.

How did Henry Wagner enjoy his trip to Red Cloud?

Ask Dave if he ever ran off with another fellow's girl.

Miss Tracy, a friend of Miss McBride, enters school this term.

C. S. Lobingier has a swelled ear as a result of the recent cold snap.

Fletcher can make the waiter use pretty hard language occasionally.

Tommy Hall is the possessor of a brand new gold chain to set off a fine gold timer.

J. N. Plumb, of Rulo, formerly a student in York College, has entered the University.

We never saw the students when they looked so well fed as on the first day of this term.

"Bring me two cups of coffee. Take them back I don't want them." Waiter: — — —

The State Horticultural Society met in the botanical lecture room last Wednesday evening.

Miss Dryden went home on the B. & M. flyer last Saturday. She will not be back this term.

Mr. Meth, a first year student, froze his fingers and face Saturday morning while driving a few blocks.

Misses Anna Harrison and Mattie Smith, formerly students of York College, matriculated here at the beginning of this term.

We are sorry to hear of the death of Miss Georgie Talbot's father. Miss Talbot will be back about the last of the month.

Miss Jessie Wolfe has a position in the postoffice and will not be in school. She will hereafter preside over the ladies window.

Don't say anything to B—b about the splendid time he and his girl had at the evening meeting of the state Historical association.

C. F. Sharmann has at last decided to continue his work here, and may now be found doubled up over a small table in room 28.

More students registered on the first day of this term than on the first day of any previous winter term in the history of the University.

Mr. E. J. Edmands, a Dartmouth '86 man, and for the past two years an engineer on the U. P. and B. & M., dropped into this office the other day.

The class of '88 planned for a sleigh-ride Saturday night, the 14th but owing to the cold weather it was postponed till last Thursday night.

The students have all enjoyed the holiday vacation about as well as any class of people could, and are now in their places once more. The mill begins to grind.

The University Studio has received a valuable addition to its appertenances—a new lay figure from Munich. Miss Moo

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