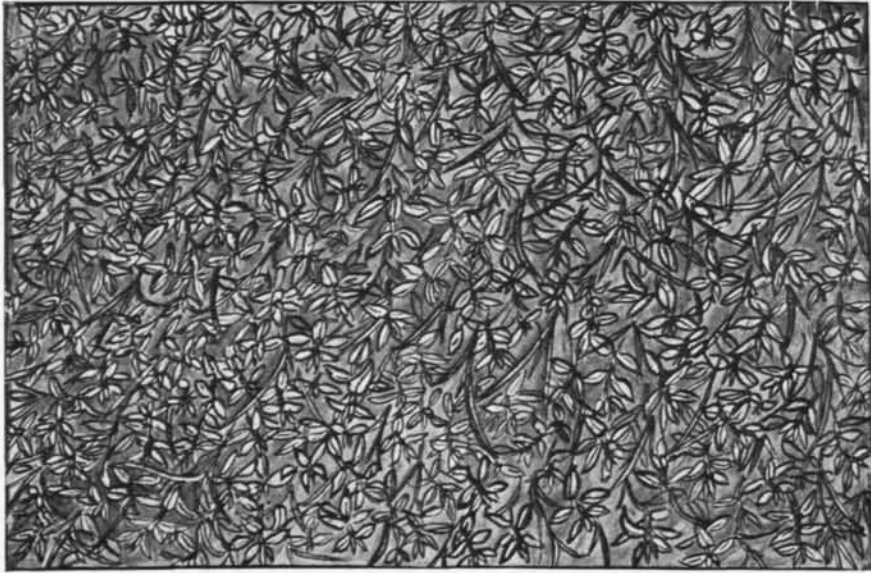


# A Troublesome Chickweed

(*Stellaria graminea* L.)

C. V. PIPER

The chickweed shown in the illustration is a European species long since introduced into the United States and now more or less plentiful across the continent. In England it is known as *lesser stitchwort* or *lesser starwort*, but in this country has received no popular name. Under

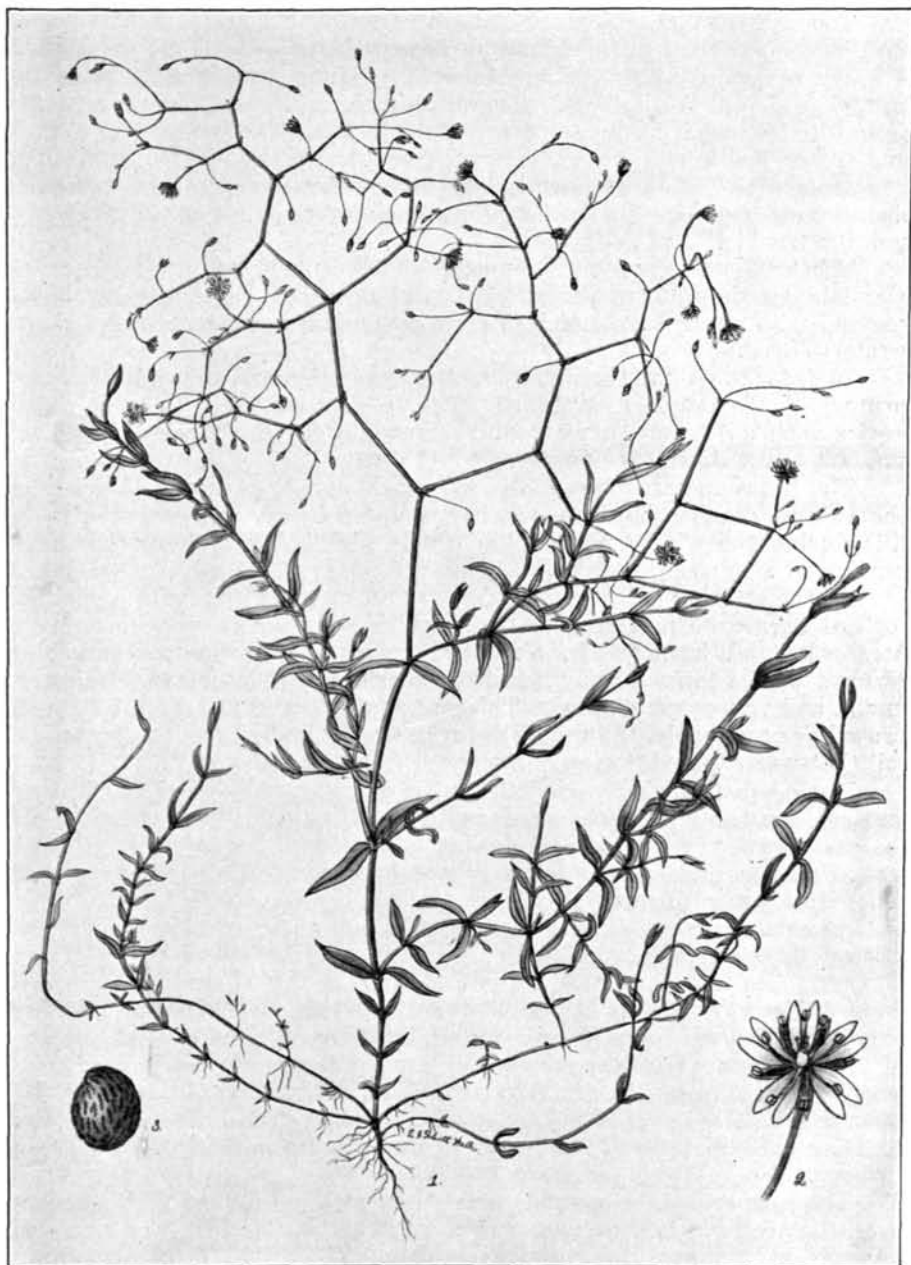


A piece of turf of *Stellaria graminea* from a putting-green, about natural size

favorable conditions it may grow 2 feet high, in dense tangled masses of fine stems. It is a perennial and proves to be a difficult weed to handle in putting greens. On the Pacific Coast particularly it often makes up much of the turf both on putting greens and in lawns. It makes turf of fair quality but certainly not as good as creeping bent, and besides mars the uniformity of the grass. It is one of the weeds that should be combatted as soon as it appears by using a radical method, namely, cutting out completely the area infested and replacing with good turf. If not checked it will spread increasingly year by year.

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From New Brunswick to California and from British Columbia to Florida, golf clubs are coming into the Green Section. Then beyond our shores we have members of the Section in Bermuda and Hawaii. It is quite probable that before long the Section will include the Country Clubs of Guatemala, Timbuctoo, Nijni Novgorod, and Lhasa.



STELLARIA GRAMINEA L.

- (1) A portion of a plant showing its characteristic habit; (2) a single flower enlarged; (3) a seed much enlarged