

out loss of consciousness, until death ensues, which happens in from two to four days.

There is no known antidote for phallin. The undigested portions of the fungus should be removed from the stomach and intestines by methods similar to those suggested under the Fly Agaric. If the poison already absorbed is not too great, it may wear itself out and the patient recover.

Of course when symptoms of poisoning appear a physician should be sent for immediately.

THE DESTROYING ANGEL (*Amanita verna*, Bull.). DEADLY POISONOUS.

This fungus is probably the cause of more cases of mushroom poisoning than any other. (Fig. 18.)

The plant is pretty, clean, pure white and attractive.

It usually occurs in the woods or near them, but may grow in lawns newly made from "rest soil." It is generally found in June and July.

The cap is 1.5 to 4 inches in diameter, at first bell shaped, later becoming nearly flat; *pure white, shining, viscid or slimy when fresh.*



Fig. 20. Scarlet Cap. *Mildly Poisonous*. About Natural Size (after Marshall.)

The stalk is 2 to 6 inches long, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ an inch thick, pure white, hollow in age. The stalk ends in an abrupt *bulb*, with a free border closely surrounding the base of the stalk and forming the poison cup or volva. This may be seen in even young specimens as shown by Fig. 19. This poison cup is buried in the soil, so that in order to see it it is usually necessary to dig the plant up. For this reason wild mushrooms growing in the soil should always be dug, not pulled up or broken off.

The gills are pure white and remain white, never becoming pink or brown.

The ring is broad and high up on the stalk, just under the cap. It is firmly attached to the stalk, and is not loose, as in the smooth, white mushroom.

Since this is our most poisonous mushroom its main characters should be thoroughly learned and remembered.

The cap is pure white, shining and slimy when fresh. The stalk is pure white, ending in a distinct poison cup or volva. Gills pure white and remain white. Ring white, broad, high upon the stalk to which it is firmly attached.

The poison in this fungus is the same as that in the Deadly Agaric, and the symptoms of poisoning and treatment are the same.