ful examination I have failed to discover any regularity ~~of~~ in their arrangement as he imagined & that the ~~pave~~ supposed pavement ~~beneath them~~ consists ~~evidently~~ merely of the larger stones ~~reported where~~ left by water courses ~~remaining where water has washed the away the superincumbent earth & fine gravel~~. It is indeed a difficult thing to account for the occurrence, ~~covering~~ over so large a tract of country, of uniform [illegible] by distributed, but the same appearance upon a smaller scale is ~~fo~~ noticeable elsewhere. The ~~mod~~ explanation I believe ~~cause I attribute~~ ~~to~~ to be the protection by scattered bushes ~~or~~ roots or grass of the particular spots constituting their summits, while the ground adjacent has gradually been washed away. In a soil so loose and easily abraded as these prairies, such an effect is not difficult to imagine, and ~~I actually saw noticed~~ I have seen that the process was actually going on ~~at this present time. A plant fully~~ with individual mounds. A plant fully capable of producing the result is the wild cucumber vine, whose root, sometimes reaching the size of a flour barrel would constitute no small mudens in itself.

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