

PAMPAS GRASS (*GYNERIUM ARGENTEUM*).

THE accompanying illustration represents a tuft of the beautiful plant, Pampas grass, which grows so freely in California. Although of a tropical character, it is almost hardy enough to endure our climate with a little protection. The genus comprises three species, of which this variety is the most desirable. It flourishes best on a light, sandy soil well enriched. In England they grow it out of doors in sheltered spots. The huge spikes of flowers attain a height of from six to ten feet. The leaves are linear, and from four to six feet in length. These blooms are cut off in the early part of the summer and preserved in a dry state for ornamental use in decorations. Unfortunately, this plant is not sufficiently hardy for the outdoor garden in Canada, but some of our readers may succeed with it by giving it protection in the winter. Mr. John McAinsh, of St. Mary's, wrote in the *CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* for 1880, that he has tried growing the Pampas grass out of doors. He was successful for two winters, by carefully covering it with a box about a foot in height, without top or bottom. He filled the inside with pea straw and banked up the outside with earth.

FIG. 45.—*GYNERIUM ARGENTEUM*.

THE cabbage worm is very easily and cheaply disposed of by the application of Bubach, either in powder form or in spray. This remedy seems to be sure death to most caterpillars. The tent-caterpillar also yields when a few puffs of the powder are blown into the tent at the time when the enemy is in camp, night or morning. Plants which have recently been set should receive careful attention. Frequent stirring of the surface soil will directly benefit them by promoting their growth, and indirectly prove still more useful by keeping the land clean. The newly set plants are comparatively weak, and cannot make a vigorous growth in land that is allowed to become filled with weeds or grass. If there are vacant places in the strawberry beds, they can be filled if strong plants are at hand, the blossom stems removed, the transplanting carefully done, and the plants protected from the sun for a few days.