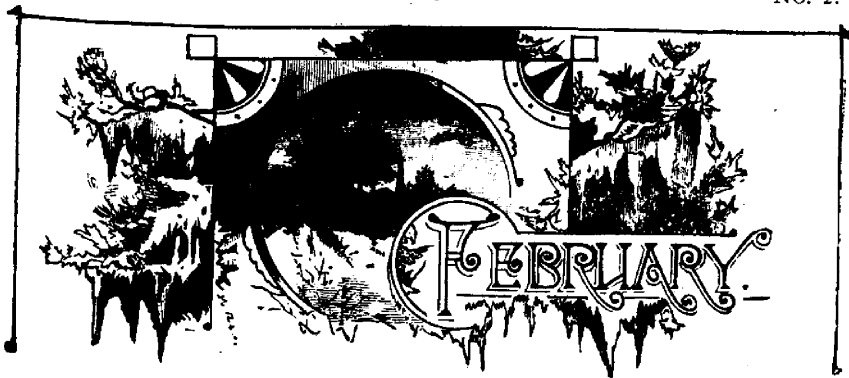


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THE YUCCA.



OUR readers will, we are sure, appreciate our efforts in endeavouring to place before them hardy varieties of trees and shrubs suitable to our Canadian climate, and in warning them against planting tender kinds, which, after careful nursing, must sooner or later succumb to our cold winters. The Yucca is a tropical plant, a native of the Southern United States and Mexico. It belongs to the botanical order Liliaceæ, and is commonly known under various names, as "Adam's Needle," "Bear's Grass," "Spanish Bayonet," etc. The plant presents a very striking appearance; its leaves are like bayonets and are twelve to fifteen inches in length; its flowers are creamy-white, and grow in great clusters. One traveller in California states that he there discovered a specimen which carried one thousand four hundred to one thousand five hundred blossoms to each flowering stem.

There are over a dozen varieties known to botanists, some of which have a very sweet perfume and are very beautiful. Yucca baccata, for instance, a native of Mexico and Colorado, has flowers from two to three feet in length, and inflorescence from five to six feet. The fruit of this variety is fleshy, and is eaten by the Indians as we do bananas, which it somewhat resembles in flavor.