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PROTECTING TREES FROM SNOW

Much breakage of trees results every winter in the northern United States and Canada from the overloading of the branches with snow. This is especially unfortunate in the case of trees planted for shade and ornament on private estates or in public parks, as the breakage is likely to destroy their symmetry and otherwise mar their beauty.

Little can be done to protect large and mature evergreens from such injury. Smaller trees can be protected by shaking them from time to time during a heavy snowfall so as to prevent the loads from becoming destructive. If snow breakage would ruin the beauty of some nook or corner of an estate it might be worth while to protect the trees with a board covering, sloping so as to shed the snow. Even a lattice work serves to keep off enough snow to prevent much danger of injury.

Deciduous trees can be safeguarded to some extent when they are pruned in spring or fall. If no large crotches or forks are allowed to form in the trees and the growth is kept as near as possible to one central shaft or limb, or the lower branches are shortened so that they will not exert too great a leverage, the danger of injury from snow will be much reduced.

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