THE COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE.

J. S. Stickney.

Of twenty-five Colorado Spruce sent me some twelve years ago only three have the full blue color, six more are slightly blue, the others have no blue shade; but all have a strong, sturdy habit of growth not equalled by any other evergreen.

I recently saw about two hundred of these trees, say three feet high, planted for an ornamental hedge and windbreak. Among them I counted six of the "true blue." If I were the owner I should remove those six to more honorable places and value them more than all the others.

It is truly a grand tree. In ordering to plant in prominent positions be very particular to get the true blue color, but do not be exacting about price,—two dollars, three dollars or five dollars should not deter you if you get the genuine. Those without the high color are valuable for their sturdy, vigorous growth and hardy endurance.

Wauwatosa, Wis.

In a note Mr. Stickney says that when he obtained his Colorado Spruce they were little seedlings and had not yet developed full color. He thinks that no batch of seedlings will give half of high colors. The seed is gathered in the mountain forests where all grades mingle.—Ed.
Vredenburg & Co. of Rochester, N. Y., thus describe
this tree:—"One of the most hardy and beautiful of all the
spruces. Foliage of a rich blue or sage color. The most
distinct and striking of the Spruce family. A free grower
and perfectly hardy. Of marvelous beauty as it flashes in
the sunlight with its wondrous sheen of silver and sapphire."

E. H. S. Dartt, Supt. of the Experiment Station at
Owatonna, Minn., writes of this spruce, in The Minnesota
Horticulturist, as follows: "The Colorado Blue Spruce is
the most beautiful evergreen or ever-blue tree that I have
ever seen. In hardiness it seems about equal to the White
Spruce. Of a lot of seedlings not over twenty per cent are
likely to be blue enough to be decidedly ornamental; conse-
quently the bluest trees command a very high price. It
seems a little queer that the development of blue in trees
greatly enhances their value, whilst in men the opposite is
ture. The bluest men are of least value; still, some may
prefer a man who is very blue to one who is ever-green."

ROSA RUGOSA.

Frederic Cranefield.

This is often called the Japanese rose. Nicholson's
Dictionary of Gardening gives Japan as its native habitat,
but a variety imported from Russia by Prof. Budd of the
Iowa Agricultural College has proved more hardy than the
type. A specimen on the lawn here that has been planted
seven years is now four feet high with a spread of six feet.
It has proved entirely hardy, not even the tips being killed
for the past five years. In quantity of bloom and length of
flowering period it compares favorably with any of the hy-
brid remontant class.

The blossoms are single, dark pink, about 3 inches
across, borne in clusters on short stems. Besides its perfect
hardiness and freedom of bloom another point that recom-