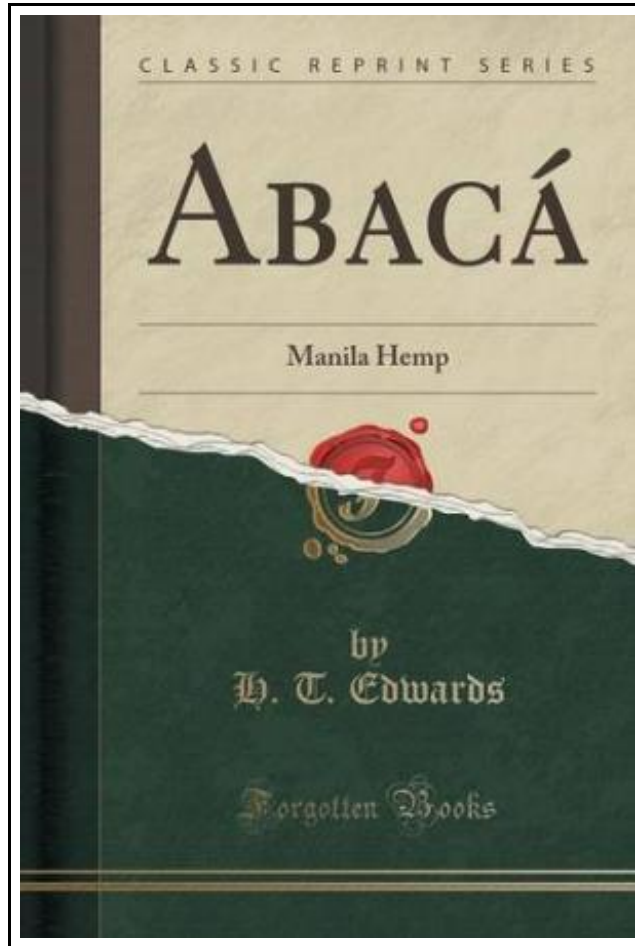


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from Abaca: Manila Hemp The fiber produced by the plant *Musa textilis* is known throughout the civilized world as hemp, manila, or manila hemp. This name hemp is misleading as, properly speaking, hemp is the fiber produced by the plant *Cannabis sativa*. The two fibers are quite different, manila hemp being a structural fiber obtained from the leaf sheath while true hemp is a bast fiber extracted from the inner bark of the stem. The name abaca is used in all parts of the Philippine Archipelago to designate both the plant, *Musa textilis*, and the fiber, manila hemp. Abaca enjoys the unique distinction of being strictly a Philippine product. The plant has been introduced into India, Borneo, the West Indies, and other parts of the tropical world, but only in the Philippine Islands has the fiber been successfully produced as an article of commerce. This fact has undoubtedly been of great advantage to the Philippine planter. The lack of competition, however, has resulted in the continuance of obsolete methods of cultivation and fiber extraction, better suited to the eighteenth than to the twentieth century. The opportunities for increasing the production of abaca in the Philippines are almost unlimited. Enormous areas of land suitable for abaca cultivation are as yet untouched, while the greater part of the land already under cultivation might yield a greatly increased product if more careful attention were given to the various details of cultivation. The introduction of irrigation and drainage will greatly increase the output of abaca in the localities where it is under cultivation and will also make possible the planting of abaca in many districts where it is now unknown....



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