

species are interesting in the old collection, *C. Douglasii* from Washington and Oregon, and *C. rivularis* from the region between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada. Many species in the new collection on Peter's Hill are already large enough to show their character and value, especially those in the Intricatae Group. Nearly all the species in this group are small shrubs of the northern and middle states with large flowers, yellow or rose-colored anthers, and large, showy, late-ripening fruits. Long entirely overlooked by American botanists, this group contains some of the most beautiful garden plants to be found among North American shrubs. Among foreign species the earliest to flower in the Arboretum is *Crataegus nigra*, a tree from eastern Europe with large flowers and early-ripening black fruit. There is a large specimen in the old collection near the southern end of the Willow Collection. The two species of western Europe, *C. oxyantha* and *C. monogyna*, and many varieties are, of course, established in the Arboretum where *C. orientalis* from southeastern Europe, with deeply divided silvery leaves, large flowers and orange and red fruit is a plant which deserves the attention of all lovers of hardy trees and shrubs. The most beautiful, however, of all the foreign Thorns here is *C. pinnatifida* from eastern Siberia and northern China. The large, deeply divided and lustrous leaves make this one of the handsomest plants of the whole genus; the flowers are large and abundant, and the crimson fruits are produced in profusion. A form of this plant (var. *major*) with larger leaves and much larger fruit, is cultivated in orchards as a fruit tree in the neighborhood of Peking. With the exception of a few varieties of the species of western Europe with red, rose-colored or pink flowers, all Hawthorns have white flowers; they are therefore less showy when in bloom than many of the Crabapples, on most of which the flowers are more or less tinged with pink. The flowering period, however, is much longer and the fruit is far more beautiful than that of any of the Asiatic Crabapples. As flowering plants the Hawthorns are certainly less beautiful than some of the Japanese Cherries, but Cherry blossoms last only a few days and the fruits of the Japanese species have no ornamental value. Like many other trees and shrubs of the Rose family, *Crataegus* suffers from the attacks of the San José scale, and the leaves of some species are badly disfigured by a leaf miner.

American Crabapples. Several of the American Crabapples are now in bloom. Those of the eastern states produce large, pink, very fragrant flowers which do not open until the leaves are partly grown, and depressed-globose, fragrant, greenish yellow fruits covered with a sticky exudation. The earliest to flower, *Malus glaucescens*, may be seen in the Peter's Hill group. It is a native of western New York and of Ontario, and is a treelike shrub or small tree distinguished from the other northern species by the pale lower surface of the leaves and the hairy covering on the outer surface of the calyx of the flower. The best known of the northern species, *M. coronaria*, flowers a little later and can be seen in the old collection on Forest Hills Road opposite the end of the Meadow Road. Here also are *M. ioensis* from the Mississippi Valley and its double-flowered variety known as the Bechtel Crab.

The double pink flowers of this tree look like roses, and when it is in bloom excite the interest and admiration of visitors to the Arboretum. In the old collection, too, are plants of *M. fusca*, the only wild Apple tree in the Pacific states, and a plant of *M. Dawsoniana*, a hybrid between *M. fusca* and the common Apple which appeared many years ago in the Arboretum. The Crabapple to which the southern forests owe so much of their spring beauty, *M. angustifolia*, fortunately has proved hardy in, the Arboretum, and there are large specimens on Centre Street walk in the rear of the Hickories and in the Peter's Hill Apple Group. It is the latest of the American species to flower, and the flowers are of a rather deeper pink than those of the other American species. In the Peter's Hill Collection may be seen several plants of *M. Soulandi*, a tree which occurs occasionally over large areas in the Mississippi valley and is believed to be a natural hybrid between *M. ioensis* and the common cultivated Apple.

Two Chinese Roses. For many years the Cinnamon Rose, *Rosa cinnamomea*, has been the first Rose in the Arboretum to open its flowers but this year two Chinese species are beginning to flower at the same time. These are *R. Hugonis* and *R. omeiensis*. The former has pale yellow single flowers about two and a half inches in diameter and is a tall, perfectly hardy free-flowering shrub with slender erect and spreading, pale brown stems and small pale leaves. There are not many yellow flowering Roses that are perfectly hardy and free-flowering in this climate and *R. Hugonis* is certainly one of the most valuable single Roses which has lately been introduced into gardens. It is a native of western China and was first raised in England from seeds sent to the British Museum by the missionary for whom it has been named. There is a plant of this Rose in the Shrub Collection which will be in full bloom when this Bulletin reaches its Massachusetts readers. *Rosa omeiensis* is flowering in the Arboretum for the first time. It is a vigorous shrub with young stems covered with bright red prickles, and pure white fragrant flowers hardly more than an inch in diameter, borne singly at the ends of short lateral twigs, and bright red ellipsoidal fruits which are borne on stout, elongated, yellow, fleshy stalks, and are very showy. It is common on many of the mountain ranges of western China at elevations of from 6,000 to 11,000 feet above the sea, and sometimes grows twenty feet tall and forms great thickets. Its name is derived from that of one of the sacred mountains of China, Mt. Omei, where it is common. This Rose promises to be a valuable and distinct garden shrub in this climate, and its hardiness, vigor and stout stems armed with numerous straight spines suggest its value as a hedge plant. It will be found in the collection of Chinese shrubs on the southern slope of Bussey Hill with the other Roses raised from seeds collected by Wilson in western China.

By an unfortunate typographical error on page 14 of the last issue of these Bulletins (No. 4) the flowers of the Lilacs *Macrostachya* and *Gloire de Moulins* were described as double white instead of pink, and the flowers of *Madame Lemoine* and *Miss Ellen Willmott* were described as pink instead of double white.

The subscription to these Bulletins is \$1.00 per year, payable in advance.



1915. "American Crabapples." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 1(5), 19–20. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320342>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/226132>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320342>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/320342>

Holding Institution

New York Botanical Garden, LuEsther T. Mertz Library

Sponsored by

IMLS LG-70-15-0138-15

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.