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# POPULAR INFORMATION

### JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS.

OCTOBER 22, 1915

The Arboretum in October. This is one of the best months for a visit to the Arboretum, and after the abundant rains of the summer it has never looked better at this season of the year than it does now. The grass is as green as it usually is in early June. Frost has only touched the leaves of a few of the Grapevines which are perhaps more susceptible to frost than those of any other perfectly hardy plants; the leaves of only a few trees have fallen and on others they are as green as they were at midsummer, while in all directions are spots of brilliant autumncolor varying with every intermediate shade from the bright clear yellow of the Tulip-trees, the Sugar Maples and the Pawpaws to the scarlet of the Gum-trees and Virginia Creepers.

Autumn flowers are not abundant in the Arboretum in October, although a few may still be found here. The northern Witch Hazel, *Hamamelis virginiana*, however, is covered with its flowers which are conspicuous with their clear yellow strap-shaped petals. The autumn color of the leaves of this plant is also yellow but of a darker shade than the flowers, and the leaves usually do not fall until the flowers begin to open; these, however, remain for a long time in good condition on the naked branches, making this shrub one of the most attractive features of forest borders in the eastern states. This Witch Hazel may be seen in the Witch Hazel Group on the Meadow Road near its junction with the Bussey Hill and Forest Hills Road, and it has been largely planted in the general Arboretum plantations where many large specimens may be found.

Gordonia alatamaha. Flowers are still opening on this beautiful southern tree. They first appear in September and open in succession



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