

tum, and during the last two or three years these have been distributed among American nurserymen. They are easily raised and grow rapidly, so that there seems a chance that these beautiful plants will soon be seen in many American gardens.

Azaleas. This is a good year for most of the Azaleas. The earliest of them, *Rhododendron dahuricum* and *R. mucronulatum* (all Azaleas are now called Rhododendrons), were full of flower-buds, although those of the former were killed by a late frost. The red-flowered Japanese *R. Kaempferi* has never before been so splendid, and *R. Vaseyi*, the earliest of the American species to bloom, is as usual covered with its clear pink or rarely white flowers, and these in a few days will be followed by the rose-pink flowers of *R. canescens* and *R. nudiflorum*; and for nearly two months more Azalea flowers will add beauty and interest to the Arboretum.

Lonicera syringantha. Attention is called to the plant of this Chinese Honeysuckle in the collection of Chinese Shrubs on Bussey Hill, which is now covered with its small violet colored and violet scented flowers which have not before been produced in such profusion. The arching stems, small leaves and fragrant flowers make this one of the most charming plants blooming this spring in the Arboretum. Many other Honeysuckles are flowering now in the Shrub Collection, and on the right-hand side of the Bussey Hill Road. Here is a good opportunity to see how Bush Honeysuckles of the Tartarian type and its hybrids can develop into great shapely bushes when they are allowed sufficient space in which to grow.

The earliest Rose to flower in the Arboretum this year is *R. Écae*, a native of Afghanistan and Turkestan; it has erect stems, leaves with small, very lustrous leaflets, and pale yellow flowers not more than an inch in diameter. The first flowers of *R. Hugonis*, *R. omeiensis* and *R. cinnamomea* are also opening. *R. Hugonis* has not before in the Arboretum been so full of flower-buds, and next week to any one interested in Roses will well repay a visit.

Viburnums of the week are the English Traveller's Tree, *Viburnum lantana*, and the American Black Haw, *V. prunifolium*. The former is a tall, broad bush, with wide gray-green leaves and large convex clusters of white flowers which are followed by handsome and abundant lustrous fruits, bright red when fully grown, and then gradually turning black. This is one of the European shrubs which grows as well here as in its native country. Fortunately it can now be found in American nurseries. The Black Haw is an arborescent shrub or a tree occasionally thirty feet high with a round-topped head of spreading branches; the narrow pointed leaves are lustrous and in the autumn turn deep rich wine color; the flowers are white, in rather smaller clusters than those of the other American tree Viburnums, and the large fruit in drooping clusters is dark blue or nearly black and covered with a glaucous bloom. This is a good plant for wood-margins and the borders of roads.



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