

it will grow taller and form a tall Larch-like trunk. As *Pseudolarix* seeds are produced in quantity by at least two trees in the United States, and probably by several trees in Europe, there is no reason why this tree should not be taken up by American nurserymen and brought within reach of the lovers of handsome and interesting trees. The trees at Flushing and at Wellesley are not producing seeds this year.

Zelkova serrata, the Keaki of the Japanese, is another Asiatic tree which is still too little known in the United States. The oldest tree in this country is growing on the estate of Mr. Henry Everett in Barnstable, Massachusetts. The seeds which produced this tree were brought from Japan in 1862 by John Wilson, who gave them to Captain Frank Hinckley. Only one plant was raised from these seeds. It is now a broad-headed tree with a short, stout trunk divided into several large ascending stems. A little later seeds of the Keaki were sent from Japan to the Parsons nursery at Flushing, either by Dr. Hall or by Mr. Thomas Hogg, and the best of the trees, the result of this introduction, known to the Arboretum are in Dr. Hall's plantation in Bristol, Rhode Island. The largest of these trees are now fully seventy feet high with tall stems from two to two and a half feet in diameter. These trees have for years been producing large crops of seeds and quantities of seedlings spring up under the trees, and at long distances from them, the seeds being widely scattered by the wind. A specimen with a tall clean stem and shapely head which has been planted by the roadside in Warren, the next town to Bristol, indicates that the Japanese *Zelkova* might be successfully used as a street or roadside tree. It is as a timber tree, however, that this *Zelkova* deserves the attention of Americans. It is the most important hardwood tree of Japan and Korea. The wood is tough, elastic and durable in the ground and when exposed to the air. It is considered the best wood for building in the Empire, and furnishes the great round columns which support the roofs of Japanese temples. It is universally used in Japan in making jinrikishas, and quantities of the wood are sent from Korea into China for this purpose. The Keaki alone has made the jinrikisha possible just as the Hickory-tree has made possible in this country the light wagon and the trotting horse. The demand for the wood has made the Keaki comparatively rare. That it was once a noble tree, however, is shown by the great specimens which have been preserved in temple gardens and by village roadsides. Such trees are often at best one hundred feet high with the trunks eight or ten feet in diameter.

Viburnums. The handsomest *Viburnums* this week in the Arboretum are *V. prunifolium*, a tree species of the Middle States, with dark purple leaves and fruit which is still pale pink but later will be dark blue, and the Japanese *V. dilatatum*, a broad round-headed shrub with wide flat clusters of small bright red fruit, and dark red almost purple leaves.



1919. "Zelkova serrata." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 5(15), 60–60. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320990>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/239291>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320990>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/320990>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Not in copyright. The BHL knows of no copyright restrictions on this item.

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>.