and the form with flowers tinged with pink (var. *rosea*). The Maackias and Sophoras are growing on the slope on the right hand side of Bussey Hill Road above the path which connects that road with the Meadow Road.

The Aralia Family supplies northern plantations with three handsome trees which flower in August. The most interesting of these three trees, possibly because it is still the least known in this country, is *Acanthopanax ricinifolium*, an inhabitant of the forests of Japan and Korea where it sometimes grows to the height of seventy or eighty feet and forms a massive trunk and great wide-spreading branches armed, like the stems of young trees, with numerous stout prickles. To the shape of the leaves, which somewhat resemble those of the plant which produces the fruit from which castor oil is obtained, this Acanthopanax owes its specific name. The leaves, which are nearly circular and more or less deeply five- or seven-lobed, and fifteen or sixteen inches in diameter, hang on long slender stalks. The small white flowers are arranged in compact, long-stemmed clusters which form a compound flat terminal panicle which varies from twelve to eighteen inches in diameter and is well raised above the leaves. In the early autumn the flowers are followed by small black and shining fruits. Of the trees growing in the Arboretum this Acanthopanax most departs in appearance from the trees of New England; and no other tree here is regarded with more curiosity. The largest specimen is growing by the side of the pond on the right hand side of the Meadow Road near its junction with the Bussey Hill Road; there is another large specimen in the mixed border plantation in the rear of the group of Viburnums near the junction of the Bussey Hill and Valley Roads. These trees have not before been more thickly covered with clusters of flower-buds.

Aralia spinosa is a common tree, growing usually in the neighborhood of streams in the region from western Pennsylvania to Missouri, and southward to northern Florida, Lousiana and eastern Texas. It is a slender tree thirty or thirty-five feet high with a stem rarely more than eight inches in diameter and wide-spreading branches furnished, like the young trunk, with stout scattered prickles. The leaves, which are clustered near the end of the branches, are from three to four feet long and about two and a half feet wide, on stems from eighteen to twenty inches in length which clasp the branches with their enlarged base, and are usually armed with slender prickles. The small, greenish white flowers appear in August in many-flowered umbels arranged in broad compound panicles three or four feet long which rise above the leaves singly or two or three together from the end of the branches. The small black fruit ripens in early autumn. This Aralia is now thoroughly established at the northern base of Hemlock Hill in the rear of the plantation of Laurels (*Kalmia*) and is spreading to a considerable distance from the original plant by means of underground stems from which new plants rise.

Aralia chinensis, so closely related to the American Aralia that it has sometimes been considered a geographical variety of that tree, appears in the Arboretum collection in several varieties. The best known of these varieties, a native of Manchuria and eastern Siberia (var. *mandschurica*), is a hardier plant at the north than the American spe-

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