## ARNOLD ARBORETUM HARVARD UNIVERSITY



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Autumn Colors. This is one of the most interesting times of the year to visit the Arboretum which is gay now with the autumn colors of many leaves. Those of a few plants have already turned and begun to fall, and others are practically as green as they were in summer. The most brilliant color made in the early autumn is by the native Red Maple, the Ampelopsis or Virginia Creeper, and Phellodendron amurense. This last is a small tree from the Amoor region of eastern Siberia and is chiefly interesting as the type of a small genus with a few species of trees of eastern Asia of the Rue Family, and for its peculiar thick, ridged, pale, cork-like bark. Early in October the leaves turn to a bright clear yellow which is hardly equalled in beauty by the yellow autumn leaves of any other tree. This beauty is shortlived and the branches are already bare. This is perhaps one of the rarest trees in the Arboretum and certainly the rarest of the five species which are now well established here. Phellodendron japonicum appears to have been raised first in the United States in the Botanic Garden at Cambridge, and the male and female plants were moved from there to the Bussey Institution in its very early days and are still flourishing and producing their fruit annually. Two plants of Phellodendron amurense came a little later direct to the Arboretum from the Imperial Botanic Garden at St. Petersburg in small pots and unfortunately are both of one sex and have never produced flowers.

The Sassafras is just now, too, one of the most beautiful trees in New England woods and by roadsides as the leaves have turned or are turning orange or yellow more or less tinged with red. The



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