

in cultivation, and the plants in the Arboretum were raised from grafts taken from old trees in the Harvard Botanic Garden for which they were imported from Europe probably when the Garden was laid out, that is more than a century ago. A little later the flowers of the Cucumber Tree, *M. acuminata*, the Umbrella Tree, *M. tripetala*, *M. virginiana* and *M. macrophylla* will open. *M. acuminata*, which is the tallest of the American Magnolias, sometimes attaining a height of ninety feet, has green or greenish yellow flowers covered with a glaucous bloom. This tree is a native of mountain slopes and rocky banks of streams from southern Ontario and western New York to Ohio and Illinois, and southward along the Appalachian Mountains to northern Georgia, central Kentucky, Mississippi and Louisiana. *M. tripetala* is a bushy tree from thirty to forty feet in height with large pure white flowers, and is widely distributed through the Appalachian Mountain region, although nowhere very abundant, from the valley of the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania to southern Alabama, middle Kentucky and Tennessee, growing westward to southwestern Arkansas and southeastern Oklahoma. *M. virginiana*, as botanists now call the Sweet Bay, often a large tree at the south, northward is never more than a small tree or often a large shrub. The leaves are dark green and very lustrous on the upper surface and silvery white on the lower surface, and the flowers which continue to open in succession from the middle of June until August are small, cup-shaped, creamy white and delightfully fragrant. In all North America there is not a more delightful shrub or small tree to plant in a garden or one that will give larger returns in beauty and fragrance. It is, however, difficult to find in American nurseries and it is still practically unknown to American garden makers of this generation. *M. major*, often called *M. Thompsoniana*, a hybrid between *M. virginiana* and *M. tripetala*, has the general appearance of the former but has larger leaves, and larger, equally fragrant flowers. *M. macrophylla* is the last of the Magnolias to bloom in the Arboretum. A native of the southern states, it is perfectly hardy in Massachusetts where it grows to a height of thirty feet and forms a wide, round-topped head of branches spreading at nearly right angles to the trunk. This Magnolia has the largest leaves and largest flowers of any Magnolia growing in any part of the world beyond the tropics: the former are silvery white on the lower surface and from twenty to thirty inches long and from eight to nine inches wide. The expanded flowers are often a foot in diameter. Although perfectly hardy in Massachusetts, this tree is best planted in a position sheltered from the wind which often tears the large and delicate leaves.

American Crabapples. Nine species of the American plants are recognized, with several varieties and two hybrids. They have white or pink fragrant flowers which do not open until the leaves are partly or entirely grown, and green or pale yellow, fragrant fruit which, with the exception of that of the species of the northwestern part of the country, is depressed globose, usually broader than high, from an inch to an inch and a half in diameter, and covered with a waxy exudation. These are excellent plants for the decoration of wood borders and glades. *M. glaucescens*, which is named from the pale glaucous color of the under surface of the leaves, is the first of the American species

to bloom here. This is a common plant in western New York, western Pennsylvania, southern Ontario and Ohio, and ranges southward on the mountains to northern Alabama. The flowers of *M. ioensis* open several days later. This is the common Crabapple of the northern and middle western states, and in a number of varieties ranges southward through Missouri to western Louisiana and Texas. It is a tree sometimes thirty feet high with a trunk often eighteen inches in diameter and a wide open head of spreading branches. A form of this tree with double flowers (var. *plena*), the Bechtel Crab, named for the man who found it several years ago growing in the woods in one of the western states, has opened its pale rose-colored flowers which look like small roses. When in bloom this is one of the popular trees in the Arboretum. *M. coronaria*, sometimes called the Garland Tree, is the common eastern species, although it does not approach the coast north of Pennsylvania and Delaware, and ranges west to Missouri. It is a beautiful tree sometimes twenty-five feet high, with a short trunk, pink flowers rather more than an inch in diameter, and depressed globose fruit. One of the most beautiful plants when in bloom in the Arboretum is the double-flowered form of *M. coronaria* (var. *Charlottae*) which was found a few years ago in the woods near Waukegan, Illinois, and was named the Charlotte Apple in honor of the wife of the discoverer. The Arboretum plants are still small, but the flowers which are now open are fragrant, about two inches in diameter with two rows of pale pink petals, and handsomer even than those of the Bechtel Crab, the double-flowered form of *M. ioensis*. *M. platycarpa* has fruit broader than high and often two and a half inches in diameter, with a deep cavity at base and apex. The flowers are about an inch and a half in diameter with a glabrous pedicel and calyx, but in the variety *Hoopesii* with a pubescent calyx. There is a large tree of this variety in the old *Malus* collection opposite the end of the Meadow Road. *M. fusca*, the only native Apple-tree of the Pacific States where it ranges from Alaska to central California, is an interesting tree. It differs from the other American Crabapples in its short-oblong, yellow-green flushed with red or almost entirely red fruit from half an inch to three-quarters of an inch long, and without the waxy exudation which is peculiar to the eastern American species. The calyx of the flower, unlike that of the eastern species but like that of many of those from Asia, falls from the partly grown fruit. *M. angustifolia* is the last Crabapple in the Arboretum to flower. It is a tree sometimes thirty feet tall with a trunk eight or ten inches in diameter, wide-spreading branches, and bright pink, exceptionally fragrant flowers. This plant does not grow naturally north of southeastern Virginia and southern Illinois, ranging from Florida to western Louisiana. It has proved perfectly hardy, however, in the Arboretum where the plants bloom every year and are handsome and valuable additions to the collection. The other American species, *M. glabrata*, of the high mountains of North Carolina, *M. lancifolia*, widely distributed from Pennsylvania to Missouri and western North Carolina, *M. bracteata*, a common species from Missouri to Florida, and many of the varieties of *M. ioensis* are now established in the Arboretum. *M. Souldardii*, which is believed to be a natural hybrid between *M. ioensis* and some form of the orchard Apple (*M. pumila*), is a widely distributed and not rare tree in the middle west and one of

the attractive plants in the Crabapple collection at the base of Peter's Hill. *M. Dawsoniana* is a hybrid of the western *M. fusca* and the common Apple which appeared in the Arboretum many years ago from seed collected in Oregon. It has grown here to more than double the size of *M. fusca* with which it shows its relationship in the oblong fruit of the shape and color of the Oregon plant but about twice the size.

Bush Honeysuckles. For northern gardens there are few more beautiful shrubs than some of the Bush Honeysuckles, for in early spring they are covered with myriads of yellow, white, rose-colored or red flowers, and in summer or autumn with lustrous, usually scarlet fruits. Many of these shrubs are able to show their greatest beauty in this climate, but this can be obtained only by planting them in rich soil and with sufficient space for growth in all directions. In poor soil and when crowded by other plants they are miserable objects. The large-growing kinds, like *Lonicera tatarica*, *L. bella* and *L. notha*, should be planted as isolated specimens at least twenty feet from any other plant. *L. Morrowii*, a plant of the Amur region, requires even more space for its lowest branches which cling close to the ground and naturally spread over a great area. This shrub has gray-green foliage, comparatively large white flowers and bright red fruits. Among vigorous growing plants in this group attention is called to two hybrids of *L. Korolkowii* in the Shrub Collection, *L. amoena* and *L. arnoldiana*. These have gray-green foliage and small, bright pink, very attractive flowers. *L. chrysantha* from eastern Siberia, with large yellow flowers, is also a conspicuous object at this time. There is a large collection of these Bush Honeysuckles in the general Shrub Collection, and plants of a few of the larger-growing kinds have been planted in the grass border on the right-hand side of the Bussey Hill Road, opposite the Lilacs, to show how these plants can develop when sufficient room for free growth is given to them.

Exochorda Giraldii Wilsonii. This shrub was discovered by Wilson in western China and is now well established in the Arboretum where there are several plants. In cultivation here the Wilson Pearl Bush grows with a single straight stem and comparatively short branches which form a narrow pyramidal head. The flowers are much larger than those of the old-fashioned Pearl Bush, and it gives every promise of being the best garden plant of the genus. Some persons consider it when in flower the handsomest, as it is certainly the most showy of the hardy deciduous-leaved shrubs introduced in recent years from western China, and the large plants in the Shrub Collection are attracting much attention this year.

Just now the trees in the Horsechestnut and Buckeye Collection on the right-hand side of the Meadow Road are unusually full of flowers and deserve careful study by lovers of hardy trees and shrubs.



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