

Azalea Vaseyi is a winsome plant and among the whole Azalea tribe there is no purer or more pleasing bit of pink than the gaping blossoms of this delightful shrub. The branches are slender and upright and there is an airyness and grace about the plant not common among the Azaleas. It is of easy culture but prefers a moist situation and if planted where its blossoms can be reflected in water its beauty is seen to two-fold advantage. Native of the higher mountains of western North Carolina, this Azalea was discovered in 1878 by George Vasey. It was introduced in 1880 into the Arboretum, where it has never known winter injury, and each year, toward the close of May, the groups of plants on the right and left of the Meadow Road are aglow with pink blossoms.

Diervilla Maximowiczii is now flowering freely on Centre Street Path and is very distinct from other species of Diervilla. A shrub some 3 to 5 feet tall, it has slender, arching branches and thin, bright green leaves. In color the flower is greenish yellow with a prominent orange-brown stripe on the lower corolla-lobe and throat. In other Diervillas the stamens are alternate with the corolla-lobes, but in this species they are collected under the upper part of the corolla and the anthers are united laterally. The flower is in appearance very much like that of a Pentstemon. Native of the margins of woodland and thickets from central Japan northward, *D. Maximowiczii* was introduced into cultivation by the Arboretum through seeds sent in 1914 from the Nikko region by Wilson. It is a very distinct and pleasing shrub and has proved quite hardy.

Kerria japonica and its double-flowered form *pleniflora* are old-fashioned plants which well deserve a place in gardens. They are twiggy shrubs sending up each year from the base a mass of shoots which remain bright green throughout the year. No other shrub, not even the green-stemmed Dogwood, has such cheerful shoots in the winter time. The flowers, borne along the whole length of the smooth, slender, arching stems, are a deep buttercup yellow and the double-flowered form strongly suggests a Rambler Rose. This plant does well against walls, on banks or high land, where it can enjoy good air and root drainage. Both forms are easily propagated from suckers and suffer from no disease or pest. After flowering the older canes should be cut clean away; no other pruning is necessary. *Kerria* is native of China and southern Japan, where it is also a favorite garden plant. The double-flowered form was introduced into cultivation from Canton so long ago as 1805. Our grandparents knew and appreciated it well and while it has been somewhat crowded out in later times *Kerria* is still one of the most beautiful of late spring-flowering shrubs. Visitors to rural parts of England may see the double-flowered form frequently trained as a curtain against the stone walls of thatched cottages.

E. H. W.



Wilson, Ernest Henry. 1928. "Diervilla Maximowiczii." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 2(9), 36–36.

<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321944>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/216914>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321944>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/321944>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

BHL-SIL-FEDLINK

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

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>.