

on his label: "Several colonies of large and small size in rocky copses near coast. The only known N. E. stations [of *T. angustifolium*?] are Milford and Stratford, Connecticut, where I have traced it for several miles in detached colonies." Except for the oblong lobes of the corolla these plants have every appearance of being hybrids of *T. perfoliatum* var. *aurantiacum* and *T. angustifolium*, but true *T. angustifolium* has been reported from Connecticut only from the Windsor region many miles away. A specimen collected by R. C. Bean and M. L. Fernald in Sheffield, Berkshire Co., Massachusetts, resembles the Eames specimens except in the corolla, which, though young, is more like that of *T. perfoliatum* and its varieties.

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## CERCIS CANADENSIS IN CONNECTICUT.<sup>1</sup>

G. E. NICHOLS.

ABOUT fifteen years ago one of my students brought into the laboratory a twig of redbud, *Cercis canadensis*, which he had collected "somewhere on West Rock." West Rock is a trap ridge about 400 feet in height, situated on the outskirts of New Haven and site of the famous Judges' Cave. It is included in the New Haven city park system, but for the most part is in a natural condition, being very largely covered with second growth woodland. Since the redbud had not been recorded as a native plant northeast of New Jersey, it was assumed at the time that the specimen in question must have come from a planted tree; but subsequent inquiries from the superintendent of city parks elicited the information that no redbuds had ever been planted in the park, which covers an area of about 200 acres, and until recently the source of the specimen remained a mystery.

One day last May, however, as I was driving along the crest of the Rock, through woods that gleamed white with masses of blossoming dog-wood, my eye was caught by a mass of an entirely different color—the rose-pink of the redbud. The mystery was solved.

There they were, a clump of half a dozen good-sized individuals, ranging from half an inch to nearly two inches in diameter and up to about a dozen feet in height, together with two or three smaller plants.

<sup>1</sup>Contribution from the Osborn Botanical Laboratory



The entire group occupies a piece of ground less than three feet in diameter, and very likely has originated through root suckering from a single plant. How the original plant got there is another question; but from the location of the station—near the summit of a rocky ridge which has never been inhabited, and fifty feet from the nearest road, from which it is separated by a tangle of wood and thicket—it seems certain that the plant was not introduced by human agencies. Moreover, the redbud here occupies essentially the same sort of habitat which it favors on trap ridges in eastern Pennsylvania: a moist, rocky depression in oak-hickory woods, where it grows associated with such other woody plants as basswood and butternut, silky cornel and high bush blueberry, bittersweet and grape. In short, I have no hesitation in accepting this Connecticut station for the redbud as representing a northeastward extension in the known natural range of the species, notwithstanding the fact that it apparently fails to propagate itself further by seed.

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