Berberis (Mahonia) repens. The beautiful Oregon Grape, *Berberis (Mahonia Aquifolium)* of the northwest coast region is not a satisfactory plant in this climate unless it can be planted in exceptionally sheltered positions or can be carefully protected, for the cold here destroys or disfigures the leaves and often kills the plants. The species from the Rocky Mountains, *B. repens*, is a hardier plant and one of the most useful of the dwarf, broad-leaved evergreens which can be used here. It grows less than a foot high and spreads rapidly into large mats; the leaves are pale bluish green and are not lustrous like those of the Oregon species, and the flowers are bright yellow and produced in compact terminal clusters. This plant is now in flower in the Shrub Collection next to a plant of *Berberis Aquifolium*, which is also in flower and in better condition this spring than usual. There is a collection of different forms of the Mahonias on the lower side of Hickory Path near Centre Street, including the Japanese species (*B. japonica*) which has unexpectedly proved hardy in this sheltered position.

Early Lilacs. The white-flowered *Syringa affinis* and its variety *Giraldii*, with pale lilac or mauve-colored flowers, *S. Meyeri* and *S. hyacinthiflora*, are already in flower and in a few days many of the varieties of the common Lilac will open their flowers. *S. affinis* and its variety are tall shrubs of a straggling habit, but are valuable on account of their early and very fragrant flowers. The white-flowered form is the common and apparently the only kind of Lilac cultivated in the gardens of Peking. *S. Meyeri* is a dwarf shrub of northern China with compact clusters of very fragrant dark purple flowers which are distinct in the exceptionally long slender tube of the corolla. *S. hyacinthiflora* is a hybrid between the common Lilac and the Chinese *S. oblata*; the flowers are lilac-colored, small and double, in rather small clusters; it is a vigorous, fast growing plant, however, of good habit and is chiefly valuable in prolonging the Lilac season.

Daphnes. *Daphne Mezereum* and its white-flowered variety bloomed several weeks ago before the snow had entirely disappeared. They are dwarf European shrubs with erect branches, and have now become naturalized in several places in the northern states. A more beautiful plant, *D. Cneorum*, is now in flower in the Shrub Collection and on the lower side of Azalea Path; it forms a broad mat of wiry semiprostrate stems less than a foot long, covered with dark green leaves and terminating in dense heads of rose-colored delightfully fragrant flowers. It is a plant which with the same treatment and in the same soil succeeds in some gardens and fails utterly in others. Fortunately it does well in the Arboretum where it is one of the most admired plants in the Collection. The pale lilac-flowered *D. genkwa* is blooming in the special Chinese Collection on the southern slope of Bussey Hill. This Daphne was sent to the United States many years ago from Japan, but the plants derived from Japanese gardens did not succeed here. It is a Chinese plant introduced into Japan, and the plants now flowering in the Arboretum were raised from seeds collected by Wilson in

western China. If they prove permanently successful here this *Daphne* will be a delightful addition to our early-flowering dwarf shrubs.

Crataegus Arnoldiana. This Hawthorn was never fuller of flower-buds than it is this spring and these will soon be open. This tree was discovered growing naturally on a wooded bank in the Arboretum; it grows also on the banks of the Mystic River in West Medford, Massachusetts, and near New London, Connecticut. It belongs to the Molles group of Hawthorns, which are trees distinguished by their large size, by their large early flowers which usually open with the unfolding of the leaves, and by the large, often edible, scarlet or rarely yellow fruits. There are several species found from the valley of the St. Lawrence River in the Province of Quebec to Texas. The species are, however, most numerous in the region west of the Mississippi River, and are almost entirely wanting in the southeastern states. *C. Arnoldiana* is one of the handsomest of the species of this group which is hardy here. The brilliant red fruit ripens late in August and falls in September earlier than that of the other species. In winter this tree is easily recognized by its upright growing, distinctly zigzag branches which are more thickly covered with spines than those of many of the related species. The largest trees of this Thorn can be seen on the left-hand side of the Valley Road just inside the Centre Street Gate and in front of the Platanus Collection. There are also several of these trees in front of the group of White Oaks, also on the left-hand side of the Valley Road. At the South Street entrance there are large plants of three other species of the Molles Group, *C. mollis* from the Ohio-Illinois region, *C. arkansana* from central Arkansas, and *C. submollis*, a Canadian and New England tree. These will all be in flower in a few days.

Malus Sieboldii, var. calocarpa. This Japanese Crabapple is one of the handsomest in the Arboretum both in spring and autumn. It is a broad tree-like shrub or small tree with only slightly lobed leaves, pink and white flowers fully an inch in diameter and brilliant scarlet lustrous fruits which are half an inch in diameter and more beautiful perhaps than those of any other Crabapple. This beautiful plant was raised from seed presented to the Arboretum in 1890 by Dr. William Sturgis Bigelow of Boston. It can be seen in the front row of the Crabapple Collection at the eastern base of Hemlock Hill. It has been found that *Sieboldii* is the oldest and therefore the proper name for the Chinese and Japanese Crabapple which up to this time has been known in gardens as *Malus* or *Pyrus toringo*.

It is interesting to note that Wilson found in western China the wild, single-flowered form of the beautiful Crabapple with rose-colored, semi-double flowers, *Malus Halliana*, or the Parkman Crab, which first came to this country from Japan, and was long believed to be a Japanese species. It is the Kaido of Japanese gardens. To the double-flowered form, which is the one generally cultivated in eastern gardens, the name *Malus Halliana Parkmanii* has been given; it is flowering well in the Arboretum this year.

1916. "Daphnes." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 2(4), 15–16. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320489>.

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