

for the rock garden. This variety, Mr. Wilson tells us, is the common *Cotoneaster* of the moorlands of western Hupeh. *C. adpressa*, which is the dwarfest of these plants, is distinguished from *C. horizontalis* by its thinner and less lustrous leaves, larger fruit which ripens several weeks earlier, and by its creeping and often rooting stems which form a dense carpet closely appressed to the ground. There are few shrubs better suited for the rock garden. Most of the Chinese *Cotoneasters* are with the other new Chinese shrubs on the southern slope of Bussey Hill. On Hickory Path, near Centre Street, can be seen the largest plant of *C. horizontalis* in the Arboretum, several plants of *C. adpressa* and some other species.

Berberis verruculosa, an evergreen Barberry discovered by Wilson in western Szechuan, is flowering freely for the first time in the Arboretum. It is a small shrub with slender, arching stems, thickly covered with dark brown excrescences, small oval leaves dark green and very lustrous on the upper surface and pale below, and small golden yellow flowers which are solitary or produced in few-flowered clusters. The berries are black, oblong or bottle-shaped and covered with a glaucous bloom. On its native mountains this Barberry is said sometimes to grow three feet tall, but the plants in the Arboretum are only a few inches high. These plants have now been growing for several years on the exposed southern slope of Bussey Hill where they have never been injured. *Berberis verruculosa* appears to be the hardiest and for this climate it is probably the most valuable of the Chinese evergreen species. The small size and compact habit make it a good subject for the rock garden.

Aesculus discolor. It is fortunate that the scarlet-flowered variety (var. *mollis*) of this Buckeye is hardy here, for the flowers are not surpassed in brilliancy by the flowers of any other Horsechestnut. On the typical *Aesculus discolor* the flowers have a red calyx and yellow petals generally more or less flushed with rose. This is a much less common plant than the variety *mollis* on which both the calyx and the corolla are bright red. This is a very common plant in Georgia and Alabama and ranges west to southeastern Missouri and to eastern Texas. It is the only red-flowered Buckeye which has been found west of the Mississippi River, and it sometimes reaches the size and assumes the habit of a small tree. On the Edwards Plateau in western Texas there is a yellow-flowered form (var. *flavescens*) which, because it has yellow flowers, was long mistaken by botanists for the Appalachian tree Buckeye, *Aesculus octandra*. *Aesculus discolor* and its varieties can be distinguished from the other American species by the soft covering of pale down on the lower surface of the leaflets, and from all species of the genus except *Aesculus californica* by the pale orange-brown color of the seeds. *Aesculus discolor*, var. *mollis* is just coming into flower in the large bed in the rear of the Horsechestnut Group on the right-hand side of the Meadow Road. Here it is growing with several plants of



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