cidedly a handsomer flowering plant. The long-pointed leaves are interesting and of a good color, but the fruit is small, dull in color and inconspicuous. These Viburnums are all flowering in the Viburnum Collection where many of the Asiatic species are also now in flower.

Early Summer Lilacs. The so-called Persian Lilac (*Syringa persica*) is now in flower. This is a native of Afghanistan and is said to have been cultivated in Persia and India from time immemorial and to have reached eastern Europe nearly three centuries ago. It is a broad, rather low shrub with long-pointed leaves and small fragrant flowers in few-flowered clusters which are crowded at the ends of the slender drooping branches and appear like one long narrow inflorescence. The flowers are pale lilac color. There is a white-flowered form (var. *alba*) and one with deeply lobed leaves (var. *laciniosa*). The Persian Lilacs are graceful and delightful plants, and although they were early brought to the United States they are now too rarely found in American gardens. Crossed with the common Lilac (*S. vulgaris*) the Persian Lilac produced in the Botanic Garden at Rouen a hybrid with broader leaves and immense clusters of reddish flowers intermediate in size between those of its parents. This hybrid is one of the most vigorous, largest and most useful of all Lilacs. Unfortunately it has been called *Syringa chinensis*; it is also known as *S. rothomagensis* and as the Rouen Lilac. There is a variety (var. *alba*) with pale pink, not very attractive flowers, and there are forms with flowers deeper red than those of the type, and with double flowers.

Syringa villosa is a large, very vigorous and hardy shrub from northern China which is now just beginning to open its flower-buds. The flowers are pale rose-color or rarely nearly white, and are produced in immense quantities in short broad clusters. In spite of the disagreeable odor of the flowers this is a valuable plant as it is one of the last of the true Lilacs to flower and greatly prolongs the season of Lilac flowers. Crossed with the Hungarian *S. Josikaea*, which is also now in flower, *S. villosa* has produced in Paris a hybrid race to which the name of *S. Henryi* has been given. One of these hybrids known as Lutèce is now in flower and is one of the handsomest of garden Lilacs. It is a large and vigorous shrub with large dark green leaves and great clusters of blue-purple flowers. Some of the new Chinese species will flower a little later and these will be followed by the tree Lilacs of northeastern Asia.

***Robinia Kelseyi*.** This Rose Acacia, which was discovered only a few years ago on the slopes of the southern Appalachian Mountains, proves a hardy and valuable garden plant. The flowers are smaller and lighter-colored than those of the well known Rose Acacia (*R. hispida*) which flowers a little later, and the branches are not covered with the viscid hairs to which the Rose Acacia owes its name. *R. Kelseyi* is a shrub sometimes growing from six to eleven feet high, with slender stems and branches, leaves composed of nine or eleven narrow lanceolate leaflets which are bronze color as they unfold, and short racemes appearing with the unfolding leaves and composed of from four to seven flowers produced from the axils of the leaves of short lateral young branchlets which grow from end to end of the branches of the previous year. Sometimes as many as four flower-

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