ARNOLD ARBORETUM
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Gordonia alataamaha. With the exception of the Witch Hazel, which in this latitude is a shrub rather than a tree, this *Gordonia* is the last tree of the year to flower in the Arboretum, and its pure white, cup-shaped flowers, resembling a single *Camellia* flower, can now be seen on the plants on Azalea Path and on Hickory Path near Centre Street. This handsome little tree has an interesting history. It was discovered by John Bartram, the famous Pennsylvania traveler and botanist, in 1765 near Fort Barrington on the Altamaha River in Georgia. John Bartram's son William visited the locality in 1778 and collected seeds and roots of this tree, and Dr. Moses Marshall who visited the locality in 1790 was the last botanist who has seen it growing naturally. Many botanists have hunted for it in vain in the neighborhood of Fort Barrington but without success, and this tree has been preserved by the plants and seeds collected by William Bartram and their descendants. Many of these are growing in gardens near Philadelphia and there are large and very old specimens in the neglected arboreta of the Brothers Painter at Medina and of John Evans in Radnor Township, Delaware County. Good plants may be seen in Fairmount Park near the Horticultural Building and in a few private gardens near the city. This *Gordonia* has been an inhabitant of the Arboretum for many years where it flowers in sheltered positions every autumn. Late in the season the leaves turn orange and scarlet before falling.

Summer and autumn fruits. The interesting and often brilliant fruits of many trees and shrubs can be found in the Arboretum every year from July to March, and although this is not a remarkably good season for fruits here some plants are producing unusually large and brilliantly colored crops. Nowhere else are the fruits of trees and

shrubs more attractive and more beautiful than in the northeastern United States, but the value of fruit-bearing plants for the decoration of summer and autumn gardens is hardly appreciated yet by American gardeners who are slow to realize that plants which are interesting for their flowers and fruits and increase in beauty from year to year make a setting for the gardens of eastern America which cannot be found in any other land. Such plants abound in the Arboretum and nowhere else can the fruits of trees and shrubs hardy in New England be seen and studied to such advantage.

Crataegus Arnoldiana. This Thorn is a native of eastern Massachusetts and one of the first of the American species raised at the Arboretum where it was found growing wild on a wooded bank. It is a tree with a well developed trunk, erect and spreading branches which are furnished with many long stout thorns, the smaller branches being conspicuously zigzag. The flowers are large in ample clusters and open with the unfolding of the leaves which later grow to a good size, and are dark green in color. The fruit, however, is the handsomest thing about this tree; it is nearly globose, about an inch in diameter and bright red, and beginning to ripen from the middle to the end of August falls gradually the end of September or early in October. Of the Thorns in the Arboretum collection with early-ripening fruits *C. Arnoldiana* is the handsomest, and as a fruit tree it may well find a place in every American garden in which an early autumn display is desired.

Crataegus pinnatifida. This is a native of northeastern Asia and has long been an inhabitant of the Arboretum. It is a large shrub or small tree with large, deeply divided, dark green very lustrous leaves, large flowers, and bright scarlet fruit which ripens while the leaves are still green. This is one of the handsomest of all Thorns, and it is economically interesting because one of the large-fruited forms is cultivated in orchards as a fruit tree in the neighborhood of Peking and in other parts of northern China. There is a large specimen of this Thorn among the Maples near the parkway boundary of the Arboretum and others can be seen in the *Crataegus* Collection on the eastern slope of Peter's Hill and on the Bussey Hill Overlook.

Viburnum cassinoides. There are only small crops of fruit on several of the American *Viburnums* this year but that of this inhabitant of northern swamps has never been larger or in better condition. As it grows naturally *Viburnum cassinoides* is a tall and usually unsymmetrical shrub, but in good soil it develops into a broad, round-topped compact bush. The leaves are thick, dark green and lustrous. The creamy white flowers are produced in large convex clusters, and the fruit when fully grown is at first nearly white, turning as it ripens bright pink and finally dark blue, berries of the three colors often appearing together in the same cluster. This *Viburnum* is a fast-growing and perfectly hardy shrub, and there are few plants which combine so much beauty of foliage, flowers and fruits. It has been largely used in the Arboretum and good plants can be seen in many of the roadside plantations, especially by the road at the top of Peter's Hill.

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