ever, discredit this beautiful shrub, for the plants here are in low ground and in a particularly trying position, and in other Massachusetts gardens plants of this *Magnolia* have not been injured and are now in full bloom. The flower-buds of the other early-flowering Japanese species, *Magnolia kobus* and its variety *borealis*, have not been injured and are now just opening. As flowering plants they are the least desirable here of the *Magnolias* which bloom before the leaves appear, for the flowers are not large and only exceptionally are produced in large numbers.

Daphne Mezereum. A plant of the white-flowered form of this small European shrub has been in bloom on Azalea Path for the last two weeks. The purple and the white-flowered forms are useful garden plants because they are almost the first shrubs to open their flowers in this climate and because the flowers are not injured by spring frosts. This *Daphne* is interesting to us in this country because it is one of the few shrubs native of Europe which have become widely naturalized in some parts of North America, as in eastern Massachusetts and on the Canadian side of the Niagara River above the Falls.

The Cornelian Cherry, which is a Dogwood (*Cornus mas*), is one of the earliest trees or tree-like shrubs with conspicuous flowers to bloom in eastern Massachusetts. The flowers are light yellow and are borne in clusters in the axils of the unfolding leaves and, although individually small, are produced in such profusion that the branches are covered with them. The flowers are followed by bright red, lustrous, oblong fruits the size of small olives. The flower-buds and the flowers of this tree are not injured by cold. The habit of the plant is good; the foliage is dark green and abundant, and the fruit, although somewhat hidden by the leaves, is handsome. The Cornelian Cherry, which is a native of Europe and western Siberia, has been an inhabitant of gardens for more than three hundred years. In the United States it was probably more often planted in the first half of the last century than it is at present, although there are not many early-flowering trees hardy in this climate which are better worth a place in the garden. The largest specimen we know in eastern Massachusetts is in the Public Garden of Boston, near Boylston Street. In the Arboretum it may be seen with the other Dogwoods at the junction of the Meadow and Bussey Hill Roads.

Early-flowering native shrubs. Two yellow-flowered native shrubs are in flower and are well worth the attention of the makers of American gardens by whom they have been generally neglected. These are the Leatherwood, *Dirca palustris*, and the aromatic Spice Bush, *Benzoin aestivale*. Their leafless branches are now covered with small yellow flowers, and those of the Spice Bush will be followed in the autumn by scarlet lustrous fruits. The leaves of these plants turn yellow in the autumn before falling. Masses of these shrubs can be seen on the right-hand side of the Bussey Hill Road opposite the upper end of the Lilac Collection.

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