eral name is *S. rubens*, although under this general name are several different trees of the same hybrid parentage to which different names have been given.

It is not known here if trees of the two sexes of this hybrid exist in the United States, and nothing is known of the distribution in different parts of the country of the different forms of the hybrid; and if any reader of this Bulletin has paid attention to the Tree Willows naturalized in the United States, the Arboretum will be glad to hear from him.

Staphyleas. A reader of these Bulletins has asked us to say something about Staphyleas, or Bladder Nuts as these plants are popularly called. Staphylea is a genus of shrubs with opposite, trifoliate or pinnate, deciduous leaves and terminal clusters of small white or pinkish flowers, and much inflated, membranaceous, pod-like fruits which vary in length on the different species from one to four inches. There are several species and one hybrid, and a species occurs in each of the chief botanical regions of the northern hemisphere. All these plants, with the exception of the Himalayan *S. Emodi*, are in the Arboretum, but in the Shrub Collection where the winter conditions are more severe than in any other parts of the Arboretum they are often killed nearly to the ground by cold and give little satisfaction. The plants on Azalea and Hickory Paths do better, and probably all the species would flower and ripen their fruit here if the right place could be found for them.

The species of eastern North America, *S. trifolia*, grows from the Province of Quebec westward to Nebraska and southward to Oklahoma and Georgia. It is occasionally seen in old gardens in this country and in England it has been cultivated for two hundred years. As a garden plant, however, it has little to recommend it. The northern California species, *S. Bolanderi*, exists on Hickory Path but has not yet flowered in the Arboretum. *Staphylea holocarpa* has pinkish flowers which appear before the leaves, and is a small tree sometimes twenty feet high discovered by Wilson in central China and considered by him one of the handsomest flowering trees which he saw in China. This plant can be seen on the upper side of Azalea Path where the ends of the branches are often killed by cold; it has not yet flowered in the Arboretum. The species already named have leaves with three leaflets: the following usually have leaves with from five to seven leaflets. *S. pinnata*, which is widely distributed through Europe to western Asia, is a tree-like shrub and sometimes flowers here but has little value as a garden plant in this climate. The Caucasian *S. colchica*, which differs from *S. pinnata* in its larger flowers and fruits and in the lustrous lower surface of the leaves, is the handsomest of the Bladder Nuts and well worth cultivation. Small plants flower freely and are often used in England for the winter decoration of conservatories. A variety of this plant, or a hybrid between it and *S. pinnata*, is *S. Coulombieri* which appeared many years ago in a French nursery and is distinguished by its larger leaves and by the flowers and fruit which are intermediate in size between those of its supposed parents. The variety *Hessei* of *S. colchica*, distinguished by its pinkish flowers, is in the collection but has not yet flowered here.

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