lis and its variety *Moltkei*, are trees of great beauty and remarkable rapidity of growth.

Catalpas. Of trees which flower here in summer the Catalpas have the showiest flowers. All the species and one or two hybrids with the exception of the West Indian *C. longissima* are in the collection, although they are not large enough yet to flower here. The first Catalpa to attract attention, *C. bignonioides*, was cultivated early in the eighteenth century in England where it had been sent from South Carolina. About forty years ago it became known that a second species of Catalpa was growing naturally in the lower Ohio valley and southward along the Mississippi River as far as western Tennessee and northeastern Arkansas. It was found that this second Catalpa had larger flowers in fewer-flowered clusters than the more southern tree, that the inner surface of the corolla of the flowers had fewer and smaller spots than that of the other tree; that the pods containing the seeds were stouter and had thicker walls, and that the leaves were much longer-pointed at the apex. The name of *C. speciosa* was given to this tree, and as Catalpa wood is extremely durable when placed in the ground it has been largely planted, especially in some of the prairie states, to produce fence-posts for which it is admirably suited, and for railway ties for which it is too soft. *Catalpa speciosa* is a fast-growing and rather pyramidal tree which on the rich river bottom lands of the Mississippi sometimes rises to the height of one hundred and twenty feet and forms a tall trunk occasionally four and a half feet in diameter. In New England it is a fast-growing, more shapely and much hardier tree than *C. bignonioides* which blooms two or three weeks later. In the northern states, and probably in all parts of the country, the early-flowering *C. speciosa* is the Catalpa which is now commonly planted. There is a dwarf form, var. *nana*, of *C. bignonioides* which is usually known as *C. Bungei* in American nurseries where it is grafted as a standard on the stems of one of the tree Catalpas, and is popular at present for the supposed decoration of gardens which are more or less formal in character and pass in this country for "Italian gardens." It is not known at the Arboretum where this dwarf variety originated or that it has ever flowered. The name *Catalpa Bungei* properly belongs to the tree of northern China with narrow, dark green, long-pointed leaves, small yellowish white flowers and slender pods. This is not so handsome a tree as the American Catalpas but it is geographically interesting, and is perfectly hardy in the Arboretum where it is growing well. It has not yet flowered. Another Chinese species, *C. ovata*, sometimes called *C. Kaempferi*, is much cultivated in Japan whence it was sent to this country many years ago. It is a perfectly hardy little tree with comparatively small dark green leaves, many-flowered clusters of small yellowish spotted flowers and long slender pods. This Catalpa, which will thrive in regions too cold for the American species, has been somewhat planted in the United States, although as an ornamental tree it does not deserve much attention from the lovers of handsome trees. A hybrid (*C. hybrida*) between *C. bignonioides* and *C. ovata* appeared several years ago in the nursery of J. C. Teas at Baysville, Indiana. This is a fast-growing and hardy tree with flowers like those of its American par-

ent, although rather smaller, and arranged in much longer clusters, while the leaves, although larger, resemble in shape those of *C. ovata*. This handsome tree has also been called *Catalpa Teasii*, *C. Teasiana* and Teas' Hybrid Catalpa. Another hybrid of the same parentage has purple leaves and, although it probably originated in a European nursery, has been called var. *japonica*. The two Catalpas introduced by Wilson from central and western China, *C. Fargesii* and *C. Duclouxii*, live in the Arboretum but do not yet give much promise that they will become valuable additions to the list of summer-flowering trees which can be successfully grown in this climate.

The Aralia Family furnishes the Arboretum with three handsome trees which flower in late summer or early autumn. They are *Acanthopanax ricinifolium*, *Aralia spinosa* and *A. chinensis* and its varieties. The *Acanthopanax* is a tree which is common in the forests of northern Japan where it is often seventy or eighty feet high with a massive trunk and great wide-spreading branches armed, like the stems of young trees, with many stout prickles. The leaves hang down on long stalks and are nearly circular, five- or seven-lobed and often fifteen or sixteen inches in diameter. The small white flowers are produced in compact, long-stalked clusters which form a flat, compound, terminal pangle from twelve to eighteen inches across and are followed late in the autumn by shining black fruits which do not fall until after the beginning of winter. This tree is perfectly hardy in the Arboretum where it has been growing for twenty-four years and where it has flowered and ripened its seeds now for several seasons. It is one of the most interesting trees in the collection and, because it is so unlike other trees of the northern hemisphere, it is often said to resemble a tree of the tropics. *Aralia spinosa*, the so-called Hercules' Club of the southern states where it is a common inhabitant of the borders of woods and the banks of streams, is a tree often thirty feet high with a tall trunk and wide-spreading branches covered with stout orange-colored prickles. The leaves, which are borne at the ends of the branches, are long-stalked, twice pinnate, and from three to four feet long and two and one-half feet wide. The small white flowers are arranged in compound clusters which rise singly or two or three together above the leaves and are three or four feet long. The fruit is black, rather less than a quarter of an inch in diameter, and ripens in early autumn. For several years this tree did not prove hardy in the Arboretum, but it is now well established on the slope at the northern base of Hemlock Hill in the rear of the Laurel plantation and is now spreading rapidly there over a considerable area by shoots from underground stems. The Asiatic tree *Aralia* resembles in habit and general appearance the American Hercules' Club, but is distinct from that tree in the absence of stalks to the leaflets. There are a number of geographical forms of this tree; the one which is most commonly cultivated in this country is a native of Manchuria and eastern Siberia (var. *mandshurica*) which is sometimes found in nurseries under the name of *Dimorphanthus mandshuricus*. The Japanese form, var. *glabrescens*, is chiefly distinguished from it by the pale color of the under surface of the leaflets; it is less hardy than the Manchurian form and is not often seen in this country.

1917. "Catalpas." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 3(14), 54–55. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320743>.

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