Sophora japonica is in spite of its name a Chinese tree which has been cultivated in Japan for more than a thousand years, and as it first reached Europe from that country was long considered a native of Japan. It is a round-headed tree which in Peking, where it has been much planted, has grown to a large size and looks from a distance like an Oak-tree. The leaves and branchlets are dark green, and the small, creamy white, pea-shaped flowers, which open here in August, are produced in great numbers in narrow, erect, terminal clusters. There are also in the collection the form with long pendent branches (var. *pendula*) which rarely flowers, and a young plant of the form with erect branches (var. *pyramidalis*). The form of this tree with flowers tinged with rose color (var. *rosea*) is not in the Arboretum. The Sophoras are on the right-hand side of the Bussey Hill Road, opposite the upper end of the Lilac Group. Near them the Maackias are growing. They also belong to the Pea Family, and the better known *Maackia amurensis* is a native of eastern Siberia; it is a small tree with handsome smooth, reddish brown, shining bark, dull, deep green, pinnate leaves and short, narrow, erect spikes of small white flowers which open here soon after the middle of July. There is a form of this tree (var. *Buergeri*) in northern Japan which differs from the Siberian tree in the presence of soft down on the lower surface of the leaflets. The species discovered by Wilson in central China, *M. hupehensis*, is growing well in the Arboretum but has not yet flowered.

Oxydendrum arboreum, the Sorrel-tree or Sour Wood, is a native of the southern Appalachian mountain forests and the only tree of the Heath Family which can be grown in this climate, with the exception of the Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) and the Rose Bay (*Rhododendron maximum*) which are shrubs at the north and only exceptionally trees in a few favored valleys of the southern mountains. The Sorrel-tree in its native forests grows fifty or sixty feet high, but at the north as it begins to flower abundantly when only a few feet tall, it is not probable that in this climate it will ever attain a considerable size. It is well worth growing, however, for its bright green shining leaves which have a pleasant acidulous flavor and in autumn turn bright scarlet, for its white Andromeda-like flowers erect on the branches of spreading or slightly drooping terminal clusters, and for its pale fruits which in the autumn are conspicuous among the brilliant leaves. There is a group of these plants among the Laurels at the northern base of Hemlock Hill which will flower at the end of July or early in August.

Koelreuteria paniculata. This Chinese tree will also flower before the end of July when it will be conspicuous from its large erect clusters of bright yellow flowers which stand well above the large, dark green, compound leaves and which are followed by large, bladder-like fruits. This is a small hardy tree which is now often planted in this country, especially in the middle states.

These Bulletins will now be discontinued until the autumn.

1917. "Sophora japonica." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 3(14), 56–56. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320745>.

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