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New Chinese Cherry-trees. Among the numerous Cherries raised at the Arboretum from the seeds collected by Wilson in western China there are six which are good additions to the early spring flowering trees which can be successfully grown in this climate. The handsomest probably is *Prunus serrulata pubescens*. This tree is of the same species as the Sargent Cherry (*P. serrulata sachalinensis*), but is smaller, rarely growing in the forests which are its home to a greater height than fifty feet; the flowers open nearly a week later and are white faintly tinged with rose, and somewhat smaller. The leaves, too, are less deeply tinged with bronze color as they unfold. As it grows in the Arboretum the branches of this Cherry are ascending and slightly spreading, and form a narrow, open, graceful head. Plants raised from seeds which were gathered on the mountains of China only twelve years ago are seventeen or eighteen feet high, and have been covered this spring with flowers. This is the most widely distributed of these Cherries as it is spread over central and northern China to Korea and through Japan to Saghalien. *Prunus serrulata spontanea* differs from the last only in the absence of hairs on the young leaves and flower-clusters which are peculiar to that species, although the flowers, at least in some individuals, are slightly more tinged with rose, and the unfolding leaves are of a deeper color. This tree is almost as widely distributed as the last but does not range as far north in Japan. *Prunus canescens* is a smaller tree. Its greatest beauty, perhaps, is found in the bark of the trunk which is dark orange-brown, very lustrous, and separates freely into large persistent papery scales much curled on the margins. The flowers, which are small and purple-

rose color, cover the leafless branches from end to end and are more fragrant than those of any other Cherry in the collection. Another Cherry which should find a place in collections for the beauty of its dark lustrous birchlike bark is *Prunus serrula thibetica*, an inhabitant of the forests which cover the high mountains of the Chinese Thibetan border. It has a low, broad, round-topped head with a trunk unusually large for the height of the tree. This tree has not yet flowered in the Arboretum. *Prunus Dielsiana*, in habit and color of its bark, resembles the European *Prunus avium*, but the flowers are slightly larger and sometimes faintly tinged with pink. *Prunus pilosiuscula* is a tree of medium size and is chiefly valuable for the earliness of its flowers which open with those of *P. concinna* and *P. tomentosa*; they appear before the leaves and are pink, and solitary or in small two- or three-flowered short-stalked clusters.

New Chinese Pear-trees. Among the Pear-trees raised from seeds collected by Wilson in western China *Pyrus Calleryana* has created the most interest among American pomologists who now believe that they have in it a stock on which to graft the garden Pears more resistant to blight than any that has yet been tried; and the seeds now produced in large quantities by the trees in the Arboretum are sought by the Department of Agriculture of the United States and by nurserymen who are anxious to provide the country with a possible remedy for the disease which has destroyed many American Pear-orchards. The new Chinese Pears have grown even more rapidly than the Chinese Cherries, and among them are beautiful clean-stemmed specimens from seventeen to twenty feet high, only twelve years old from the seed, and now giving every promise of reaching the height of fifty feet which these trees often attain on their native mountain sides. *P. Calleryana* is a shapely pyramidal tree more compact in habit than the other Chinese species. The flowers are smaller, and the globose brown fruit is hardly more than a third of an inch in diameter. To students of cultivated fruits *Pyrus serotina*, another of Wilson's introductions, is of particular interest, for this tree of the mountain forests of western China is now believed to be the origin of the brown or yellowish, round, hard and gritty Sand Pears which in many varieties the Japanese have cultivated from time immemorial and which must have been introduced into Japan probably by the way of Korea. In the early days of western intercourse with Japan many varieties of the Sand Pear were brought to the United States and Europe, but except for the beauty of their flowers and fruits they have proved to be of little value, for the fruit is so hard and so full of grit that it is not even worth cooking. It was probably forms of the Sand Pear crossed with one of the cultivated garden Pears which produced the Leconte and Keiffer Pears from which much was at one time expected in this country, especially in the southern states, but which have proved so susceptible to blight that the cultivation of these trees has been now largely abandoned. The flowers of *Pyrus serotina* are larger than those of *P. Calleryana*, but there is little beauty in their small brown fruit; and the habit of the tree with its long spreading branches forming an

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