esting in having furnished from their fruit one of the great states of the union with its popular name. A related species, *A. arguta*, has not before bloomed so well in the Arboretum. It is a small yellow-flowered shrub, with leaves composed usually of nine narrow long-pointed leaflets, which has been found only in west central Oklahoma and in a few places in northern and central Texas. The yellow-flowered Appalachian species, *A. octandra*, the largest of the Buckeyes, blooms a little later, but a shrubby species from central Georgia (*A. georgiana*) is just now covered with its short compact clusters of large yellow and red flowers. Of recent discovery and introduction this Buckeye has proved a first-rate garden plant in this climate. *Aesculus Pavia*, the best known, in books at least, of the red-flowered southern Buckeyes, is in bloom this year for the first time in the Arboretum. An even more beautiful plant, the red-flowered variety of *A. discolor* (var. *mollis*) will be covered in a few days with its scarlet flowers. Generally distributed from the coast of North Carolina to southern Arkansas and western Texas, and when in flower one of the most brilliant plants of the south, it is a matter of congratulation that it can be grown successfully in Massachusetts. Many of the handsomest of the Horsechestnut-trees are natural hybrids. The first of these appeared in France more than a century ago and is evidently a cross of two American species, *A. octandra* and *A. Pavia*. There are many forms of this hybrid to which the general name *A. versicolor* has been given. The flowers are red and yellow in various degrees and some of these forms can be placed among the most beautiful of the Buckeyes. The next hybrid appeared many years ago in a nursery at Ghent in Belgium, evidently a cross between the common Horsechestnut and the American red-flowered *A. Pavia*. This is the common red-flowered Horsechestnut of gardens the name of which is *A. carnea*. The flowers vary from flesh color to the deep red of those of the tree known as *A. Briotii*. Trees of this and other varieties of the red-flowered Horsechestnut are now in bloom in the Horsechestnut Group on the right-hand side of the Meadow Road. A single tree of an interesting hybrid Buckeye, *A. Bushii*, was found a few years ago in the woods near Fulton on the Red River in Arkansas, evidently produced by the crossing of a form of *A. glabra* with the red-flowered *A. discolor* var. *mollis*. The original tree has disappeared but this hybrid is fortunately preserved in a tree growing on Peter's Hill in the Arboretum where it has flowered regularly for several years. This perhaps is the rarest tree in the Arboretum.

American Magnolias. Several of these trees are in bloom in the group on the right-hand side of the Jamaica Plain Gate. Unlike most of the Asiatic species the American Magnolias flower after the appearance of the leaves; they are hardy and handsome trees. A hundred and fifty years ago letters of English plant lovers written to their American correspondents contained many appeals for Magnolia plants and seeds, and in the early years of the nineteenth century these trees were to be found in the principal collections of plants in the middle states. To the present generation they are almost unknown, and it is only in a few American nurseries that an occasional plant of one or two of the species can be found. There are six of these Magnolias, but one of them, *M. pyramidata*, grows only in the extreme southeastern corner of Alabama and adjacent Florida, and would not

be hardy here. Of the other species, the so-called Mountain Magnolia, *M. Fraseri*, is the first to open its flowers in the Arboretum. It is a small tree rarely more than forty feet high, with an open head of long branches, leaves often a foot in length and deeply divided at the base, and creamy white, sweet-scented flowers eight or ten inches in diameter and very conspicuous as they stand well above the crowded leaves at the ends of the branches. This Magnolia is a native of the southern Appalachian Mountain region and, although it has not been found growing north of southeastern Virginia, is perfectly hardy in eastern Massachusetts. The next to flower is *M. cordata* which for several days has been covered with its cup-shaped, bright canary yellow flowers unlike in color those of any other Magnolia. There is an interesting story connected with this tree. It was discovered toward the end of the eighteenth century by the French botanist and traveller Michaux on one of his journeys from Charleston, South Carolina, up the valley of the Savannah River to the high Carolina Mountains. By Michaux it was introduced into French gardens where it flourished. For more than a century every attempt to rediscover this tree failed, and it is only within the last five or six years that it was found by the Berckmans Brothers growing in the woods not many miles distant from Augusta, Georgia, where plants only a few feet high flower profusely. Grafts from Michaux's trees, however, preserved this tree in cultivation, and the plants in the Arboretum were raised from grafts taken from old trees in the Harvard Botanic Garden for which they were imported from Europe probably when the Garden was laid out, that is, more than a century ago or not long after Michaux had discovered and introduced this tree. The flowers of *M. cordata* will be followed in succession by those of *M. acuminata*, the Cucumber Tree, *M. tripetala*, the Umbrella Tree, *M. glauca* and *M. macrophylla*. As they flower attention will be called to some of these trees in later issues of these Bulletins.

Diervilla florida venusta. Attention has been called before to the beauty of this Korean shrub. It is the first of the Diervillas to flower and for more than a week it has been covered with its large rose-pink flowers which open when the leaves are not more than half grown. It is a vigorous, perfectly hardy plant, and none of the hybrid Diervillas to which so much attention has been paid by European gardeners compare in beauty with this wild plant which is one of the commonest shrubs of central and northern Korea. The flora of Korea is not rich in trees and shrubs as compared with those of western China and Japan and not many endemic Korean plants have been established in western gardens. It is interesting, therefore, to find that five of the hardiest and most beautiful shrubs introduced in recent years into gardens are from Korea. They are *Viburnum Carlesii*, *Diervilla florida venusta*, *Rhododendron Schlippenbachii*, *R. poukhanense* and *Rosa Jackii*. Korea has given us, too, a Fir in *Abies holophylla* which, although the seeds were first planted at the Arboretum in 1904, has grown so rapidly here and has proved so hardy that it promises to rival as an ornamental tree the Japanese *Abies homolepis* (*brachyphylla*). In Korea *A. holophylla* grows to a height of one hundred feet, and in the northern part of the peninsula forms pure forests often of considerable extent. In a few years it will be possible to obtain at the Arboretum a better idea than we have now of the value of the plants of Korea in this

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