outer scales are reduced to thickened reflex tips which stand out like ears. Several Ash-trees discovered by Wilson in western China have been raised at the Arboretum and are now growing in its nurseries. Of these *Fraxinus platypoda* has grown the most rapidly, but it is too soon to form an idea of the value of these trees in American plantations.

Ash-trees require deep, rich, moist soil and as they usually unfold their leaves late and lose them early in the autumn they are not good trees to plant to shade streets and sidewalks. They are often injured while young by borers, and they are all liable to suffer from the attacks of the oyster shell scale.

Rosa multibracteata is one of the last of the new Chinese Roses to flower. It is an attractive plant with small leaves and small flowers in clusters, the clear pale pink petals being deeply notched at the apex. Vigorous young shoots of this Rose are thickly covered with bright red prickles and greatly add to its beauty at the time when it is in flower.

Rosa gallica var. *officinalis* is flowering for the first time in the Arboretum. It is one of the Province Roses and is sometimes called *Rosa provincialis*. The large, handsome, partly double red flowers are more fragrant than those of most modern Roses. This Rose is common in several old gardens in the town of Medfield in this state. No one now knows when and by whom it was brought there. It has long been known in French gardens, and there is a beautiful picture of it by Redouté in his great work on Roses published in Paris more than a century ago. There is a form of this Rose with paler-colored flowers which is growing in a garden in Weston in this state which was brought from New Hampshire where it is said to be common in old gardens. Tradition credits the Huguenots with having brought this Rose to America.

Tripterygium Regelii is flowering well again this year in the Shrub Collection and on Hickory Path near Centre Street. It is a near relative of the Bitter Sweet (*Celastrus*) and a native of Japan and Korea. It is a half climbing shrub with stems sometimes forty or fifty feet long in its native countries, large, long-pointed, dark green leaves, and small white flowers in great terminal clusters which are followed by three-lobed and three-winged fruits. This plant flowered in the Arboretum when not more than three feet high. The small plants have erect, self-supporting stems, but large plants will need the support of trees, shrubs or rocks over which to stray. This hardy shrub is well suited for covering rocky banks or hillsides in our northern states.

Rhododendron (*Azalea*) *viscosum*, which is the latest of the Azaleas to flower in the Arboretum, is in bloom. It is a common plant in the swamps of southern New England where it is usually known as "Swamp Honeysuckle." The small, pure white, clammy flowers which continue to open during several weeks are hidden by the new shoots of the year which are often fully grown before the first flowers open, and the great value of this Azalea is found in the fragrance of the flowers which make the neighborhood of an Azalea swamp delightful. Although it grows naturally in swamps, this Azalea grows equally well transferred to a garden border or to a hillside, as on Azalea Path in the Arboretum where many of these plants are now covered with flowers.

1919. "Rosa gallica var. officinalis." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 5(11), 44-44. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320967>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/239291>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.320967>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/320967>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Not in copyright. The BHL knows of no copyright restrictions on this item.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.