propagated and sold by American nurserymen. When in flower it is a showy tree but lacks the charm of the normal species. A variety of the normal form with pendulous branches is in the Arboretum collection but has no particular interest or beauty, and a form with flower-heads surrounded by a double row of bracts, which was a good deal advertised a few years ago, has little to recommend it. Beautiful as it is the eastern Flowering Dogwood is surpassed by the species of the northwest coast region, *Cornus Nuttallii*, which is a tree sometimes seventy or eighty feet high with heads of bracts five or six inches across. *Cornus Nuttallii* grows in damp woods in the shade of large coniferous trees, and it is difficult to keep it alive beyond the limits of its native forests. It has never succeeded in the Arboretum and has flowered in Europe in only a few gardens. The Japanese Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus kousa*, and its Chinese variety are hardy and handsome little trees which flower later in the season than our native species, with which they do not compare in beauty of flowers, foliage or fruit.

The Sassafras in Autumn. In good years and bad years the Sassafras never fails to become a conspicuous object of beauty in October when its dark green leaves turn yellow and orange color more or less tinged with red. This statement gives little idea of the warmth of color which the Sassafras produces when it grows, as it often does, on the border of a forest of Oak-trees on which the leaves are still green. The Sassafras is a handsome tree at other seasons of the year. In winter it is conspicuous by its deeply furrowed dark cinnamon-gray bark and bright green branchlets which in early spring are covered before the leaves appear with innumerable clusters of small bright yellow flowers. The leaves, which are sometimes deeply three-lobed and sometimes entire on the same branch, are not attacked by insects. The fruit is a bright blue berry surrounded at the base by the much enlarged and thickened calyx of the flower raised on a long bright red stalk. Among northern trees only Magnolias produce such bright-colored fruits. There is little time, however, to enjoy the fruit of the Sassafras for birds eagerly seek it as it ripens.

Crataegus. A few of the Old World Hawthorns produce fruit as large and handsome as any of the American species. The largest and handsomest is that of the Manchurian and Chinese *Crataegus pinnatifida* which is cultivated in orchards by the Chinese for its dark red fruits. Very beautiful this year is a variety of the European *C. oxyacantha* (var. *Gireoudii*) with thick, slightly lobed, dark green leaves and bright red, lustrous, short-oblong fruits half an inch in length. The branches of the small tree in the new collection of exotic Thorns on Peter's Hill are covered from end to end with fruit clusters which make it one of the most brilliant plants in the Arboretum this week. *Crataegus hiemalis*, a European tree of doubtful origin and by some authors considered a hybrid, is covered this year with its lustrous, dark wine-colored, ellipsoidal fruit half an inch long, drooping on long slender stems. More beautiful is a tree growing near *C. hiemalis* in the old Crataegus Collection near the Shrub Collection with small deeply divided leaves and depressed-globose, shining, dark red-brown fruit three-

quarters of an inch in diameter. It is probably a form of *C. orientalis* with fruit of an unusual color.

Late flowers. *Chrysanthemum sibiricum*, which has been flowering for several weeks on Azalea Path, will continue to open its white flowers until the buds are killed by a hard frost. This attractive plant is still rare in gardens, although it was introduced into this country fourteen years ago by Professor Jack who found it on Poukan-shan, the mountain close to the city of Seoul. This late-flowering Chrysanthemum is perfectly hardy; it produces seeds freely, and spreads also by underground shoots, so that once established it is likely to be a permanent feature in the garden. It is a shrub eighteen or twenty inches tall, with slender stems, woody at base, deeply divided, pale green, pungently aromatic leaves and white daisy-like flowers an inch and a half in diameter. A form with pale rose-colored flowers has been raised in this country. A handsomer plant now in bloom is *Chrysanthemum nipponicum* which is commonly cultivated in Japanese gardens and which is believed to grow naturally on the shores of some of the smaller islands of northern Japan. It is a stout-stemmed, compact-round-topped shrub which under conditions favorable to it grows from two to three feet tall and three or four feet through. The leaves are narrowly oblong-obovate, sessile, slightly toothed toward the apex, light green and lustrous above, pale below, and thick and leathery; they stand erect, and pressed close against the stem display only their lower surface. The flowers are produced on long stout stalks, each from the axil of one of the upper leaves; and as the flower-stalks increase in length from the lowest to the one in the axil of the topmost leaf the flowers are arranged in a broad flat cluster in which buds continue to open during many weeks or until they are destroyed by cold. The flowers are daisy-like with broad, pure white ray-flowers, and are from two to two and a half inches across. The flowers of this Japanese Chrysanthemum are sometimes injured in Massachusetts by October frosts. It is better suited, like the Japanese Anemone, to regions which enjoy a longer autumn than that of Massachusetts. It grows well in the neighborhood of Philadelphia and there are good plants on Long Island. With the protection of a pit or a cool greenhouse it would probably continue to open its flower-buds until Christmas.

The Mountain Halesia or Silver Bell Tree. Until the beginning of the present century the botanists who visited the high Appalachian Mountains appear to have taken it for granted that the Halesia which grows at altitudes above 2500 feet was the same as the bushy tree of the foothills and upland valleys of the Piedmont region and southward. This idea having been generally accepted and as the lowland plant had for more than a century been common in gardens no attempt was made to cultivate the mountain tree, and the gardens of the United States and Europe have been deprived of one of the handsomest trees of the North American forests. The lowland plant, *Halesia carolina*, is usually shrubby in habit with numerous stout stems wide-spreading from a short stem, and covered with nearly smooth or slightly scaly bark. The tree of the high mountains is not rarely eighty or ninety feet high with a straight trunk sometimes three feet or three feet and

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