

and fruit in drooping clusters, bright red at first when fully grown and dark blue or nearly black at maturity. This is one of the handsomest of the American *Viburnums* but it has proved a difficult plant to establish here, although in other Massachusetts gardens it has grown better than it has in the Arboretum where, however, it at last appears to have become accustomed to its surroundings. In Japan there is a *Viburnum* (*V. furcatum*) closely related to and very much like the Hobble Bush, from which it chiefly differs in the shorter stamens which are hardly more than half the length of the corolla, and in the deep groove on the ventral side of the stone of the fruit. *Viburnum furcatum* in Japan, where it grows from the mountains of central Hondo to Saghalin, is a shrub sometimes ten or twelve feet high with smooth, red-brown branches and branchlets. Like its American relative, this Japanese *Viburnum* has proved difficult to establish, but a plant is now opening its flowers here, two or three days later than those of *V. alni-folium*, and for the first time in the Arboretum. In a few days the flowers of another early-flowering species, *V. Carlesii*, will open. This shrub has been found only among seashore rocks in two localities in Korea and has already become a popular garden plant in this country and Europe. Its real value is found in the white, extremely fragrant flowers which are arranged in small compact clusters and open from rose-colored buds. As the buds in the cluster do not all open at once the pink buds among the white flowers add to the beauty of this shrub in early spring. Late in the autumn the small dull olive green leaves turn dark rich wine color.

Early Azaleas. The first Azalea to open its flowers this spring is the Korean *Rhododendron* (all Azaleas are now called *Rhododendrons*) *poukhanense*. This Azalea, which is a common plant on the bare mountain slopes in the neighborhood of Seoul, was first raised at the Arboretum in 1905 from seeds collected in Korea by Mr. J. G. Jack. As it grows here this Azalea is a low, wide, compact bush which never fails to cover itself with its large, rose-pink flowers. Some persons do not find this color pleasing, but the flowers of no other Azalea in the collection have such a strong and pleasant fragrance. There is a considerable number of these plants in the bed on the upper side of Azalea Path. The plants ripen good crops of seeds; the seedlings are not difficult to raise and there is no reason why this plant should not be more common in gardens than it is at present. The flower-buds of *Rhododendron* (Azalea) *Schlippenbachii* will open a few days later than those of *R. poukhanense*. This Azalea grows on the exposed grass-covered cliffs of the east coast of Korea as a low bush with branches clinging to the ground and far northward as a tall shrub sometimes twelve or fifteen feet high under trees in open or dense forests. It grows further north than other Asiatic Azaleas, and only the North American *Rhodora* reaches a higher latitude. The flowers of this Azalea appear before the leaves and are pale pink marked at the base of the upper lobes of the corolla with dark spots and are about three inches in diameter. There can be little doubt of the hardiness of this plant, for in Korea it grows to its largest size where the winter temperature often falls to 30° below zero Fahrenheit; and in the Arboretum the flower-

buds have not been injured by the low temperature of recent winters. There is every reason to believe therefore that it will be possible to cultivate *R. Schlippenbachii* anywhere in the northern states where the soil is not impregnated with lime. If this prediction proves true New England will be able to add to its gardens one of the most beautiful of all the Azaleas. This plant, unfortunately, is still rare in gardens. Although known to Russian botanists as early as 1872, it did not reach England until twenty years later when the late J. H. Veitch sent to London a plant which he had found in a nursery garden near Tokyo. The plants in the Arboretum were raised here from seeds brought by Mr. Jack from Korea, and at different times a few plants have reached this country from the Yokohama Nursery Company. Fortunately Mr. Wilson during his journey in Korea in 1917 secured a large quantity of the seeds of this Azalea; this has been widely distributed by the Arboretum in the United States and Europe and has produced several thousand plants. There is reason to hope, therefore, that this loveliest of the hardy Asiatic Azaleas will become a common inhabitant of northern gardens.

Broad-leaved Evergreens. In addition to the two Rhododendrons with evergreen leaves mentioned in the first Bulletin of the present year there are only two broad-leaved evergreen plants which flower here in April and are perfectly hardy. They are *Andromeda floribunda* and the Leather Leaf (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*). The former is a native of the high southern Appalachian region and has been known in gardens for at least a century; it is not, however, often seen in those of New England in which, with the exception of the Laurel (*Kalmia*) and a few Rhododendrons, it is the handsomest evergreen shrub which can be successfully grown. It is beautiful, too, throughout the year for the dark green leaves, although not large, are always lustrous; the flower-buds, which are formed in the autumn, are large, nearly white, and conspicuous during the winter, and open into bell-shaped white flowers arranged in short terminal clusters which cover the plants during several weeks and are not injured by spring frost. This *Andromeda* under favorable conditions sometimes grows five or six feet high, with a diameter often greater than its height. It is a good subject to use as a single specimen or on the margin of beds of taller growing evergreens, like Rhododendrons or *Kalmias*, and no broad-leaved evergreen is better suited for the decoration of large rock gardens. The related species from Japan, *Andromeda japonica*, is a larger plant, sometimes tree-like in growth in its native country, with larger and more beautiful flowers which unfortunately in this climate are generally ruined by spring frosts. The Leather Leaf is an inhabitant of cold, wet northern bogs which it sometimes covers almost to the exclusion of other plants. It is a dwarf shrub with small obtuse scurfy leaves and small, white, axillary flowers. The Leather Leaf is a less beautiful plant than *Andromeda floribunda* but it is a hardy, broad-leaved evergreen and therefore valuable in a region where so few such plants can be successfully grown. Although naturally a bog plant, the Leather Leaf flourishes when planted in drier soil and the plant in the Shrub Collection and its dwarf form (var. *minor*) are unusually full of flowers this spring.



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