however, the Arboretum has succeeded in obtaining a supply of the seeds from Japan, and as these have been widely distributed it will now perhaps soon become better known.

Crataegus Phaenopyrum or **cordata** is in flower this week. Hawthorns begin to flower in the Arboretum before the first of May and they have been flowering here almost continuously ever since. In a month some of the species will begin to ripen their fruit, and on others fruit little shrivelled or discolored by the winter will still be on the branches in April. There are not therefore many weeks in the year in which Hawthorns in this climate cannot furnish either flowers or fruit. In the tropics some trees produce flowers almost continuously during the year, but in cold countries like New England no other group of plants has such a long season of flowers except the Viburnums, and none of the Viburnums retain their fruit into the winter. When in bloom some of the American Hawthorns are objects of great beauty, and only the fruit of some Crabapples is more conspicuous than that of the large-fruited Hawthorns. As they grow naturally over a large part of eastern North America and more sparingly in the west there are few parts of this country or Canada where some of the species cannot be successfully grown. All the Thorns thrive in cultivation and respond to a generous treatment with larger size, more tree-like habit and handsomer foliage and fruit. *Crataegus Phaenopyrum*, which appears at the head of this paragraph, the Washington Thorn, cultivated perhaps more frequently seventy-five years ago than at present, is a slender tree growing under favorable conditions to a height of twenty-five or thirty feet; the leaves are nearly triangular in shape, not more than two inches long and an inch and a half wide, and are dull green; in the autumn they turn bright scarlet. The flowers are creamy white, smaller than those of most Hawthorns, and are arranged in small compact clusters. Few if any of the American species have less attractive flowers. The fruit, too, is small, barely more than a quarter of an inch in diameter; and the Washington Thorn owes its value as a garden plant to the brilliancy of its autumn foliage and to the beauty of its abundant fruits long persistent on the branches. In earlier days of American gardens *Crataegus Phaenopyrum* was much used as a hedge plant in the middle states, although there are many other American Hawthorns which seem much better suited to form handsome and impassable hedges.

The last Viburnums. The first Viburnum, *V. alnifolium*, was in bloom the first of May, and this week the last Viburnum, another American species, *V. Canbyi*, has just opened its flowers, and during more than two months there has not been a day when a Viburnum has not flowered in the Arboretum. *V. Canbyi* is the largest and the handsomest of the blue-fruited species of eastern North America, of which the best known now in gardens is *V. dentatum*. There are three species in this group; they all have broad, coarsely toothed, dark green shining leaves, wide, flat clusters of white flowers and small blue fruits. The first to flower, *Viburnum dentatum*, is followed by *V. venosum* which differs from it chiefly in the hairs which cover the young branchlets and the lower surface of the leaves. This is a sea coast plant and

1920. "Crataegus Phaenopyrum or cordata." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 6(12), 47-47.

<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321063>.

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