under the name of "Kaido," a name which in Japan belongs to *M. Halliana*. In Japan *M. micromalus* is rare and known only in gardens, and by Japanese botanists it is believed to have been introduced into their country from China and to be a hybrid possibly of *M. baccata* and *M. spectabilis*. In habit this Crab is more pyramidal than that of the other species and hybrids, and this habit makes the plants conspicuous in the collection. They are covered this year with their small pale pink, delicate flowers which will be followed by light yellow fruit often rose color on one cheek. The largest Arboretum specimen is in the collection at the eastern base of Peter's Hill.

Malus theifera, which is one of Wilson's discoveries in western China, promises to be a good addition to the list of early flowering Crabs. Its long, upright, and spreading, rather zigzag branches make it easy to distinguish at any season of the year; they are continuously studded with short spur-like laterals which bear numerous clusters of flowers rose-red in the bud and pale or almost white when fully expanded. In central China the peasants collect the leaves and prepare from them the palatable beverage which they call "red tea." *Malus theifera* has now flowered for several years in the Arboretum, the largest plant being in the Peter's Hill collection where it is now a conspicuous object. In the color of its rose-red flowers drooping on slender stalks *Malus Halliana* with its variety *Parkmanii*, which has double flowers, is perhaps the most distinct of all Crabapples. It is a small tree with erect and spreading branches which form a narrow, vase-like head, and dark green leaves; the globose reddish fruit is not larger than a small pea. It is well known in Massachusetts gardens, having been sent by George R. Hall, in 1862, to Boston, where it was first planted in Mr. Francis Parkman's garden on the shores of Jamaica Pond. The Parkman Crab is a favorite in Japanese gardens where it is known as "Kaido" and was no doubt imported into Japan from China where the single-flowered form was found by Wilson. Whatever its origin the Parkman Crab is one of the most distinct and beautiful of the small trees which are now flowering here in the Arboretum, although normally the flowers do not open before the 10th of May.

Malus floribunda, by many persons considered the most beautiful of Crabapples, was introduced into Europe by Von Siebold in 1853 from Nagasaki in southern Japan. The place where this little tree grows wild still remains unknown, and by some persons it has been considered a hybrid of Chinese origin; more probably, however, it originated on one of the high mountains of Kyushu. Japanese botanists and nurserymen confuse it with the Parkman Crab, and Wilson did not find it in Japanese gardens. It is a broad, round-topped tree-like shrub sometimes twenty-five feet tall, with stout branches and slender, arching and pendant branchlets. The clusters of flowers are white when fully expanded and are rose-red in the bud, and as they open in succession the two colors make a handsome contrast. The fruit is about the size of a pea, yellowish or yellowish-brown. On some plants it falls in early autumn and on others it remains on the branches during the winter or until devoured by birds who find it one of their most palatable winter foods. *Malus floribunda* rarely fails to produce abundant crops of flow-

ers and in this climate has proved to be one of the most satisfactory and reliable of all the arborescent shrubs or small trees which have been planted in eastern Massachusetts. A hybrid between *M. floribunda* and probably *M. robusta* appeared here among a lot of seedlings of *M. floribunda* in 1883 and has been named *M. arnoldiana*. It has the habit and abundant flowers of *M. floribunda*, but the flowers and fruit are nearly twice as large as those of that plant. It is a handsomer plant than *M. floribunda*, distinguished by its long arching branches, and one of the most beautiful Crabapples in the Arboretum. The first of the Asiatic Crabapples introduced into Europe, *Malus spectabilis*, has been cultivated by the Chinese from time immemorial. Like several other of these plants, it is not yet known in a wild state but is probably of hybrid origin. It is a tree from twenty-five to thirty feet high, with a wide vase-shaped crown made of numerous spreading and ascending branches and short branchlets. The flowers are pale pink, more or less semidouble and fragrant. The fruits are pale yellow subglobose and about three-quarters of an inch in diameter. *Malus spectabilis* is a perfectly hardy, free-flowering plant and well worth a place in gardens where sufficient space can be allowed it for free development. What is probably a hybrid of *Malus spectabilis*, *M. Scheideckeri*, and some unknown species, possibly *M. micromalus*, is a small pyramidal tree with small flowers produced in great abundance and well worth a place in a collection of these trees.

The Crabs mentioned in this Bulletin are the most important of those now in flower in the Arboretum. In a later issue some account will be given of the later-flowering species.

On April 23rd the first Azalea flowers in the Arboretum opened on the Korean *Rhododendron yedoense* var. *poukhanense*, better known as *R. poukhanense*, which last year was in bloom on the 10th of May. It is a very hardy shrub widely distributed in Korea from the neighborhood of Seoul southward, and grows generally in open Pine-woods and on grass-covered slopes where it forms dense mats rarely more than three feet high, although in more shaded positions it is occasionally as much as six feet tall. Here in the Arboretum in full exposure to the sun it forms dense mat-like bushes from two to two and a half feet tall and three feet or more in diameter. This Azalea is perfectly hardy in the Arboretum where it first flowered in 1914. The flowers are clustered, with a rose or rosy purple corolla, and are more fragrant than those of any other Azalea in the Arboretum collection. The color of the flowers does not harmonize with that of other Azaleas which bloom at the same time, and the plants are therefore best kept away from other Azaleas. *Azalea yodogava* (*Rhododendron yedoense*) which in recent years has been sent in large numbers from Japanese nurseries to the United States and Europe, is a double-flowered form of the Korean Azalea.

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