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Some late-flowered Crabapples. The cool weather of late April and early May has favored the flowers of Crabapples, and although the petals have already fallen from the trees of *Malus robusta*, *M. sylvestris* and some of the forms of *M. baccata*, many of the earlier species are still in good condition and others are fast opening their flowers. A few of the late-flowering species and hybrids which deserve the attention of garden-makers and the lovers of handsome plants are:

Malus spectabilis, a tree which has been long cultivated in Chinese gardens, although it is still unknown as a wild plant. This tree, which is possibly a hybrid, was first sent to England from Canton in 1780 and probably was brought to the United States early in the nineteenth century. It is one of the largest of the Asiatic Crabs here, growing to the height of from twenty-five to thirty feet and forming a wide, vase-shaped crown of numerous spreading and ascending branches and short branchlets. The flowers are pale pink, semidouble and very fragrant. The abundant fruits are pale yellow, nearly globose and an inch in diameter. This is a hardy and long-lived tree, as in the neighborhood of Boston are plants which are probably seventy-five or eighty years old.

Malus Sargentii is a Japanese shrub only a few feet high, and much broader than it is tall, with wide-spreading prostrate branches. The flowers are in crowded clusters, saucer-shaped and pure white, and are followed by abundant wine-colored fruits which are covered with a slight bloom, and, unless eaten by birds, do not disappear until the

leaves begin to appear the following spring. The unusual habit of this plant makes it useful for covering slopes and banks, or to form an edging to beds of taller shrubs. With abundant space it may be expected to form a bush eighteen or twenty feet in diameter.

Malus Sieboldii is a Japanese species with the leaves at the end of vigorous branches deeply three-lobed. It grows in two forms; as a shrub only three or four feet high with wide-spreading and arching stems, and as a small tree (var. *arborescens*) with a well-formed trunk and horizontal branches which form a rather flat-topped head. This is the last of the Asiatic Crabapples in the collection to flower and only a few of the bright red flower-buds are open. The flowers are small, white, and produced in profusion every year. The fruit is not larger than a small pea, and is bright red on some plants and yellow on others. What has been considered a variety of *Malus Sieboldii* (var. *calocarpa*) is a larger growing plant with larger flowers which open ten or twelve days earlier and are rose pink, finally becoming white; the fruit is much larger, bright red, lustrous and persistent. This plant produces large crops of flowers and fruits every year and in both spring and autumn it is one of the handsomest of the Asiatic Crabapples. It is not known as a wild plant in Japan and is probably exceedingly rare in cultivation in western countries. For this beautiful plant the Arboretum is indebted to Dr. William Sturgis Bigelow of Boston who brought the seeds from Japan in 1889.

Malus sublobata. This is believed to be a hybrid and it has been suggested that it is the result of a cross between *Malus prunifolia rinki* and *M. Sieboldii*. The plants in the Arboretum are of very uncertain origin but it is probable that they were raised from seeds sent from Japan, although for several years and until the plant flowered they were supposed to be *Malus sikkimensis*. The Arboretum trees are already thirty feet high and, unlike other Crabapples, form a tall trunk covered with pale bark and a narrow head, and in shape are not unlike a young Ash or Tulip-tree. The large white flowers are chiefly produced on upper branches and are followed by bright clear yellow fruits about three-quarters of an inch in diameter. No other Crabapple in the collection produces such beautiful yellow fruit. For the beauty of its fruit, its unusual habit, vigor and rapid growth, *Malus sublobata* is well worth the attention of planters.

Malus Soulardii is believed to be a hybrid of the Apple-tree of eastern Europe (*M. pumila*) and of the wild Crab of the Mississippi valley, *Malus ioensis*, and trees of this hybrid are not rare in the woods in the region from Indiana to Iowa. In the Arboretum *Malus Soulardii* is a round-headed tree in shape like its eastern parent; the flowers are pink, and smaller than those of either parent; the fruit is green, depressed-globose, from an inch to two and a half inches in diameter, and without the waxy exudation which is found on the fruit of the Crabapples of eastern North America. The trees are covered with flowers this year. As a natural hybrid of much interest and as a flowering plant *Malus Soulardii* is well worth a place in collections of these trees. As fruit trees this hybrid and its American parent are worth growing, for jelly made from the fruit of the Iowa Crabapple

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