sis, *pagnyensis*, *miltonensis*, etc.) The Fern-leaf Beech (var. *heterophylla*) is distinguished by its variously shaped leaves, which on the same branch are long and narrow, and usually more or less deeply lobed, pinnate or laciniate. Various names (vars. *asplenifolia*, *incisa*, *laciniata*, *salicifolia* and *comptoniaefolia*) have been given to forms of this variety, but the variation is often so slight that it seems wise to call all the forms of the European Beech with cut or laciniate leaves var. *heterophylla*. The largest specimen of this tree in the United States grows on Bellevue Avenue in Newport, Rhode Island, on the grounds of the Redwood Library and Reading Room. A form of the European Beech (var. *fastigiata*) on which all the branches grow erect and form a narrow pyramidal head promises to be a handsome and useful addition to the trees with this habit, like the fastigate Red and Sugar Maples, the fastigate European Oak and the fastigate Tulip-tree, European Hornbeam, etc. The original fastigate Beech is growing at Dawyck in Peeblesshire, Scotland, and is a comparatively recent addition to the Arboretum collection. In the variety *rotundifolia* of the European Beech we have a handsome tree, probably always of small size, with nearly round leaves closely set on the branches and usually not more than an inch in diameter, a good tree to plant where there is not room for the large-growing Beech-trees. The least attractive of all the forms of the European Beech, the var. *cristata*, is a tall narrow tree with short-stemmed leaves, deeply lobed and more or less contorted, interesting as a monstrous form but of no value among ornamental trees.

Fagus orientalis is a native of southwestern Asia where it is distributed from Asia Minor to northern Persia. From the European Beech it differs chiefly in the lower prickles of the fruit which are changed into oblong linear lobes. The plants which have been grown in the Arboretum for eight years have not suffered from cold or heat, but are still too young to give an idea of the value of this tree in the United States.

Chinese Beech-trees. These do not occur north of the central provinces where three species have now been found, *Fagus longipetiolata*, *F. Engleriana*, and *F. lucida*. The first Wilson found to be the common Beech of central and western China, where it grows with Oaks, Maples and other deciduous leafed trees. This Beech is usually a small tree fifty or sixty feet tall, but in western Szech'uan, where Wilson saw the largest specimens, it is a stately and handsome tree with a single trunk rarely divided near the base and covered with very pale gray bark. *Fagus Engleriana* is common on the high mountains of northwestern Hupeh and eastern Szech'uan where it often forms pure forests. Wilson found that the trunk of this tree almost invariably divides at the base into several diverging stems which do not attain much thickness or any great height, the tallest of which there is a record being not over seventy feet high, trees of half that height or less being more common. *Fagus lucida* is distinguished from the other Chinese species by the duller gray bark of the trunk which does not separate at the base and by its thick and spreading branches which form

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