The buds of the Japanese *Corylopsis Gotoana* have for the first time been injured, and those of *C. pauciflora*, which has never been very hardy in the Arboretum, are destroyed.

As compared with last year the season is a late one. The Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) was in flower, however, on the 15th of March, only six days later than last year. Other flowers which were to be seen in the Arboretum this year in March were those of half a dozen species of Hazel (*Corylus*), *Salix acutifolia*, *S. gracilistyla*, the native *Alnus incana*, and those of several exotic Alders. On March 29th the native Arbor Vitae (*Thuja occidentalis*) and the native White Cedar (*Chamæcyparis thyoides*) were in bloom.

Magnolia stellata. On March 26th last year the flowers of *Magnolia stellata* were opening; this year the plants in front of the Administration Building were nearly in full bloom on April 15th and have not yet been injured by the late frost which often destroys their flowers after they have opened. This *Magnolia* is a perfectly hardy shrub of excellent habit and good foliage; it never fails to cover itself with flower-buds, and if it could be persuaded to bloom two weeks later it would be one of the best plants for the decoration of small New England gardens which has been brought from Japan.

The Siberian *Rhododendron dahuricum* blooms as early or a little later than *R. mucronulatum*, but the flowers are more sensitive to cold than those of that plant and are usually disfigured or destroyed by frost after they have opened. Although some of the flower-buds had been killed on the plants on Azalea Path, they were well covered with expanded flowers by the 12th of April and have not yet been injured. The variety with persistent leaves (var. *sempervirens*) has lost more of its flower-buds than the typical deciduous-leaved plant. Like *Magnolia stellata* this little *Rhododendron* would be a better garden plant in New England if it would flower two or three weeks later.

Erica carnea began to flower in the Shrub Collection during the first week in April. This is a common European plant often covering in the northern countries considerable areas of sandy or gravelly soil. It is an evergreen plant only a few inches high, with dark green leaves and small rose-red flowers. There is also a variety with white flowers. This is an excellent plant for the rock garden or to form the edging for walks. When it finds the soil and position which suit it it will soon spread into a broad mat. There are no Heaths native to the New World, and the neighborhood of Cape Town in South Africa, where there are some four hundred species, is the place where they are most abundant. They flourish, too, in the countries adjacent to the Mediterranean and in central Europe but of them all only *Erica carnea* is really hardy in New England, although one or two other species, especially *E. Tetralix*, can with care be kept alive here for a few years.

Prinsepia sinensis is covered with its bright yellow flowers. It is a hardy shrub with long gracefully ascending and spreading branches furnished with stout spines, and covered with bright green leaves which are almost the first to appear on any plant in the Arboretum and are

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