Early Locusts. *Robinia Kelseyi* and *R. Michauxii* are already in flower in the collection of these plants on the Meadow Road. *R. Kelseyi*, discovered a few years ago on the southern Appalachian Mountains, is a slender-stemmed shrub from six to eleven feet high with lighter-colored and smaller flowers than those of the better known Rose Acacia (*Robinia hispida*). From that plant it differs, too, in the absence of glandular hairs on the branches and of the abundant root shoots which often make that plant such a troublesome weed. *Robinia Slavinii* which is believed to be a hybrid of *R. Kelseyi* and *R. pseudo-acacia*, appeared a few years ago in the nursery of the Rochester, New York, Park Department and promises to be a handsome flowering tree. It is growing in the Arboretum but has not yet flowered here. *R. Michauxii* has the glandular hairs and the rose-colored flowers of *R. hispida*, but the flowers are rather smaller and the stems are three or four feet tall. Unlike *R. hispida*, which is not known to have ever produced fruit, *R. Michauxii* bears abundant crops of glandular pods. Although discovered by the French botanist Michaux in the foothill region of the southern mountains one hundred and twenty five years ago and known for many years in a few old northern gardens, the true character of this handsome plant has only recently been recognized.

Xanthoceras sorbifolia. This Chinese shrub or small tree has flowered unusually well in the Shrub Collection this year. It has dark green leaves and erect and spreading racemes of white flowers marked with red at the base of the petals, and fruit somewhat like that of a Buckeye. This interesting plant is related to the so-called Texas Buckeye, *Ungnadia*, and to *Koelreuteria*, the yellow-flowered Chinese tree which blooms here at midsummer. It is very hardy but has a way of dying without any apparent cause, and for this reason it is not as often cultivated as it might be for when it flowers as it has here this year few shrubs are more beautiful.

Symplocos paniculata, or as it is often called, *S. crataegoides*, is a native of Japan, China and the Himalayas. The form which is cultivated here is Japanese, and is a tall broad shrub, with large, obovate, dark green deciduous leaves, small white flowers in abundant, compact panicles which open after the leaves are nearly full grown and are followed in the autumn by bright blue fruits about one-third of an inch in diameter. The plants are attractive when in flower; the fruit of a color unusual among that of hardy shrubs is the most interesting thing about it. Although introduced into the United States by the Parsons Nursery at Flushing, New York, nearly sixty years ago this beautiful shrub is still rare and difficult to obtain.

Two native Viburnums. The Arboretum owes much of its late spring and early summer beauty to the two tree Viburnums of the northern states, *V. Lentago* and *V. prunifolium*, which have been generally planted, especially the former, by many of the drives and in many of the border shrubberies. These plants are now covered with flowers, and are in splendid condition this year, showing what care and cultivation can do for our commonest native plants. They show, too, that the Viburnums of eastern North America surpass in beauty and usefulness as American garden plants the Viburnums of all other parts of the world.

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