tiful small tree better suited to the New England climate than *L. angustifolia*, and a good plant for the decoration of a June garden. *L. Watereri* appears to be little known in this country. The third species of Laburnum, *L. caramanicum*, a native of Greece and Asia Minor, has been planted in the Arboretum but has not proved hardy here.

Arborescent Viburnums. Four Viburnums assume the habit of small trees in the Arboretum. Three of these are eastern American, *V. prunifolium*, *V. Lentago* and *V. rufidulum*, and one is Japanese, *V. Sieboldii*. *Viburnum prunifolium*, which is known popularly as the Black Haw, is a common shrub in the middle Atlantic states where in early spring, on rocky hillsides and along roadsides and the borders of woods, it rivals in the beauty of its flowers the flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) which naturally grows in open woods and not in such exposed positions as the Black Haw. *Viburnum nudiflorum* is a large arborescent shrub or a small tree rarely thirty feet high, with a short trunk usually less than a foot in diameter, rigid spreading branches beset with slender spine-like branchlets, ovate to suborbicular, thick, dark green and lustrous leaves which, handsome through the summer, are splendid in the autumn with their dark vinous red or scarlet colors. The white flowers in slightly convex clusters have been produced here this spring in the greatest profusion; in the autumn they will be followed by red-stemmed drooping clusters of dark blue fruit covered with a glaucous bloom, and from half an inch to three-quarters of an inch long. The Black Haw, which is one of the handsomest of the small trees of the eastern United States, takes kindly to cultivation and is quite hardy north of the region of its natural distribution which is in southern Connecticut. It has generally escaped the attention of American nurserymen who in recent years have made better known our northern arborescent *Viburnum Lentago*, the Sheepberry or Nannyberry, a usually larger and for some persons a handsomer plant. The flowers, which are arranged in larger and rather flatter clusters, are pale cream color and not white, but the fruit is as handsome as that of the Black Haw and rather larger. The leaves, too, are larger, equally lustrous, and also assume brilliant autumn colors. This Viburnum can grow in the shade of larger trees or in open situations which it prefers. In both May and early June the Arboretum owes much beauty to the flowers of these tree Viburnums, especially to those of *V. Lentago* which has been planted in large numbers along the drives and in the border plantations and is now covered with flowers. *Viburnum Jackii*, evidently a hybrid between *V. Lentago* and *V. prunifolium* with characters intermediate between those of its parents, was detected a few years ago by Professor Jack in one of the Arboretum plantations. An interesting plant it is not more valuable for the decoration of gardens than either of its parents. More beautiful than the Black Haw or the Nannyberry, the common tree Viburnum of the southern states, *V. rufidulum* is perhaps the handsomest of all the Viburnums with deciduous leaves. When it has grown under the most favorable conditions this Viburnum is a tree often forty feet high, with a tall stout trunk and branches which spread nearly at right angles from it; the leaves are thick, dark green and lustrous on the upper surface, with winged stalks covered, as are the winter-buds, with a thick felt

of rusty brown hair; the flowers are creamy white and the fruit is dark blue covered with a glaucous bloom. This *Viburnum* has been growing in sheltered positions in the Arboretum for several years, and a plant on the upper side of Hickory Path near Centre Street has not before been more thickly covered with flower-buds. The Japanese *Viburnum Sieboldii* under favorable conditions can grow to a height of twenty-five feet although it is often a shrub in habit. It has long, bright green oblong, coarsely toothed leaves, and flowers in flat clusters from two and a half to four inches in diameter and handsome oblong fruit pink at first when fully grown becoming black and lustrous at maturity and then soon falling from the branches. The leaves when crushed emit a most disagreeable odor. For the decoration of American gardens this Japanese plant is inferior to either of the three American arborescent species.

The Mountain Halesia or Silver Bell Tree. (*Halesia monticola*). Until the beginning of the present century the botanists who visited the high Appalachian Mountains took it for granted that the *Halesia* which grows at altitudes above 2500 feet was the same as the bushy tree of the foothills and upland valleys of the Piedmont region and southward. This idea having been generally accepted, and as the lowland plant had for more than a century been common in gardens, no attempt was made to cultivate the mountain tree, and the gardens of the United States and Europe have been deprived of one of the handsomest trees of the North American forests. The tree of the high mountains is not rarely eighty or ninety feet high with a straight trunk sometimes from three to three and a half feet in diameter, often free of branches for fifty or sixty feet from the ground, and covered with bark separating into great platelike scales like those of a scaly-barked Hickory or a Swamp Cottonwood. The flowers are somewhat larger and the fruit is twice as large as the flowers and fruit of the lowland tree. The habit of the plant and the size of the flowers and fruits are reproduced in the seedlings which begin to grow as trees with a single stem. The seedlings show no variation in habit, and the young trees grow with a single straight stem with short branches which form a narrow symmetrical pyramidal head. The young trees often begin to flower and to produce fertile seeds before they are ten feet tall. This mountain tree has proved to be perfectly hardy in the Arboretum where it is growing rapidly and where it has now flowered and produced fruit since 1913. It is a tree which seems destined to play an important part in the decoration of American parks and which may prove useful for street and roadside planting.

Neillia sinensis is now in great beauty on the upper side of Hickory Path growing in the shade of a Japanese Walnut-tree. It is a shrub from western China introduced by Wilson and the best representative of a genus of the Rose Family which has been grown in the Arboretum. It is a large wide-spreading shrub with slender stems and dark green, long-pointed coarsely serrate leaves with prominent veins deeply impressed on the upper side of the leaf. The flowers are cylindric, clear pale pink in color and nearly half an inch long; they are borne in slender, nodding racemes from three to four inches in length, terminal

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