

the first of July. The first Lilac flower, that of *Syringa hyacinthiflora*, opened here this year on the second of May. The season of Lilac flowers therefore extends here during fully two months. Fifty years ago when the Arboretum was begun the people of Massachusetts were able to enjoy the bloom of Lilacs only during a week or ten days.

Late Flowering Hawthorns. Different species of Hawthorn have been flowering continuously in the Arboretum since the early days of May and the last of these are now in flower. One of the last, *C. tomentosa*, the type of the *Macracanthae* or as it has often been called the *Tomentosae* group and one of the species known to Linnaeus, is a small tree widely distributed from the valley of the Hudson River westward and southward, with large pointed leaves, small flowers in compact clusters, and small oblong red fruit, translucent when fully ripe. As an ornamental plant this species is much less attractive than many of the other plants in this group. The Washington Thorn, so-called, *Crataegus Phaenopyrum*, probably still better known as *C. cordata*, is now in flower. It is a slender tree growing under favorable conditions to a height of from twenty-five to thirty feet. The dull green leaves are nearly triangular in shape, not more than two inches long and an inch and a half wide and in the autumn turn bright scarlet. The flowers are creamy white, smaller than those of most Hawthorns, and are arranged in small compact clusters. Few if any of the American species have less attractive flowers. The fruit, too, is small, barely more than a quarter of an inch in diameter; and the Washington Thorn owes its value as a garden plant to the brilliancy of its autumn foliage and to the beauty of its abundant fruits long persistent on the branches. A century ago *Crataegus Phaenopyrum* was much used as a hedge plant in the middle states, although there are many other American Hawthorns which are better suited to form handsome and impassable hedges. It has generally been supposed at the Arboretum that *C. Phaenopyrum* was the last Hawthorn to flower here, but this year *C. Chapmanii* has flowered a few days later. This is a native of river banks in the southern Appalachian Mountain region and in southern Missouri and is another member of the *Macracanthae* group. It is a larger and handsomer tree than *C. tomentosa* with shorter obtuse obovate leaves, flowers with only from five to ten stamens, and globose fruit.



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