orchards. Pear blight has never attacked *Pyrus ovidea*, which has been growing for twenty years in the Arboretum, or *P. Bretschneideri*.

Plum-trees. North America is the real home of Plum-trees as it is of Hawthorns. The different species range across the continent from the valley of the St. Lawrence River to the Rio Grande. The species and individuals are most abundant in eastern and southern Kansas, eastern Oklahoma, southern Arkansas and Texas from the valley of the Red River to the Edwards Plateau, and the genus is represented in this region by more species than are found in all the world outside of North America. Some of the species are of considerable size and others are large or small shrubs which frequently spread in sandy soil into thickets covering acres. The first of the American Plums to flower in the Arboretum, the so-called Canada Plum, *Prunus nigra*, has already opened its flowers. This is a northern tree ranging in Canada from New Brunswick through the valley of the St. Lawrence River and along the northern shore of Lake Superior to Winnipeg. It occurs rather sparingly in northern New England, western New York and westward to Montana. It is a handsome little tree with dark close bark, a round-topped head of spreading branches, wide, coarsely-toothed glandular leaves, and large flowers, which unlike those of other American Plum-trees turn pink as they begin to fade. Several forms grown for the excellence of their fruit are cultivated by pomologists. The flowers of *Prunus nigra* are followed in a few days by those of *P. americana*, the blue-fruited *P. alleghaniensis*, a native of southern Connecticut and western Pennsylvania, an interesting species of considerable ornamental value, *P. Watsonii*, the little Sand Plum of Kansas and Oklahoma, and *P. Munsoniana* of the Kansas to Texas region, the origin of Wild Goose and many other varieties cultivated for their fruit, and by *P. hortulana*, a native of the region from southern Illinois to southern Missouri and Oklahoma. This is perhaps the handsomest of the American Plum-trees and one of the last to flower. In cultivation it is a round-topped tree with wide-spreading branches. The flowers are not more than half an inch in diameter and open before the leaves which are narrow, long-pointed and lustrous. The fruit is scarlet, very lustrous, and looks like a large cherry. Forms of this tree, like Golden Beauty, Kanawha, Wayland and Cumberland, are grown and distributed by nurseries as fruit trees, but quite apart from the value of the fruit. The only Asiatic Wild Plum, *P. salicina*, blooms as early as *P. nigra* and is now in flower. As an ornamental tree this has no special value but it is esteemed by pomologists and is now widely planted in this country in many forms for its edible red or yellow fruit.

The Sugar Maple. The Sugar Maple is again exceptionally fully covered with its long clusters of expanded flowers, and just now is an object of great beauty and interest. A true lover of the country, life in cities and their suburbs has little attraction for the Sugar Maple, one of the most splendid of the whole genus. It needs the free and pure air of the forests and country roadsides, and finds its greatest happiness on the low hills of New England and Michigan, and in the rich protected valleys of the Appalachian Mountains. In such positions few trees surpass it in size or in the splendor of its autumn foliage.

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