fruit in small erect clusters, and dark red-purple autumn leaves; and *C. modesta*, a shrub not often more than twelve or eighteen inches high, first noticed on a hill near Rutland, Vermont, but now known to grow in many places in southern New England and to range into eastern Pennsylvania, and conspicuous in the autumn with its bright scarlet leaves and green, yellow or orange and red fruits. Two of the southern Appalachian species, *C. Buckleyi* and *C. Boyntonii*, are small trees rather than shrubs and in the Arboretum have grown into pyramids now ten or twelve feet tall and are still covered with dark green leaves which later turn to shades of orange and scarlet.

As a general rule the bright colors appear earlier in the autumn on eastern American than on allied Asiatic species, but there are a few conspicuous exceptions to this rule; and in addition to the *Phellodendron* during the last week or ten days *Acer ginnala*, *Evonymus alatus* and *Rhododendron* (*Azalea*) *japonicum* have perhaps been the most brilliant plants in the Arboretum. The Maple is a small shrubby tree sometimes thirty or forty feet high, with pointed deeply divided leaves, and compact clusters of fragrant flowers. A native of eastern Siberia, where it is common in the neighborhood of Vladivostok, it was one of the first plants introduced into the Arboretum whence it came from St. Petersburg. No American tree assumes more brilliant tones, but the brilliancy lasts only for a few days and the leaves fall early. *Evonymus alatus* from Japan is without a rival in the brilliancy of the deep rose color passing to scarlet of its autumn leaves. The habit of this shrub is excellent when it has an opportunity to spread out in the sun but the flowers and fruit are inconspicuous. The value of the Burning Bush as a decorative plant is now appreciated and it is found in many American nurseries, but it must not be forgotten that it requires a large space in which to develop its greatest beauty. A form of this shrub raised from seeds collected in Korea by Mr. Jack with its larger fruit and even more brilliant autumn foliage is handsomer even than the Japanese form. In their autumn color of old gold the leaves of *Rhododendron japonicum* are more beautiful than those of any others in the collection, and its autumn color greatly adds to the ornamental value of this shrub which when in flower is the handsomest of the Asiatic Azaleas which are hardy in this climate, with the exception of the Korean *Rhododendron Schlippenbachii*.

Sorbus alnifolia of the section *Micromeles* of the genus is perhaps the most satisfactory of the Mountain Ashes with entire leaves which can be grown here. It is a common Japanese tree and occurs also in Korea, in northern and central China, and sometimes in its native country grows to a height of sixty feet. Several specimens have been growing in the Arboretum since 1893 and are now from twenty to thirty feet tall. These trees are pyramidal in habit with pale smooth stems, upright branches which form a broad, compact, symmetrical head, and dark green leaves three or four inches long, small white flowers in from six- to twelve-flowered clusters, and abundant lustrous scarlet or orange-colored fruit which remains on the branches after the leaves and until eaten by birds which are fond of the fruit of all the species of *Sorbus*. The leaves turn bright clear yellow about the middle of October and soon fall. Mountain Ashes thrive only in well-drained rich soil and

suffer from drought and insufficient nourishment. They are particularly liable to attacks of the San José scale, and in order to secure healthy plants it is important to spray them late in March or early in April with lime-sulphur.

Viburnum prunifolium, often called Black Haw, is perhaps one of the handsomest of the small trees or large shrubs in the Arboretum with scarlet or purple leaves which are just turning. A common plant on hillsides in the middle Atlantic states the Black Haw, although not a native of Massachusetts, is hardy here and well deserves cultivation for it is an object of interest from early spring until the beginning of winter. The leaves are thick, coriaceous, dark green and lustrous above and pale below. The flowers are white, in slightly convex clusters, and these are followed by fruit pink at first when fully grown, becoming dark blue and covered with a glaucous bloom when ripe and persistent on the branches until winter. A southern representative of this plant with which it was long confounded is now called *Viburnum rufidulum* and is a larger and handsomer tree with thicker and more lustrous leaves which turn deep purple in the autumn. This tree, which under favorable circumstances becomes the largest and is perhaps the handsomest of all American Viburnums, is easily recognized by the large russet brown felt which covers the winter-buds. *V. rufidulum* grows in the Arboretum where it flowers and ripens its fruit, but it is doubtful if it ever becomes more than a medium-sized shrub here.

The leaves in autumn of some of the American Azaleas are almost as brilliant as those of *Rhododendron japonicum*. Perhaps the most brilliant of these is the late-blooming, yellow or flame-colored *Rhododendron calendulaceum* which equals some of the other shrubs of the family which are unsurpassed in beauty during several months. None is more beautiful in the autumn than the crimson or purple of the leaves of the Highbush Blueberry so-called, *Vaccinium corymbosum*. This plant is handsome, too, in early spring when its white bell-shaped flowers open, and in August or September when the blue-black fruit covers the branches. A native of swamps, the Highbush Blueberry grows equally well in dry gravelly ground, and the best plants in the Arboretum are on Bussey Hill near the entrance to Azalea Path and opposite the overlook. The autumn color of the other northern Blueberries and Huckleberries is as brilliant as that of the Highbush Blueberry and some of them, especially *Vaccinium pennsylvanicum*, are invaluable for covering dry ground under Oaks and other hardwood trees. The white flowers are attractive; the bluish black berries, which are the earliest Blueberries to ripen, have a fair flavor and during a month or more in autumn the plants form broad masses of scarlet only a few inches high and more brilliant in color than the flowers of the Heather on the Highlands of Scotland. Every encouragement with good results has been given in the Arboretum to the spreading of these Blueberries.

1924. "Sorbus alnifolia." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 10(15), 59–60. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321509>.

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