until December. This is one of the handsomest of the shrubs in the Arboretum which retain their foliage without change of color until the beginning of winter. Such plants are valuable in the autumn garden to contrast with plants of brilliant autumn coloring. Another valuable plant for this purpose is *Magnolia glauca*, the Sweet Bay of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast regions from Massachusetts to Texas. This *Magnolia* is still covered with its bright green shining leaves which are silvery white on the lower surface and these will not fall for at least another month. Attention has often been called in these Bulletins to the value of this tree in New England gardens. Few deciduous-leaved trees have more beautiful and more persistent foliage; the cup-shaped, creamy white flowers continue to open during at least two months in early summer and fill the air with their fragrance, and the fruit, like that of all the *Magnolias*, is interesting and handsome when the bright red seeds hang from it on slender threads.

Roadside Plants. Much attention has been paid here for several years in experimenting to secure the best plants to occupy the narrow beds between the driveways and the gravel paths which follow them, and thus far the most satisfactory plant found for this purpose has been *Rosa virginiana*, often called *R. lucida*, the seashore Rose of New England, an upright shrub from two to three feet in height which is still covered with its leaves lustrous in the early season and turning yellow late in October. A plant which came here many years ago from the island of Mt. Desert on the coast of Maine, and now distinguished as var. *lambrophylla*, is a handsomer plant than the typical form, of denser habit and with darker green lustrous leaves. The large pink flowers and the showy red hips are similar to those of the common form. The other plants which have been most successfully used for this purpose are the Fragrant Sumach (*Rhus canadensis*) and *Xanthorhiza apiifolia*. The Fragrant Sumach is a widely distributed North American shrub which rarely grows more than five feet tall, and when planted in good soil is often broader than high with lower branches spreading flat on the ground and upper branches erect, spreading or drooping. In early spring before the leaves appear the branches are covered with clusters of small bright yellow flowers which in June are followed by dull red fruits which are much hidden by the small compound leaves. Among the small shrubs in the Arboretum few are more brilliant at this season of the year for the leaves turn gradually to bright scarlet and orange. The *Xanthorhiza* has also been largely and successfully used here; it makes a neat border plant and is also well suited to grow under shrubs or trees. This low shrub spreads rapidly by underground stems which do not grow more than twelve to eighteen inches high. The small purple flowers, which are arranged in drooping clusters, appear as the leaves unfold; these are pinnate, of a cheerful green color, and turn late in the autumn pale yellow, orange or occasionally scarlet.

Some dwarf broad-leaved evergreens. The color which the leaves of a few of these assume in the autumn add greatly to the interest of these plants in November. The most conspicuous change of color on any of those in the Arboretum is on the Rocky Mountain *Mahonia* or

Berberis repens. From light bluish green the leaves turn to pale violet color in the autumn. This is one of the handsomest and hardiest evergreen plants which can be used here to cover the ground under larger plants. It grows only a few inches high, spreads rapidly by underground stems, and the bright yellow flowers are large and conspicuous. The small dark green leaves of the Box Huckleberry, *Gaylussacia brachycera*, become in the autumn deeply tinged with red when the leaves are exposed to the sun, and the leaves of *Pachystima Canbyi* are more or less tinged with violet. These are two of the rarest plants in the United States. The leaves of *Leucothoe Catesbaei* turn bronze color in the autumn. This plant has always been considered hardy in eastern Massachusetts but has occasionally suffered seriously here during the winter. The Rhododendrons which are hardy here and the Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) have not before given a better promise of abundant bloom in the spring. *Pieris floribunda*, often called *Andromeda floribunda*, is already covered with its flower-buds which, conspicuous and ornamental during the winter, open here usually late in April. This native of the southern Appalachian Mountains is an old inhabitant of gardens and is much propagated by nurserymen; it certainly is one of the handsomest of the broad-leaved evergreen shrubs which are hardy in this climate, and with the exception of the Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) and a few Rhododendrons, is the most valuable broad-leaved evergreen which can be grown in the northern states. Its Japanese relative, *Pieris japonica*, with larger and more beautiful flowers which open earlier, is less often injured by spring frosts.

The Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*) which is a common sea shore inhabitant from New Hampshire to Texas, is a beautiful garden plant, although occasionally in the Arboretum it loses its branches and upper leaves. There is a fine clump of this beautiful shrub on the right hand side of the Bussey Road opposite the bed of Laurel.

Autumn flowers are not abundant in the Arboretum in October and November, although a few may still be found here. The northern Witch Hazel, *Hamamelis virginiana*, is still covered with flowers which are conspicuous for their clear yellow strap-shaped petals. The autumn color of the leaves of this plant is also yellow but of a darker shade than the flowers, and the leaves usually do not fall until the flowers begin to open; these remain for a long time in good condition on the naked branches, making this shrub one of the most attractive features of forest borders in the eastern United States. It has been largely planted in the Arboretum.

Pyrus oboidea. The late autumn coloring of the leaves of this Chinese tree is hardly surpassed by that of any other plant in the Arboretum, and it is well worth a place in any garden for this alone. It is interesting, too, because the leaves of no other Pear-tree turn to such brilliant colors, and because the yellow juicy fruit, unlike that of other Pears, is smaller at the apex than at the base. There is a good specimen of this tree in the Pear Collection on the left hand side of the Forest Hills Road near the Forest Hills entrance.

These Bulletins will now be discontinued until next spring.

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