

ing branches and stems armed with many spines. This member of the Rose Family is perfectly hardy and the handsomest shrub Manchuria has yet contributed to western gardens. The two specimens in the Arboretum were sent here from St. Petersburg in 1903 and 1906, and have been found difficult to propagate. In recent years fortunately one of the plants has produced a few seeds, and as these have germinated there is reason to hope that if the Arboretum plants become more fruitful this shrub may become a common ornament in northern gardens. It has much to recommend it as a hedge plant. The species from northern China can be seen to most advantage in the Shrub Collection. *Prinsepia uniflora* from western China is a spiny shrub with small white flowers, and though it has little beauty its value for forming impenetrable hedges may prove considerable.

**Corylopsis Gotoana** bloomed this year on the 3rd of April and has never before been so full of flowers which, however, are now beginning to fall. *Corylopsis* is an Asiatic genus of the Witch Hazel Family with fragrant yellow flowers in long drooping clusters and leaves which have a general resemblance to those of the Witch Hazel. *C. Gotoana* was introduced into the Arboretum from central Japan and is the largest and handsomest species, growing from five to six feet tall in this climate, and can be considered one of the handsomest of the early spring flowering shrubs. In the Arboretum it can best be seen on the Centre Street Path. The other Japanese species, *C. pauciflora* and *C. spicata*, are also hardy but in very severe winters the flower-buds are often injured, and they are neither of them as desirable garden plants in this climate as *C. Gotoana*. There are several Chinese species in the Arboretum but their flower-buds are usually killed here.

**Rhododendron mucronulatum**, a native of northern China, which has been growing in the Arboretum for more than forty years, has been covered with fragrant rose-colored flowers this year since the 1st of April and as usual has proved one of the most beautiful and satisfactory of the early flowering shrubs introduced by the Arboretum. It is not easy to explain why this plant, which has so much to recommend it and is so easily propagated, has remained so uncommon in American gardens. The variety *ciliata* discovered by Wilson in Korea is flowering for the first time and promises to be as hardy as the type and even a handsomer plant as the flowers are darker colored. The plants, however, are too young to form any proper estimate of their garden value. They are planted with the type on the lower side of Azalea Path.

**Asiatic Cherries.** When this copy of the Bulletin reaches its readers in eastern Massachusetts the most interesting display of flowers will be made by some of the Cherry-trees of eastern Asia and by early flowering Apricots and Plum-trees. As in previous years, the earliest of these trees to flower is *Prunus concinna*, a native of the mountains of China where it was discovered by Wilson. It is a small tree less than three feet high; the flowers, which are white with a bright red calyx, are less beautiful than those of several of the other Asiatic



Cherry-trees, but they are produced in the greatest profusion and are not injured by spring frosts, and as small plants flower so freely it well deserves a place in a collection of spring flowering trees and shrubs. It is best seen in the Arboretum in the border of Chinese plants on the southern slope of Bussey Hill. The Japanese *Prunus incisa* is now in bloom on the right-hand side of the Forest Hills Road. It is a shrub or small tree with white or rarely pale rose-colored flowers which appear before the deeply lobed leaves unfold; the petals fall at the end of a few days after the buds open, but the calyx which gradually turns red remains on the fruit for two or three weeks and is decidedly showy. Although *P. incisa* is a common plant in Japan on the Hakone Mountains and on Fuji-san, it is extremely rare in American gardens.

**The Spring Cherry** of the Japanese (*Prunus subhirtella*), the most delightful and floriferous, travellers say, of all Japanese Cherries, is again thickly covered with flowers and has not before been more beautiful. This is a large shrub which is not known as a wild plant in Japan. Although somewhat cultivated in the gardens of western Japan, it is uncommon in those of Tokyo, and has failed to attract generally the attention of visitors to the Flowery Kingdom. The rather small drooping flowers are pink when they first open but gradually turn white, and those of no other Cherry-tree in the collection remain in good condition for so many days. This plant is extremely rare in American and European gardens. It can, however, be increased by grafting, and soft wood cuttings in the hands of a skilful propagator can be made to grow. Seeds, which the Arboretum plants produce in great quantities, do not reproduce the parent plant, however, and the seedlings usually grow into the tall slender trees which botanists know as *Prunus subhirtella* var. *ascendens*, which is a common tree in the forests of central Hondo and is really the type of the species. This tree has generally been overlooked or neglected as a garden plant, but is now flowering in the Arboretum. Much better known is the form of *P. subhirtella* (var. *pendula*), which was long a favorite garden plant in Japan and was sent many years ago to Europe and then to the United States. This beautiful plant, which is perfectly hardy in Massachusetts, has often grown badly here and died long before its time because European Cherries have been used as stock for multiplying. The proper stocks for the Weeping Cherry are the seedling plants of *Prunus subhirtella* or its varieties. Seeds of the pendulous form sometimes produce plants with pendulous branches and such plants are occasionally found among the seedlings of *Prunus subhirtella*.

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1925. "Asiatic Cherries." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 11(1), 3-4. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321531>.

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