Evonymus radicans is the only evergreen climbing plant really hardy in this climate which can attach itself firmly to stone, brick or concrete walls. There are a number of varieties of this variable plant in cultivation, and the handsomest of them is the broad-leafed form from northern Japan, known as var. vegetus. This plant can grow in Massachusetts to the eaves of a tall house and completely clothe its walls with a cover which grows thicker by an annual shortening of the branches, or if a wall is not provided for it to cling to it will grow as a low, round-topped, dense shrub. Like the other forms of the species it can also be used to cover the ground under trees and shrubs, but as a ground cover it is improved by occasional clipping. The variety vegetus is now covered with its small yellow green flowers which will be followed by abundant pink fruits, which add greatly to the decorative value of this variety which is the only form of E. radicans which has flowered in the Arboretum. Extreme cold in occasional winters has injured the leaves on many plants of the variety vegetus in eastern Massachusetts, but the buds were not hurt and the branches were soon covered with a new crop of leaves.

Genista tinctoria. Of the small, yellow-flowered shrubs of the Pea Family, which are such a feature of the flora of southern and southeastern Europe and are so highly valued in the gardens of western Europe, the best known in Massachusetts is the Woad Wax, Genista tinctoria. Brought early from England as a garden plant it long ago escaped from a Salem garden and has spread over and ruined hundreds of acres in Essex County. Planted in the Arboretum it has spread among the native plants like dwarf Roses and Goldenrods which form a considerable part of the ground cover among the Hickories and Oaks, and now enlivens the valley through which the Valley Road extends from Centre to South Street. There is a taller variety with larger flowers (var. elatior). Much more beautiful and the handsomest of these plants which have been tried here is Cytisus nigricans, a native of Italy, Austria and Hungary, and now in bloom in the Shrub Collection. No small plant now in the Arboretum is more distinct and beautiful. As it grows here it is a compact, round-topped bush from two to three feet tall and broad, differing from most of the related plants in the arrangement of the flowers which are borne in long erect racemes terminal on branches of the year; they are bright yellow and produced in great profusion.

Helianthemum. A collection of the varieties of Helianthemum nummularium, better known perhaps as H. chamaecistus or H. vulgare, has been established in one of the borders on the western slope of Bussey Hill and is flowering well this year. These are half evergreen or evergreen, low, prostrate shrubs with leaves green on both surfaces, hairy or nearly glabrous, and from half an inch to an inch and a half in length, and flowers normally yellow but varying from rose pink, orange or white, and about an inch in diameter in many-flowered loose racemes. This species is a native of Europe, western Asia and northern Africa, and perhaps not as often cultivated as it should be in this country where low plants are needed to cover the ground among shrubs. The curious fact about it is that the flowers are only open before noon and close entirely in the afternoon.

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