

prove unavailing. Here and there a flowering specimen is known but insufficient summer heat more than the changeful spring weather is the cause of its failure under English skies.

Cornus florida rubra with rosy red bracts is a great favorite and this year its bracts seem to be more highly colored than usual. Rightly placed, say on a slope above a pond where it can be viewed across the water in which the flowers are reflected, it is particularly striking. It is often stated that all the Red Dogwood plants in cultivation originated by vegetative propagation from one individual tree discovered in the seventies of last century. As a matter of fact it is beautifully figured on plate 27 of Catesby's "Natural History of Carolina" published in 1754. There is a variety (*pendula*) with stiff pendulous branches, discovered about 1890 in the forests of Maryland, and another (*pluribracteata*) in which the number of bracts is increased to six or eight and a few small bractlets in the center replace the flowers which are nearly all aborted. This form was discovered in Orange County, North Carolina and propagated by Mr. J. D. Van Lindley, Greensboro, who in 1914 sent a plant to the Arboretum which, however, has not yet flowered. There is also a variety (*xanthocarpa*) with yellow fruits but none of these are likely to equal in popularity the type and the variety *rubra*.

Cornus kousa. The wonderful *C. Nuttallii* of western North America, the Chino-Himalayan *C. capitata*, and *C. kousa*, which is distributed from central China eastward through southern Korea into Japan, are three other tree species of Flowering Dogwood. The first two are not hardy in the Arboretum but *C. kousa* and its Chinese variety, fortunately, are. Unlike the native *C. florida*, these three species flower after the leaves expand and their buds being enfolded within the leaves enjoy a greater measure of protection. In the Arboretum the flowers of *C. kousa* and its variety *chinensis* are of greater bud hardiness than the native *C. florida*, and in consequence are even more valuable garden plants. *C. kousa* does not flower until mid-June or later, and its upstanding heads of rigid slender stalks have a foil of rich green leaves below. The floral heads, each from 5 to 6 inches across, are abundantly produced and last for fully a month finally becoming pink before they fall. The form from Japan to which the specific name belongs has been sparingly in cultivation in the Occident since about 1830. The form from China (var. *chinensis*) was introduced for the Arboretum by Wilson in 1907. The bracts are larger and broader than is usual in the Japanese type and often overlap to form a closed, flattened involucre around the button-like mass of real flowers. Some experts acclaim this the finest gift of China to western gardens; certainly it ranks high in the realm of beauty among hardy flowering trees. The fruit of *Cornus kousa* is red and strawberry-like, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter, and is very attractive in the autumn suspended amid the vari-tinted often vinous purple foliage. It is edible and the orange-colored sweetish pulp is quite palatable though in it are imbedded several large, hard, stony seeds. The native Flowering Dogwood has



Wilson, Ernest Henry. 1928. "Cornus florida rubra." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 2(7), 26–26.

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