

Kolkwitzia amabilis, the Beautybush, is well-named and if anyone doubts this let him view the fine specimen on the left of Bussey Hill Road above the Lilacs. The bush, six years old from seed, is planted in a position where it has room to develop and the result is a fountain-like mass about 7 feet tall and 9 feet through. The stouter branches bend gracefully over and for $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet of their length are laden with cymose clusters of Weigelia-like flowers. The corolla is tubular, pink suffused with white with the throat mottled with orange, and the pedicels and ovary are clad with straight white hairs which give them a cobwebby appearance. Closely related to the Weigelias and Abelia, *Kolkwitzia amabilis* is for this climate hardier, much more satisfactory and more beautiful than either. Native of the higher mountains of central China, where it is exceedingly rare, it was discovered sometime between 1890 and 1895 by Padre Giraldis and introduced into cultivation by seeds collected by E. H. Wilson in the late autumn of 1901. Wilson only met with it once in his travels in China and the flowers were unknown until it blossomed under cultivation in 1910. A canard is abroad that plants of seedling origin do not blossom. The falseness of this will be evident to anyone who sees the specimen now in bloom in the Arboretum. Moreover, all the older plants in cultivation are of seedling origin. Of course, when raised from seed one must wait three or four years until the plant produces shoots sufficiently strong to blossom, whereas when raised from cuttings one starts with flowering wood but even then has to wait several years for a shapely plant. Among the newer introductions from China there is no lovelier flowering shrub of its class than *Kolkwitzia amabilis*.

Rhododendron calendulaceum, the Flame Azalea of the Appalachian Mountains, is now in full bloom. One of the most brilliant members of the Azalea family, the fragrant flowers vary from a rich yellow in var. *croceum* through various shades of orange to deep scarlet in var. *aurantium*. The color tones grade one into another in a pleasing manner. The flowers, borne in umbellate clusters at the end of every branchlet, have a long narrow tube and five spreading lobes from which the stamens and pistil are long outthrust. It is a rather loose-habited shrub from 12 to 15 feet tall and much broader and may be grown successfully either as a specimen bush or in masses. The Flame Azalea has been much planted in many parts of the Arboretum and at the moment its flowers are seen as splashes of color here, there, and everywhere from the driveways; on the westerly slope of Bussey Hill near the old White Pine trees a large area is covered with it.

Lonicera Maackii podocarpa is one of the largest of all the Bush Honeysuckles, being a tree-like shrub 15 to 20 feet tall, flat-topped and broad in proportion. Its white, faintly tinged with pink and passing to yellow, blossoms are borne erect in clusters from the axil of every leaf on the current season's shoot. The leaves, more or less ovate-lanceolate, long-pointed, somewhat hairy, and each about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and 1 to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide, making a delightful foil to the wealth of blossoms. The fruit ripens late and is at its best during the



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