Winter Effects. The vicinity of Boston has enjoyed a mild winter, being more fortunate in this respect than many districts in New England, not to mention more distant parts of the country. The frost at no time penetrated deeply into the ground which is fortunate since the snowfall on the whole was light. In general, the plants in the Arboretum suffered little winter injury, evergreens in particular coming through unscathed. Rhododendrons and other broad-leaved plants never looked better at this season than they do at the moment. In January and February some freak weather was experienced, the temperature rising to an abnormal height which was not without its ill effects. On January 8th the thermometer rose to 64°F. and from February the 20th to the 25th inclusive a daily average of 65°F. was maintained. This excited the flower buds on a number of plants, especially members of the Prunus tribe, and subsequent cold weather killed them. The flower buds on the trees of Prunus yedoensis near Forest Hills Gate and on P. mandshurica on the right hand side of Meadow Road were all blasted; so, too, were the majority on the Siberian Apricot (P. sibirica) and related species growing in the Shrub Garden. The Peach trees in many parts of Massachusetts have suffered badly; these early flowering northern trees are readily excited by warm weather in February and the result, as a rule, is disastrous. The advantage of planting them on high ground is well exemplified by trees of P. yedoensis on Bussey Hill and on Peters Hill, where the display of blossom was never finer, so the lesson is not to choose low land or supposedly warm corners in which to plant these northern spring-flowering trees.

April has been a cool, indeed a cold, month, affording a good planting season but at the moment rain is badly needed; however, the weather is seldom normal and it is remarkable how plants withstand its vagaries. The unprecedented drought of last summer at one time threatened disaster but the net result in the Arboretum is that trees and shrubs of all sorts were never laden with a greater crop of flower buds.