Some of the earliest flowering Apple-trees are already in full bloom and during the next two or three weeks flowers can be seen on some of the species and varieties. Much attention has been paid to these plants at the Arboretum where they are arranged in two groups. The original group is on the right-hand side of the Forest Hills Road going towards the gate. The situation is not a good one, the space is very limited, and a few years ago a second collection was established at the eastern base of Peter's Hill. The plants here are smaller than those in the original group but the number of individuals and of species and varieties is much greater, and here will be found specimens of all the Crabapples that the Arboretum has been able to obtain. The study and proper comprehension of these plants are full of difficulties, for many of the species hybridize so freely that seedlings raised from seeds of cultivated plants rarely produce the original type, and wild plants or seeds from isolated wild plants of the Old World species are almost impossible to obtain. The common Apple-tree of orchards even is now generally believed to be a hybrid between the two European species; the so-called Siberian Crabs of American pomologists are supposed to be hybrids between the Common Apple and the Siberian Malus baccata, and the number of other varieties supposed to be hybrids is large, including two which have already appeared in the Arboretum.

One of the handsomest of all Crabapples, Malus floribunda, is one of the earliest to flower. As it grows in this country it is a broad shrub, with a trunk dividing at the base into several large branches. The pink flowers, which are deep rose color in the bud, turn white before the petals fall and are produced in the greatest profusion. The dark green foliage is abundant but the yellow or orange-colored fruits, which are not much larger than peas, make little show. The origin of this plant is uncertain; it was first sent to Europe from Japan but it is not a native of that country where it was probably introduced from China, although it does not appear to be known in China now in a wild state. By some authors it is considered a hybrid between two of the species of northern China, although it bears but little resemblance to its supposed parents. The largest specimens of this Crabapple will be found in the neighborhood of the Administration Building. A plant which is evidently a hybrid of M. floribunda appeared spontaneously in the Arboretum several years ago and has been named Malus Arnoldiana. It has much larger pink flowers and larger fruit than M. floribunda, and in flower is one of the most beautiful of all Crabapples.

The Crabapple of eastern Siberia, Malus baccata, is a tall narrow tree with white flowers on long, drooping stems and very small yellow fruits from which the calyx falls before the fruit ripens. There is a fine old specimen of this tree in front of the gardener's house in the Harvard Botanic Garden at Cambridge. In the Arboretum a number of forms of this species have been raised. They are distinguished from the Siberian tree by larger pure white flowers and larger fruits than those of M. baccata. Some of these forms are among the most beautiful of the early flowering Crabapples.
*Malus spectabilis* from northern China is a tall shrub or small tree with erect, slightly spreading stems, large pink flowers which in the cultivated plants are more or less double, and medium-sized yellow fruits. This is an old inhabitant of gardens where several forms have appeared. The handsomest of these is known as the Rivers Crab (*M. spectabilis Riversii*) from the English nurseryman by whom it was raised or distributed. The Parkman Crab (*M. Halliana*) owes its name to the fact that it was first cultivated outside of Japan by Francis Parkman, the historian, who received it from there in 1860. It is a small and not very vigorous tree with dark bark and bright, clear pink, semidouble flowers drooping on long, slender stalks. This is a Chinese plant now only known in gardens and long cultivated in those of Japan. It should be in a list of the four or five most beautiful Crabapples. Another handsome plant in this group is *Malus Scheideckeri* which is supposed to be a hybrid between *M. floribunda* and *M. prunifolia*. It is vigorous and fast-growing, with erect stems which form a narrow head, pink and white flowers and light yellow fruits.

Interesting species now well established at the Arboretum are *Malus zumi* from Japan, with pink and white flowers, *M. toringo* from northern China and Japan, and *M. Sargentii* from Japan. The two last flower late, have small flowers in crowded clusters and are distinguished by the three-lobed leaves on the shoots of the year. Unlike all other Crabapples, *M. Sargentii* is a low shrub growing naturally on the borders of salt marshes.

The so-called Siberian Crabapples of pomologists are trees of much ornamental value and are well worth cultivating for the beauty of their flowers and fruits; they are fast-growing trees with straight stems and pyramidal heads, large white flowers, and brilliant, often translucent, red or yellow, long-hanging fruits. The fruit is used in preserves and jellies, and for their fruits these trees are much grown in regions too cold for the successful cultivation of the common Apple. One of the most curious Apple-trees in the collection, *M. Niedzwetzkyana*, has deep purplish red flowers and fruit, even the flesh being purple, purple leaves at least early in the season and dark bark. It comes from central Asia and is probably a form of *M. pumila*, one of the parents of the common Apple-tree, as seedlings raised in the Arboretum have sometimes purple but more often green leaves.

The Apple of the northwest coast (*M. fusca* or *rivularis*), with its distinct oblong fruits, can be seen in the group on the Forest Hills Road and with it a hybrid of this species and the common Apple, which has been named *M. Dawsoniana*. The Crabapples of eastern North America bloom later than the Old World species. They all have large, pink, fragrant flowers, and fragrant, green or yellowish fruit characterized by the sticky exudation with which it is covered. There are large plants of *M. coronaria* and *M. ioensis*, the two common eastern species, in the Forest Hills group opposite the end of the Meadow Road. There are large plants of the southern *M. angustifolia* on Hickory Path opposite the large group of Pterocaryas; and in the Peter's Hill group can be seen flowering plants of *M. glaucescens*, a species recently distinguished in western New York and now known to range along the Appalachian Mountains to North Carolina. The last of the Crabapples to flower is the...
double-flowered form of *M. ioensis*, known as the Bechtel Crab. This tree has double pale pink flowers which look like small clustered Roses, and attract so much attention that the ground around the trees is trodden hard every day by visitors who wish to examine them at close range. There are two trees of the Bechtel Crab opposite the end of the Meadow Road.

The earliest of the American Hawthorns to flower in the Arboretum this year is *Crataegus Arnoldiana*. This is one of the large-leaved, large-flowered, and large-fruit species, and even in winter is easily recognized by its numerous thorns and by the zigzag manner in which its erect branches grow. The flowers open as the leaves expand and the brilliant scarlet fruit ripens toward the end of August and then soon falls. The early ripening of the fruit makes this tree valuable because showy fruits are not common here in summer. *C. Arnoldiana* grows naturally on a wooded bank in the Arboretum and on the Mystic River in West Medford, Massachusetts. When botanists called all American Thorns with red fruits *C. coccinea* or varieties of that species *C. Arnoldiana* was included. There are a number of large plants in the shrubbery on the right-hand side of the Meadow Road, between its junction with the Bussey Hill Road and the Centre Street Gate. There is a plant, too, in the collection of Crataegus between the Shrub Collection and the Parkway, and there are a number of others on the right-hand side of the Meadow Road in front of the group of White Oaks. These trees will be in flower next week.

The earliest flowering plants of *Rhododendron* (Azalea) *Kaempferi* are beginning to show the color of their flowers. There are two large groups of these plants in the Arboretum, one on the left-hand side of Azalea Path and the other on Hemlock Hill Road where they are planted in a long narrow belt between the Hemlocks and the Laurels. The plants on Azalea Path being exposed to the sun flower earlier and fade quickly as the delicate flowers are unable long to resist our sun. This handsome plant is a native of the high mountains of Japan and was first cultivated in the Arboretum where it was raised from seeds collected in 1902 by Professor Sargent. On Azalea Path many of the plants will soon be in full flower, but those in the shade of the Hemlocks will not be at their best probably for a couple of weeks, but when their flowers do open here they will furnish one of the great sights of the Arboretum year.

*Viburnum Carlesii*, a native of Korea, is flowering in the Arboretum for the first time. It appears to be very hardy and promises to be a first-rate ornamental plant here. The flowers are produced in compact clusters and are very fragrant. The open flower is pure white but the bud is pink, and as all the flowers do not open at the same time the contrast between the pink buds and the white flowers adds to the beauty of the cluster. There are small plants of this species in the Viburnum group on the right-hand side of the Bussey Hill Road near the nursery.

The Arboretum will be grateful for any publicity given these Bulletins.