The phenomenal heat of the closing days of May was very trying on open blossoms; those on Bechtel's Crab, Kaempfer's Azalea, Vanhouotte's Spiraea, and some of the Viburnums were scorched on the bushes and are brown and unsightly. *Styrax obassia* and some other plants were forced into bloom and the flowers were over in a few hours. The Hybrid Rhododendrons at the foot of Hemlock Hill are in blossom a week earlier than is usual. On the whole these are flowering fairly well but one could wish that varieties with more pleasing colors than the rank and file of those hardy in the Arboretum could be grown. On Bussey Hill *Enkianthus subsessilis* is hung with bead-like clusters of greenish white blossoms; the typical *E. campanulatus* is past flowering but its variety *albiflorus* is laden with its ivory white flowers. The Sun Roses (*Helianthemum*) deck the ground with white, yellow and pinkish blossoms, and many kinds of Cytisus and Genista are aglow with yellow pea-like flowers. Many Viburnums in the collection on the left of Bussey Hill Road, entering by Center Street Gate, are in full bloom, and so, too, are some of the early kinds of Philadelphus and many Honeysuckles. In the Shrub Garden *Spiraea nipponica* and several other species are in blossom and so, too, are the Scotch Roses, Diervillas, Honeysuckles, Shubby Cinquefoils (*Potentilla*) and many other shrubs. The Rose Acacias in the collection on the right of Meadow Road, where it curves toward Forest Hills Road, are now at the height of their beauty and well worth inspection.

*Chionanthus virginica*, the Fringe-tree, is a most delightful bush or small tree native of Pennsylvania and southward. It is a relative of the Lilacs and blossoms immediately after those of the Common Lilac are past. As usually seen, it is a rounded bush 16 feet tall and more in diameter but under favorable conditions it will make a small tree 30 feet high. The flowers are white, fragrant, and borne in hanging 6- to 10-inch long cymose clusters which develop singly from clustered lateral buds, the terminal bud producing a leafy shoot. The flower-stalks are slender and the inflorescense sways to and fro in the gentlest breeze. Two fine specimens hung with flowers may be seen on the upper end of the Lilac bank.
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 1½ to 2½ 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 Weigelas 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 Giraldi 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. aurantiunum*. 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 1½ to 2½ inches long and 1 to 1¾ inches wide, making a delightful foil to the wealth of blossoms. The fruit ripens late and is at its best during the
The Climbing Hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*)
month of November while the foliage is retained in excellent condition until the first frosts of December put in appearance. This Honeysuckle is a common inhabitant of the thickets and margins of woods in central and western China from whence it was introduced into cultivation in 1900 by E. H. Wilson. It demands plenty of space and where this can be given ranks as one of the most all-round beautiful members of an indispensable family. It is perfectly hardy, very floriferous and free fruiting and its scarlet berries nestling among green leaves are a thing of beauty when nearly all other deciduous leaved plants have shed their foliage.

Syringa Sweginzowii, one of the latest of the true Lilacs to blossom, is now in flower. This is a vigorous shrub from 10 to 12 or more feet tall, with ascending-spreading branches, reddish purple branchlets, and comparatively small ovate leaves. The flowers are pleasantly fragrant, pinkish in the bud, almost white when fully expanded and are produced in broad, loose, erect panicles at the end of every branch and twig. The stems are moderate in size and though nearly upright the habit of the plant is not stiff; indeed, when in full blossom it is graceful and pleasing. Two large plants may be seen in full bloom on the top of the Lilac bank near the Catalpas. Along with them other Lilacs in blossom are S. yunnanensis, S. tomentella, S. reflexa and S. villosa, showing the value of these Lilac species in long extending the season after the Common Lilac and its innumerable varieties have past out of bloom.

Hydrangea petiolaris, the Climbing Hydrangea, is the most vigorous root-climbing vine hardy in the climate of Massachusetts. Its stout stems, clothed with loose shaggy papery bark, put out a multitude of fine roots that hold the vine firmly against wall or tree-trunk. From the climbing stems lateral branches are thrust forth at right angles, each of which terminates in a flattened 6- to 10-inch broad cluster of small flowers among which large white 4-partite blooms are conspicuous. The leaves are plentiful, roundish, bright green and more or less finely toothed. This plant is native of Japan, where it is common on the tops of the highest trees. Under the erroneous name of Schizophragma hydrangeoides, the Climbing Hydrangea has been in cultivation since 1875, but it is only within the last twenty years that its merits have begun to be properly appreciated. It is at home on tree trunks and for a southwesterly, westerly or northerly wall of a brick or stone building it is well adapted but it does not relish concrete. Also it may be grown effectively as a bush if allowed to sprawl over rocks or tree stumps. Pot-grown plants should be purchased since this Hydrangea does not transplant readily from open ground. A fine specimen may be seen on the northern wall of the Administration Building; in the Shrub Garden there is a plant growing in bush form.

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