Bussey Hill is the heart of the Arboretum. From its summit, looking in any direction, extensive views of the Arboretum may be had—with the City of Boston clearly seen in the distance and the Blue Hills in the opposite direction. Around the crown of the hill a rich collection of the newer Chinese plants is accommodated and this is augmented by mass plantings of Azaleas in which every hardy species and variety is well represented. A collection of Japanese Cherries, both single and double-flowered, with Asiatic Pears and Crabapples stud the grassy knoll and help to complete the picture. From the dawn of spring to late autumn there is something of unusual interest to be seen on Bussey Hill. At the moment the Japanese Cherries are the center of attraction. The single forms are at the height of their beauty and will be followed in a few days by the double-flowered sorts, whose tasselled masses of rose-like flowers possess an irresistible charm not always present in double blossoms. The plants are grafted on understocks of the Sargent Cherry and are proof of the value of this Cherry for the purpose. The trees make a good growth every year and unlike their relatives, the Crabapples, do not appear to have off seasons for flowering. This is probably due to the fact that they are not handicapped by the exhausting effect of bearing a display of fruits. So far as memory serves, these Cherries are about as full of blossom this year as they were last, indeed, it would be difficult to place more blossoms on the branches. The site is windswept and for this reason and also in order not to obstruct the general view the aim of the Arboretum is to keep the plants low with spreading crowns, this is accomplished by shortening the more vigorous shoots so soon as the flowers are past. The single forms with white blossoms are chiefly sports and selections from the Oshima Cherry (P. Lanipesiana). A few of the double-flowered forms such as Sirotae and Grielko are also products of the Oshima Cherry, but most of the double sorts planted here are sports of the well-known Sargent Cherry (P. serrulata sachalinensis). The number of these forms is limited but they readily rank as the finest of the whole group of Japanese double-flowering Cherries. One of the
very best is Fugenzo, better known as James H. Veitch, a free flowering double pink form. Somewhat later and of a richer color is Sekiyama or Kanzan, the finest of all the colored forms. Unusually lovely is Albo-rosea, whose blossoms, pink in the bud, are almost pure white when fully open, and hang in clusters along the whole length of the branches. This, like all the double forms of the Sargent Cherry, is very hardy and it has never suffered winter injury in the Arboretum. In the single-flowered Cherries the blossoms are very fugitive and when strong winds prevail, as have been the case this spring, they seldom last more than four or five days. In the double-flowered forms the petals are more tenacious and last in good condition from ten days to a fortnight. Moreover, as they blossom after the single forms are past they lengthen the Cherry blossom season, which in normal years lasts in the Arboretum for about three weeks.

**Forest Hills Entrance** continues gay with blossom. The Pear trees are particularly full and so, too, are several of the Crabapple trees, while near the small pond the European Cherries (*P. Cerasus* and *P. avium*) and their forms are laden with pure white blossoms. The October-flowering Cherry, mentioned in the Bulletin of April 27th, still boasts many blossoms. The lasting qualities of the flowers on this particular Cherry is amazing, especially when one considers the gales that they have endured since they opened during the last week in April. The large tree of *Malus spectabilis*, which last year carried few blossoms, is this year abundantly laden, and so, too, are the trees of the Cherry Crabapple (*M. robusta*) nearby. Perhaps the most striking Crabapple, however, is *M. theifera* with its outthrust branches few in number clad with flowers from base to summit. The habit of this particular tree is decidedly picturesque and in beauty of blossom it is not exceeded by any of its relatives. It is a good species and unlike the rank and file of Crabapples comes true from seed. It has been frequently mentioned in these Bulletins and every year its ornamental qualities become more and more impressive. Unfortunately, its fruits have little color though they are eagerly eaten by birds after they have been frosted.

**Asiatic Crabapples** will be at the height of their beauty when this Bulletin reaches its readers. The main collection, which is accommodated at the foot of Peters Hill, a couple of hundred yards within the Bussey Street Gate, is not flowering so abundantly this year as last, not more than half the trees are blooming. Last year a larger number of trees blossomed but seldom if ever does it happen that all the trees flower freely in any one season. Their free fruiting qualities exercise an exhausting effect and the trees really have to take a year off to recuperate. An exception to this general rule appears to be the Manchurian Crabapple (*Malus baccata mandshurica*) which is the first of the tribe to burst into bloom bearing large pure white fragrant flowers freely each and every season. It is as full this year as it was last and has been equally floriferous for the last five or six seasons. All the forms of *M. floribunda* are flowering
One of the best double-flowered Cherries, Prunus serrulata albo-rosea
and so, too, is the single pink blossomed *Malus micromalus* and the Parkman Crabapple (*M. Halliana*) with semi-double rose-pink flowers. The forms of the Siberian Crabapple with few exceptions are not flowering this year. Strange to say, the Crabapples in the supplementary collection near the Forest Hills Gate and those growing here and there in the Arboretum are abundantly laden with flowers, the seedling forms of *M. floribunda* near the Administration Building being particularly fine. Last year was their off season.

*Malus purpurea* is a comparatively new Crabapple of hybrid origin, which first appeared in France about 1900, and whose parents are supposed to be the Carmine Crabapple (*M. atrosanguinea*) and the purple leaved variety of the Common Apple (*M. pumila Niedzwetzkyana*). It is more free growing than either parent and produces in quantity bright reddish purple blossoms. The leaves have a purplish hue and the wood itself is stained with red-purple, characters which it inherits from its part-parent, the purple form of the Common Apple. It is really a first-class plant and one which ought to be widely planted. It is better colored and its flowers are more perfect in form than those of its parents. This would appear to be the oldest of the hybrids of this race but newer forms such as (*M. purpurea Eleyi* and *M. purpurea aldenhamensis*) are popular in Europe. A similar race of hybrids has been developed by Professor Carl A. Hansen, Brookings, S. D., and his Hopa Crabapple is a really delightful plant, bearing flowers of a pleasing shade of reddish purple. All Crabapples are worthwhile plants, most of them being remarkable for their hardiness and all for their free blossoming qualities. They may be grown wherever the Common Apple flourishes and they love sunshine and free exposure to the wind.

*Viburnum alnifolium* is a lovely native shrub much neglected in gardens and difficult to obtain from nurseriesmen. It is native of mountain woodlands and copses from New Brunswick west to Michigan and south to North Carolina and is first of native shrubs with conspicuous white flowers to blossom. It is a sparsely branched shrub growing from 6 to 9 feet tall with stout shoots and handsome, ovate-cordate leaves, dark green and deeply wrinkled on the upper surface with many prominent nerves on the under surface. The flowers are borne in terminal flattened clusters, each from 2 to 4 inches in diameter, bearing on the outer edge an interrupted ring of large pure white neuter flowers. The central flowers are small, tubular, with prominent greenish yellow anthers. Its clustered flowers are conspicuous from a distance and appearing as they do when most vegetation is bare of foliage they light up the woodland landscape. Like many another waif of the woods it does not transplant readily neither is it easy to establish in gardens. A moist situation suits it best although the oldest plant in the Arboretum is that on a dry bank. There is many an exotic treasured in gardens and offered for sale by nurserymen which is far less beautiful and desirable than the native Hobble-bush or American Way-faring tree, to give its common names.

E. H. W.