The spring and early summer seasons this year have been erratic and provoking; many shrubs and trees blossomed out of season, some of the early ones were late, and the late ones early, the net result being that in no other year have so many blossoms been displayed at one time in the Arboretum. But the season of bloom has been shorter than usual and now at the end of June comparatively few flowers are to be seen. A lush and vigorous growth on tree, shrub and vine and ample and luxuriant foliage are the chief features of the Arboretum at the moment. The copious rains have favored growth and it is a pleasure to walk around and revel in the health and good appearance of virtually everything. The luxuriance of the vines on the trellis in the Shrub Garden and on the walls is really tropical in its richness. Quite apart from its wealth in species of woody plants, the undergrowth in woodland and thicket of New England and the abundance of strong growing vines are the features which always surprise overseas visitors since they are novel and quite absent from the European flora. Indeed, the vigorous and tangled growth of climbing plants suggests the tropics rather than temperate regions.

The rich green of a thousand and one trees and shrubs may be the dominant feature of the Arboretum at the moment but blossoms are by no means absent. Around the ponds, in the meadow and along Bussey Brook the native Sambucus canadensis is covered with its broad corymbs of white, fragrant blossoms. On Bussey Hill several of the Broom family, including the erect growing Genista nigricans, are laden with yellow blossoms. Late flowering Barberries, like Berberis polyantha, B. aggregata, its variety Pratti, and B. thibetica, are in full bloom. The Swamp Honeysuckle (Rhododendron viscosum) and its crimson-stamened relative (R. arborescens) are at the height of their beauty and in the morning and evening especially fill the circumambient air with rich fragrance exceedingly pleasant to the nostrils. The late flowering Spiraea Veitchii is a perfect vase of almond-
scented blossoms. This Spiraea, the last of its tribe to open its flowers, has been mentioned many times in these Bulletins and deservedly so, for it is undoubtedly one of the very best of the tribe.

In the Shrub Garden and on Bussey Hill pink blossomed Indigofera Kirilowii and its white flowered relative (I. decorum alba) are now in full blossom, their upright racemes and relatively large flowers being conspicuous among the soft green foliage. These are two excellent low growing plants suitable for the rock garden or as groundcovers in sunny, well drained situations. In warmer climates they make bushes 3 or 4 feet tall but are possibly less beautiful in that condition. Rose-pink flowered I. amblyantha and its variety Purdomii are in full bloom. The flowers on both these plants are small but abundantly produced and, moreover, the racemes continue to elongate and put forth blossoms over a long season.

The group of Bay Laurel (Rhododendron maximum) under the lee of Hemlock Hill is in blossom. This native species is, of the true Rhododendrons hardy in the Arboretum, the last to open its blossoms. They are small and much hidden among the foliage, nevertheless, this plant is worth growing for its foliage alone and where properly placed in cool, shady spots its handsome leaves are attractive at all seasons. When planted in sunny situations or where it is exposed to dry winds this species suffers from the ravages of Lace-wing Fly more than any other Rhododendron. This pest does much damage to the leaves of Kalmia latifolia and to those of hybrid Rhododendrons in general if they happen to be planted in exposed situations. In the shade and cool atmosphere of woodlands the Lace-wing Fly scarcely puts in appearance, a point of much importance to all interested in the welfare of our finest broad leaved evergreens.

On the left side of Meadow Road the broad group of the Smoke-tree (Cotinus coggygria, better known as Rhus cotinus) is laden with its feathery wigs. This old-fashioned shrub has long been a favorite in gardens but the typical form is much inferior to the variety purpureus which well describes the color of the fuzzy panicled masses of hairs. Many Bush Honeysuckles are fast ripening their yellow and red berries and from now until December there will be in succession species of this tribe bearing ornamental fruits in the Arboretum. Many of the Rose species are past blooming but the Chinese Rosa multiflora cathayensis both on Bussey Hill and in the Shrub Garden is covered with panicled masses of clear pink blossoms in which bright yellow anthers are prominent. This wild parent of Rambler Roses is in itself a highly ornamental climber perfectly hardy and good natured. It is much more showy than its white blossomed relative, the typical R. multiflora. The gray leaved R. multibracteata with its clustered masses of pink blossoms is also in bloom on Bussey Hill. Here and there by the roadsides throughout the Arboretum, and more especially alongside Meadow Road near its junction with Forest Hills Road, the Seashore Rose (R. virginiana) is still in plenteous bloom. For border planting and, indeed, for many other purposes this native
The latest Viburnum to blossom is Viburnum pubescens Carbyi
Rose is well worth attention. Its blossoms, pink and of good size, are fragrant and though fugitive are borne in great profusion. The foliage is good and in the autumn scarlet hips adorn the plants; added to this during the winter season are the naked crimson stems. Its requirements are simple, nothing more being needed than cutting away each year the three year old stems. This with a little extra food results in a border of healthy, floriferous plants.

Viburnum pubescens Canbyi is the last of the Viburnums to blossom. This native species is found throughout Delaware and Pennsylvania and is a large, rounded shrub often 15 feet tall and much more in diameter, dense in growth with leafy branches from the ground upward. The leaves are broadly ovate to rotundate, each from 2 to 2½ inches long and wide, rounded and coarsely toothed, lustrous on the upper and gray-green on the under surface. The flowers borne in erect, flattened, cymose corymbs, each from 2 to 4 inches across are creamy white with prominent anthers. They are followed in the autumn by small, ovoid, blue-black fruits.

Platyosprion platycarpum is flowering in the Arboretum and this is probably the first record of its blossoming under cultivation. A rare Japanese tree, it is found scattered on the mountains from the latitude of Tokyo south and is occasionally met with as a planted tree about temples. Under the various generic names of Sophora, Cladrastis, Stypnolobium and Platyosprion this tree has several times been reported as growing in western gardens but on flowering has always turned out to be Sophora japonica. The plant in the Arboretum is one brought from Japan in 1919 by E. H. Wilson, who secured it from a partially abandoned nursery in Yokohama. Platyosprion is a monotype related to Cladrastis from which it differs in having stipulate leaflets and a pod prominently winged on both margins; the leaflets are also more remotely alternate and the same color on both surfaces. Our plant is only a tall bush but in a state of nature Platyosprion is a tree up to 65 feet tall with a trunk 10 feet in girth, clothed with smooth, pale gray bark; the branches are stout, spreading, forming a more or less flattened crown sometimes 50 feet through. The leaves are stalked, deciduous, many foliolate, each from 6 to 10 inches long, 4 to 6 inches wide; the leaflets are alternate, petiolulate, stipulate, elliptic-lanceolate or ovate, each from 1½ to 4 inches long, ½ to 1½ inches wide, oblique, rounded or cuneate at the base, bright green on both surfaces; the petiole is from ½ to 1½ inches long and sheathing at the base. The pea-shaped flowers are white, very numerous, borne in erect, terminal, much branched, pyramidal panicles, each 10 to 15 inches high and broad, at the end of the current season's growth; the calyx is clothed with appressed, lustrous yellow-brown hairs; the corolla is about ¾ of an inch long with a reflexed, emarginate standard shortly clawed at the base; the wings are oblong, as long as the keel, and the stamens are very slightly united at the base, of unequal length and up-turned at the apex. The fruit is pendulous, flattened, 1 to 3 seeded, oblong, ½ to 3 inches long, narrowed at both ends with prominent marginal wing on either side.

E. H. W.