Mid-September finds the Arboretum sadly in need of rain and although no serious damage has been done by the long continued drought its effects are very apparent. A few late blossoms may be found on bushes here and there in the Shrub Garden and elsewhere; on the trellis and walls the fragrant *Clematis paniculata* is a wreath of white; *Buddleia Davidii* in its different varieties continues in blossom; *Lespedeza formosa* is weighed down with masses of reddish purple, pea-shaped flowers and a few blooms still decorate the Pink Siris (*Albizia julibrissin rosea*) on Bussey Hill. The vines on the trellises and on the walls are a most luxuriant drapery of green and a lovely picture at the moment is afforded by *Polygonum Aubertii*, the Fleece Vine, on the fence near Walter Street Gate. This plant has been in abundant blossom since July 20 and bids fair to remain in bloom until frost. No climber could be more floriferous and for a sunny situation either on trellis, pergola or fence none could be more useful than this newcomer from western China. Fruits of many hues are more conspicuous than blossoms. The Hawthorns on Peters Hill are particularly fine. All interested in this group would do well to pay the collection a visit. Whatever may be said of the multiplicity of species due to the critical study of the genus by botanists during the last thirty years none will deny that among the Hawthorns are some of the most useful as well as the most hardy of ornamental plants. Bits of autumn color are putting in appearance here and there. The leaves of the Woodbine (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) are a brilliant red and some of the Sumacs are displaying their orange, gold and crimson tints. The foliage of the Flowering Dogwood also is assuming its autumn color and bright scarlet clustered fruits nestle among it.

Crabapples at this season show their double value as ornamental plants. The collection at the base of Peters Hill, the plants on Bussey Hill and those on the left just within Forest Hills Gate are now laden with brightly colored fruits and are well worth a visit. Not only are the fruits beautiful but after frosts they afford welcome food to birds,
especially pheasants and their relatives. In all the Asiatic species, varieties and hybrids the color of the fruit is yellow or orange-yellow or some shade of red. Almost without exception each and every sort is worth planting where space permits. Among so much beauty it is invidious to make selection and individual tastes differ considerably. Possibly in fruit the loveliest of all is *Malus toringoides*, a comparatively newcomer from the Chino-Thibetan borderland. In habit this Crabapple is distinctly Hawthorn-like with interlacing arching branches forming a rounded fountain-like crown. The similarity is heightened by the foliage which is more deeply incised and more thorn-like than in any other species. The fruit is pear-shaped, each about \( \frac{1}{2} \) an inch long, bright red on the side exposed to the sun, orange-yellow in the shade and covered with a glaucous, waxy bloom, the combination being singularly beautiful. The fruit, each suspended on a slender stalk, hangs in clusters from base to tip of every branch, the whole set off by the abundant bluish green foliage. The flowers are pure white, open late and are less pleasing than those of some other species, but when in fruit there is no more beautiful Crabapple.

*Malus robusta persicifolia*, the Peach-leaved Crabapple, from northern China is now in full fruit on Bussey Hill. This is a broad, erect-spreading bush some 10 feet high and 15 feet in diameter with long-stalked, lance-shaped leaves, each about 3 inches long, long-pointed and finely serrate along the margin. The fruit is ovoid, about 1 inch in diameter, crimson with a glaucous bloom and produced in great quantity, as in other members of the tribe. A hybrid of unknown origin, probably between the Chinese Apple (*M. prunifolia rinki*) and the Siberian Crabapple (*M. baccata*), this Crabapple was discovered by William Purdom in 1909 when collecting in China for the Arboretum. Purdom sent seeds from which the plants were raised. The distinct peach-like shape of the leaves, the loose habit of growth and its wealth of large fruit make this a very distinct and desirable Crabapple.

The Cotoneaster collection on Bussey Hill is now at the height of its beauty, many of the species being laden with red or black fruits. One of the most beautiful is *Cotoneaster racemiflora soongorica* with gray foliage and ropes of coral-pink fruits. This particular species is also handsome when in blossom. The low-growing *C. horizontalis* with frond-like branches is ripening its red fruits; its relative, *C. apiculata*, of hummock-like habit is liberally sprinkled with large, bright red berries. *C. Dielsiana* and *C. divaricata*, taller of growth, are also worthy of note. Perhaps the most attractive of all the Cotoneasters at the moment is *C. Zabelii miniata* with small clustered brilliant orange-red fruit. It is a graceful plant of twiggy habit with gray-green, oval foliage. This year the Cotoneasters have suffered much from fireblight, more so than in any previous season. No means of controlling this deadly pest is known, the only thing possible is to ruthlessly cut away all infected parts and burn them.

The Viburnum tribe is one of the most all-round useful groups of shrubs. Many are among the most familiar of flowering bushes in late
Cotoneaster racemiflora soongorica has coral-pink fruits.
spring and early summer and others give a great show of fruit at this season of the year. Among the most conspicuous in the Viburnum collection just within Centre Street Gate is the native *V. cassinoides*, a common shrub distributed over a wide area in eastern North America and worthy of more attention at the hands of landscape architects. It varies quite a little in habit; some of the plants have stiff and rigid stems, but in others the branches are slender and drooping. The fruit as it ripens changes from almost white to pink and finally deep blue, all the colors being present in a single cluster. A close relative is the familiar Nannyberry (*V. Lentago*) which has larger leaves, looser clusters of ovoid fruits which as they ripen change to a bright red, blue and finally jet black.

**Viburnum lobophyllum** is a strong growing shrub, ultimately 10 feet tall and some 8 feet in diameter with stout and sturdy, erect-spreading branches. The leaves are broadly ovate, each from 3 to 5 inches long and 3½ to 4½ inches broad, coarsely toothed with the veins prominent on both surfaces. The fruit is globose, bright red, produced many together in loose, flattened clusters which when ripe weigh down the branches. It is a native of central and western China where it was discovered and introduced into cultivation in 1901 by E. H. Wilson. Related species with smaller fruits and less ornamental in character are *V. hupehense*, *V. betulifolium* and *V. ichangense*. It is a curious fact that in this country and in Europe there are no red fruited species of Viburnum other than those of the Opulus group. In eastern Asia, and especially in China where since 1900 a host of new species has been discovered, many have red fruits. Oldest and best known of the red fruited Asiatic species is *V. dilatatum*, which is also now in full fruit. Very remarkable is *V. dilatatum xanthocarπum* with fruit the color of old ivory and unique in the Viburnum tribe. *V. Wrightii* is Japanese and has broad, rounded ovate, deeply veined leaves and large, loose clusters of scarlet fruit. The red fruited High-bush Cranberry, typified by the old-fashioned *V. Opulus*, is a familiar subject but its relative, *V. Sargentii flavum*, with yellow translucent fruit is little known. All these Viburnums and many others may be seen in the group just within Centre Street Gate.

**Evonymus planipes.** Frequent reference to this lovely Evonymus has been made in these Bulletins and rightly so for of all its tribe none is more beautiful. The fruit is scarlet and hangs in clusters suspended on thread-like stalks from the axils of the current season's leaves. Several plants of this Evonymus as well as those of other species are now in fruit in the group facing the Viburnum collection and also on the left side of Meadow Road near the Asiatic Cork trees.

E. H. W.