

isolated individuals has been found, but most of the species are now established here and some of them have bloomed for several years. This year the trees promise to produce an unusually large crop of flowers and a visit to them will be well repaid.

Prunus concinna. This little Cherry, which was discovered by Wilson on the mountains of central China at altitudes above the sea of from twelve to fifteen hundred feet, is the first Cherry to bloom in the Arboretum this year. In its native forests it is a shrub five or six feet tall, but here it is treelike in habit, although only three or four feet high, with a straight stem, and is now as thickly covered with flowers as it is possible for a plant to be covered. The flowers, which appear before the leaves, are in few-flowered clusters and are white with a wine-colored calyx. The red, lustrous, loose bark of the stem of this Cherry is attractive but as a flowering plant it is less valuable than the Japanese *Prunus subhirtella*, under which name it was once distributed by a London nurseryman. *Prunus concinna* can be seen in the collection of Chinese shrubs on the southern slope of Bussey Hill.

Prunus tomentosa. Until this year the earliest of the Cherries to bloom in the Arboretum, *Prunus tomentosa* is a native of China and a shrub only five or six feet high, and when fully grown in abundant space for the spread of its branches often broader than tall. The flowers open from pink buds as the leaves begin to unfold, and the bright red stalks and calyx make a handsome contrast with the white petals. The small fruit ripens in June and is scarlet, covered with short hairs, and is sweet and of good flavor. This shrub is very hardy and flourishes and produces its fruit in dry cold regions like Alberta and the Dakotas, and in such regions it is possible it may develop into an important fruit-producing plant. *Prunus tomentosa* is a native of northern China and was raised in the Arboretum twenty-five years ago from seed sent here from Peking. A form discovered in western China by Wilson (var. *endotricha*) is also established in the Arboretum. This blooms rather later than the northern plant and the fruit is destitute or nearly destitute of hairs. The white-flowered form much cultivated in Tokyo is not in the Arboretum collection.

Prunus subhirtella. This is the Japanese Spring Cherry which Mr. Wilson, after a year devoted in Japan to the study of Cherry-trees, calls "the most floriferous and perhaps the most delightful of all Japanese Cherries." It is a large, low-branched shrub rather than a tree and is not known as a wild plant. This Cherry is much planted in western Japan from northern Hondo southward, but it is not much grown in the eastern part of the Empire and is rarely found in Tokyo gardens. For this reason and as it does not reproduce itself from seed *Prunus subhirtella* is still rare in American and European collections. There are large plants in the Arboretum collection where they have been growing since 1894 and where, covered with their drooping pink flowers, they are objects of wonderful beauty. The value of *Prunus*



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