

other it is orange-red, a color unique in the whole family. On Mt. Omei, a sacred mountain in western China, the Buddhist monks collect the leaves and make an infusion known as Sweet Tea which they sell to pilgrims at much profit. The plant owes its specific name to this use but in gardens it will be valued for its brilliantly colored fruits produced in royal profusion and lasting from mid-September until the end of October. A fine specimen may be seen on Bussey Hill.

**Viburnum lobophyllum** is a bush some 6 to 8 feet tall with stout, ascending stems and broad ovate to roundish, pointed leaves, almost, if not quite, glabrous at maturity, coarsely toothed along the margin and with veins deeply impressed. The ripe fruit is bright scarlet, borne many together in flattened round, 3 to 4 inch broad clusters. The young shoots are clothed with a waxy bloom and the winter buds are hairy and stout. The fruit is larger than that of any other globose-fruited *Viburnum* and hang in clusters which weigh down the branches. Although the leaves fall with little or no change in color the plant throughout the latter half of September until mid-October is a striking object. It is a native of central China from whence it was introduced by Wilson in 1907 through seeds sent to the Arboretum. Very similar is *V. betulifolium*, also from central China, which, however, has smaller leaves and fruits and glabrous winter buds. A third related species is *V. hupehense*, a rounded shrub with ascending-spreading stems 5 to 8 feet tall. The oblong-ovate to ovate or obovate leaves are hairy on both surfaces and in the autumn assume a dull blackish purple color. The fruit is globose, about the size of a small pea, vivid scarlet, borne abundantly in short-stalked, flattened clusters each from 2 to 3 inches in diameter. A Japanese species also found in Korea is *V. erosum*, a twiggy bush of compact habit which seldom exceeds 5 feet in height. The leaves, ovate-lanceolate and shortly stalked, are rough to the touch and the fruit is small, globose and bright red. Neither this nor the closely related *V. ichangense* is of particular garden merit.

**Viburnum Wrightii.** Since quite early in September this has been one of the most strikingly beautiful fruiting shrubs in the Arboretum and will remain so until severe frosts set in. It is a native of Japan and although introduced into cultivation more than a quarter of a century ago is rarely seen in gardens. Its moderately stout stems are ascending and spreading forming a loose, roundish bush some 5 feet tall and from 6 to 8 feet through. The leaves are shortly stalked, broadly ovate, often roundish, and assume dark wine-purple tints before they fall. The fruit is globose, lustrous scarlet, densely crowded in short-stalked flattened corymbs each from 3 to 5 inches in diameter. So heavy is the fruit and so abundantly produced that it weighs the branches down to the ground. This Japanese species is also remarkable for the length of time it retains its fruit and foliage in good condition.

**Viburnum dilatatum** is a sturdy shrub with ascending-spreading branches forming a compact, more or less flat-topped bush from 6 to 9 feet tall and more in width. The branchlets are stout and each and



Wilson, Ernest Henry. 1928. "Viburnum lobophyllum." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 2(17), 66–66.

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