



## Annual Report 1907-1908

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

SIR,

I have the honor to submit the following report on the progress and condition of the Arnold Arboretum during the year ending July 31, 1908.

The reputation of the Arboretum as a scientific garden carried onto increase the knowledge of woody plants by research, experiment, and exhibition is rapidly increasing; but the limit of its development and of its enlargement in usefulness has been almost reached, unless more land for the display of the collections and a larger income for maintenance and for investigation can be obtained. It is possible greatly to extend and improve the Arboretum as a museum of living trees and to broaden the scope of its scientific work. It can easily be made a more beautiful garden and a much more useful establishment than it is, and to do this only land and money are needed. Under existing conditions it has not seemed wise to undertake much new work during the year, and little has been done beyond the care of collections and the improvement of the nurseries. To the nurseries important additions have come from the Arboretum expedition in western China, from which eight hundred numbers of the seeds of woody plants have been received during the year. Among these are the seeds of many plants which have not before been cultivated and several which are new to science. Portions of all of these seeds have been sown at the Arboretum and the rest have been distributed among the best cultivators of hardy plants in the United States and Europe. Nearly all have germinated and many thousand young trees and shrubs now represent here and in Europe some of the results of [Mr. Wilson](#)'s work in China. His large collections of dried plants and of photographs of which he writes with enthusiasm have not yet been received.

Mr. Wilson left Ichang in March and proceeded by boat up the Yang-tse-kiang River, and when last heard from was at Ta-t sien-luin the extreme western part of Szech'uan near the Thibetan [*sic*] boundary. It is too soon to speak of the results of his second year's work, but his last letters report continued success.

The interchange of plants and seeds with other horticultural and botanical establishments has been continued during the year; and probably in no other year since the establishment of the Arboretum have so many valuable plants and seeds been received and sent out. 7,771 plants (including grafts and cuttings) and 6,591 packets of seeds have been

distributed as follows: To the United States, 4,787 plants and 847 packets of seeds; to Canada, 350 plants; to Chile, 8 packets of seeds; to Great Britain, 2,379 plants and 3,859 packets of seeds; to the continent of Europe, 255 plants and 1,854 packets of seeds; to Australia, 10 packets of seeds; to New Zealand, 2 packets of seeds; to South Africa, 11 packets of seeds. There have been received during the year 3,706 plants and 1,893 packets of seeds: of these 2,382 plants and 599 packets of seeds came from the United States; 623 plants and 48 packets of seeds from Great Britain; 701 plants and 48 packets of seeds from the continent of Europe; 7 packets of seeds from Chile; 1 packet of seeds from New Zealand; 39 packets of seeds from India; and 1,279 packets of seeds from China (Wilson). During the year 5,719 sheets of dried plants have been added to the herbarium; among the most important of these are collections from the Balkan Peninsula (440 sheets), from the Philippine Islands (784 sheets), from Korea (279 sheets), Scandinavian Willows (175 sheets), and North American *Crataegus* (1,575 sheets). 1,200 sheets of dried plants have been distributed.

During the year the Arboretum [Library] has received by gifts 2,503 bound volumes.

During the year instruction in dendrology has been given at the Arboretum by [Mr. Jack](#) to students of landscape gardening from the [Massachusetts] Institute of Technology, University students in forestry, and to a class of eighteen special students, principally teachers.

Work on the [Bradley Bibliography](#) and on a catalogue of the library has made satisfactory progress during the year.

I take this opportunity to express again my thanks to the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture for their annual grant for the maintenance of the Arboretum, and to the members of the Visiting Committee for their interest and assistance.

C. S. SARGENT, Director.