



Annual Report 1909-1910

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 June 30, 1910.

The new work which has been undertaken and accomplished on the grounds during the year has been for the improvement of the old natural woods and for the extension of groups already established, and has not materially changed the appearance of the Arboretum. 1,037 species and varieties of trees and shrubs have been permanently planted during the year. Of these a large part are new to the collection. The Chinese plants raised from the seeds collected during the Arboretum expeditions to China are the most interesting feature of the nurseries. Among them is probably the largest number of new hardy plants which has been introduced at one time into the United States. As a slight return for their interest in the work of the Arboretum some of the most interesting of these young Chinese plants have been sent to those subscribers to the fund to increase the income of the Arboretum who have cared to experiment with them. This general distribution of these plants promises to increase our knowledge of their adaptability to the climate of the eastern United States and of their value for general cultivation. Nearly 3,000 plants have been sent out under this arrangement.

[Mr. Wilson](#) returned to the Arboretum from England at the end of the last academic year and remained here, arranging his collections, until April. He then returned to western China under an arrangement with the Arboretum to collect the seeds of conifers and other plants which he was unable to secure during his previous journey. He expects to return to the Arboretum in April or May of 1911.

[Mr. Purdom](#) has carried out the programme prepared for him before he left the Arboretum for Peking in February, 1908. His first season, passed in regions not particularly rich in woody plants, produced a fair return. He reached the high mountain region of southern Shensi in the early spring of 1910, but of the results of his second season's work it is still too soon to speak.

The addition to the Hunnewell Building described in my last report has been finished and is entirely satisfactory. The herbarium has been installed in its new quarters and the slow work of rearranging the library under a classified system of subjects is progressing.

To the herbarium have been added during the year 6,150 sheets of dried plants and 939 sheets have been distributed to other institutions.

The library now contains 22,525 bound volumes, 1,950 volumes and 283 pamphlets having been added during the year.

The interchange of plants and seeds with other horticultural and botanical establishments has been continued during the year. 7,292 plants, including grafts and cuttings, and 365 packets of seeds, have been distributed as follows: To the United States, 6,649 plants and 92 packets of seeds; to Great Britain, 411 plants and 211 packets of seeds; to the continent of Europe, 232 plants and 62 packets of seeds. There have been received 1,006 plants and 530 packets of seeds; of these 430 plants and 156 packets of seeds came from the United States; 210 plants and 9 packets of seeds from Great Britain; 366 plants and 142 packets of seeds from the continent of Europe; 42 packets of seeds from Japan; and 181 packets of seeds from China (Purdom, 173; Wilson, 8).

During the year instruction in dendrology has been given at the Arboretum by [Assistant Professor Jack](#) to University students in forestry and to a class of twenty-six special students, principally teachers.

Under a contract with the Riverside Press the printing of the [Bradley Bibliography](#) has been commenced and about half of the first volume is already in type. The work on the catalogue of the library and on the catalogue of the living collections 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 to increase the knowledge of trees, and to the members of the Visiting Committee who have been active and successful in enlarging the income of the Arboretum.

C. S. SARGENT, Director.