



THE CHUCK MEI, AN ORNAMENTAL CHINESE SHRUB FOR THE SOUTH. (LOROPETALUM CHINENSE (R. BR.) OLIVER, S. P. I. No. 46424.)

This small shrub related to the witch-hazel was found by Mr. Meyer growing in rather sterile soil among the rocks and even in open pine forests in Hupeh Province, China. It is called by the Chinese the *chuck mei*. The white flowers, which literally cover the bushes very early in spring, make them look like banks of snow at a distance. There is considerable variation in the whiteness of the flowers, however, ranging from pure white to greenish white. (Photographed by F. N. Meyer, near Miaochien, Hupeh, China, April 14, 1917; P12421FS.)