



FIG. 2073. RUSSIAN COLUMBINE (*AQUILEGIA OXYSEPALA*).
(Photo. by F. T. Shutt.)

Japanese quince (*Pyrus Maulei*) is another hardy shrub which should be in every garden where *Pyrus Japonica* is not hardy. The flower buds of this species have never been injured by winter here and the flowers are large and of several shades of red. It blooms about the middle of May.

In the year 1887 a large collection of seeds was obtained from St. Petersburg, Russia. Among these was a Columbine which came under the name of *Aquilegia oxysepala*. This species, which has been grown here for fourteen years, is still as fine as when first introduced. The flowers are very large and are of a rich shade of bluish-

purple. The plant is a very free bloomer and as it flowers early in the second week of May, when there are few other plants in bloom, except bulbs, it is especially desirable. Most columbines are difficult to keep pure, as they cross very readily, but as this species blooms so early it is self fertilized.

We had good success this year in forcing parrot tulips in the house and have decided that we shall never be without them in the future. They do not make very good pot plants, as they are not stiff enough, but as cut flowers they are fine, the blooms lasting for two weeks if the room is not too warm. They are more difficult to force than the