

Civic Improvement

A DEPARTMENT DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES OF ONTARIO, AND OF ALL OTHER BODIES INTERESTED IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SURROUNDINGS OF OUR CANADIAN TOWN AND COUNTRY HOMES.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT NOTES.

BY THE EDITOR.

A CANADIAN FLAG AS A PRIZE TO SCHOOLS.

THE plan of enlisting the children in the improvement of their grounds is truly a most worthy one. Mr. G. R. Patullo, of Woodstock, our field secretary, originated a plan of giving a Canadian flag in each district to the public school making the greatest improvement in the grounds and surroundings of the school buildings during the summer of 1903.

A VISTA WHICH IS WORTH MORE THAN FLOWERS AND CARPET BEDDING.

THERE are few people who do not appreciate a fine landscape, or a pretty view half hidden by tasteful plantings of shrubbery and trees, and yet not one in twenty is able to analyse the picture into its component parts, or, given the ground work, to so dispose the plantings of trees, shrubs and climbers as to create a picture. To do this one must not only be an observant student of nature, but must also have an artistic genius.

About Hamilton, with the bay on the north and the water inlets on the west and the mountain on the south there is material

that could be worked into most delightful park scenery by a landscape gardener, with comparatively little expenditure.

There is a fad with some gardeners for ribbon bedding, and there are places where perhaps a ribbon bed may be the most appropriate thing, as in a small city lot which is too small to be treated for landscape effect: but in large pleasure grounds, or in a public park, such work is entirely out of place.

PARK MAKING IN CANADA.

FREDERICK G. TODD, of Montreal, Quebec, has been selected to prepare plans and assist in drawing up reports for the future improvement of Ottawa as the Canadian capital. The commission recently appointed by the Dominion government to prepare a report on this work intends to acquire large areas of land for park purposes both inside and outside of the present city limits, and to lay out a connecting system of boulevards. The magnificent situation of the Parliament buildings, and the fact that the government owns a large part of the rugged and picturesque shores of the Rideau river, which runs through the