

city. The number of green and hot-houses in and about the city has of late very much increased, and is still increasing; and a very lively interest is being taken by their owners in adding to the extent and attractiveness of the Horticultural Exhibitions. The number of visitors throughout the day, particularly in the evening, was very much greater than usual, a circumstance that must act beneficially on the income of the Society, which needs, and is highly deserving of augmentation. A few years ago, the Exhibitions mainly depended upon a small number of nurserymen for green-house and store plants, but now by far the largest quantity is contributed by gentlemen resident in the vicinity, who employ gardeners distinguished for skill and ability, whose productions would take rank by the side of those which characterize similar Exhibitions in Europe. We have no space for details, and must content ourselves mainly with a few general remarks. Among the splendid collection of green-house and stove-plants, the following were conspicuous:—*Euphorbia Splendens*, *Swansonia Purpuria*, *Meyeria Erecta*, and *Combretum Purpureum*, from the conservatory of the Hon. S. B. Harrison, who also exhibited some very fine orchids, the singularity of whose growth attracted much attention. The collection of calceolarias was of a very high order of merit, chiefly contributed by Hon. J. C. Morrison, Mr. Killaly, and Mr. McPherson; the latter also sent a magnificent orange-tree in full blossom, with several large and apparently ripe fruit, which elicited universal admiration, and the perfume of which was delicious. Some very fine roses were contributed by Mr. Morrison and Mr. John Gray, of the Lakeview Nursery. Mr. Fleming of the Yonge Street Nursery had some very fine Carnations and Azalias, and his Pansies were said by competent judges to be quite unsurpassed in this country. A peach-tree in full bearing, with some of its fruit well ripened, from the hot-house of Mr. W. H. Boulton, attracted much attention; and there was quite a number of apples, in an excellent state of preservation, chiefly contributed by the President, Hon. Mr. Allan, and Mr. Stibbard. Mr. J. D. Humphreys contributed two large dishes of mushrooms, which could hardly be surpassed anywhere. In early spring vegetables, such as sea-kale, carrots, potatoes, asparagus, &c., the

show was much better than we expected, considering the backwardness of the season; quantity, if small, was fully compensated by superior quality. A curiosity in its way was a large and well grown specimen of a *Chiriyam*, (*Dioscorea Batatas*), exhibited by J. Harrison. A few years ago, the Board of Agriculture imported some small tubers of this root and distributed them for trial. Hopes were held out that they would prove a substitute for the potato, but results, as so far obtained here and in Europe, go to show that such expectations are not likely to be realized.

Hamilton Horticultural Society's Exhibition.

MR. EDITOR,—Knowing you to be interested in all the Cultures, I cannot allow our late Horticultural Exhibition held here on the Queen's Birth day to pass unnoticed. I can assure Sir, the display was an excellent one, particularly of Fuchsias, Geraniums and Calceolarias. There was also forward a good collection of Green House and stove plants, including a very fine new and rare foliage plant. As I have seen the prize list it is unnecessary for me to go into its details. The Begonias from the gardens of John Brown, Esq., and W. P. MacLaren, Esq., were beautiful. Mr. Brown's *Begonia Rex* B. Marshallen, and B. Z. thina, carried off the prize; Mr. MacLaren's *Begonia Griffithi*, B. *Argenta Ramit* from the gardens of the same gentlemen were two collections of very fine foliage plants. The Varieties from Mr. MacLaren's that took prize were *Coleus Clumei*, *Cissus discolor*, *Maranta bicolor*, *Caladium chantini*, *Aspidistra elatior* and *Croton variegatum*; Mr. Brown's were *Pavetta borbonica*, *Maranta alba* L., *Maranta Tiberina*, *Cissus discolor*, *Mussaenda frondosa* and *Caladium chantini*.

The prize Fuchsias, Geraniums and Calceolarias were from the gardens of John Young, Esq., R. Juson, Esq., W. P. MacLaren, Esq., John Brown, Esq., and were all very creditable to the growers, particularly the Calceolarias which were very fine. The Fuchsias were admired for their height and profuse bloom. I really think, Mr. Editor, you will have to our gardeners a wee bit of advice on the care of Fuchsias and Geraniums, for if they go on they have been doing, there will be no room for either head or side room for them. That is accounting for taste, but I am inclined to think if you could advise them to be satisfied with height, and to go more on the dwarf system, they would bestow on them a favor. Were they to be confined to less and equal sized plants, both for the Fuchsias and Geraniums, I think