

OUR AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

between 60 and 70, and so pleased was every one of them, that all would become members for next year, and he would not be surprised if 100 additional names could be secured. Anyone who wished to give his name as a member should at once call on Mr. Joseph Barker, the Secretary of the Society, on himself, or any of the directors. The chairman also spoke of the advantages to be derived by the town, when citizens joined hands for the common purpose of adding beauty to our surroundings, whether it be in the orchard, the flower or vegetable gardens. This was the object of the Horticultural Society, and such being the case, very many of our citizens would be glad to give a helping hand.—Kincardine "Reporter," Sept. 23rd.

Annual Flower Show.

DURHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—On Monday afternoon and evening last, (Oct. 00) thanks to the efforts of the Directors and Secretary, and many sympathetic members of the Horticultural Society a floral exhibit was made in the Town Hall which surprised even the greatest enthusiast in our midst. "Well done Durham," "Who would think Durham could show this," "Isn't it lovely," "Its just splendid," where some of the expressions used to faintly express the delighted feelings of the onlookers. We have heard many regrets from those who were unable to be present, those who forgot! and from those who didn't know! and it is certain that if anything of the kind is again attempted, a rush may be expected.

Mr. Gorsline, Mr. Firth, Mr. Arrowsmith and Mr. Thomas Brown were some of the chief workers, and they had a busy day of it collecting, and their labors were rewarded by the splendid exhibit. Perhaps with so much to do it was to be expected that some would be overlooked, but it was unfortunate, that some who had cut their best flowers by request should be forgotten in the collection. Next time a better system will prevent this little mistake.

Shall we attempt it? To describe the scene? Likely to be a failure, and our own account of necessity must be brief, the limitations being the lack of a Linnaean temperament and the abundance of our botanical ignorance.

A platform about 12 feet wide and 24 feet long was improvised on the top of the seats in the centre of the hall, and every part of this was covered with forms of beauty. Along the centre were ranged the larger plants forming the background of the banks of flowers on all sides. In front and nearest the spectator were bouquets of cut flowers arranged with effectiveness as to color and variety. Here were found rich hued dahlias, beautiful asters and petunias and the sweetest of sweet peas. Some modest ferns interspersed, were suggestive in their green beauty of the coolness of their native home, as the evening was a warm one.

Geraniums were a large display and some brilliant specimens were seen, though one or two would stand some pruning to advantage. The tender drooping fuchsia hung gracefully, the gaudy gladioli glared their gladness and made the fiery cockscombs blush the deeper. Variegated phlox Drummondii made a bewitching display and the tuberous begonias captured all eyes. Over all this waved the fronds of the feathery palms, five kinds of which came from the greenhouse of Mr. Kelly. At each end of the centre row stood on guard large specimens of the harsh yet curious cactus, while were seen, first time for many specimens of cactus grafting, done by naturalist Firth. A profusion of "rat tails" grew out of a corn cob variety, and other fantastic specimens of the spiny tropical plant was there.

Of curious there was no lack. Here was the Norfolk Island pine, almost like our balsam, the Australian silk oak, whose slender form did not suggest the ruggedness with which we associate the oak, a ginger plant, a banana tree doing well far from home, plants called dracena and acacia and the fleshy-leaved rubber plant, all being supplied by the enthusiastic florist Mr. Kelly. Mr. Thos. Brown showed a lemon tree 22 years old, which, two years ago, had undergone a life and death struggle with king frost but was victorious; he had also a tobacco plant.

The band delighted the ear while the sense of sight and smell were being gratified.

Many specimens of plants from seeds supplied by the Society were shown.—*Durham Review*.

Desoronto Horticultural Society.

The Desoronto Horticultural Society was organized in December last, under the Agricultural and Arts Act, 1895, and is therefore less than a year old; but although young, it is a strong and active Society, and has been doing something ever since it started. This year it has already made three distributions of seeds, plants and bulbs worth more than double the membership fee; it has given lectures and has had valuable papers read at its meetings, most of which have been published in the Tribune; it has distributed good and interesting literature on horticultural and entomological subjects and has advocated the best and most approved methods of combating and overcoming fungus and insect diseases of plants and trees. The directors had some doubts as to the advisability of holding a flower show this fall; and they had many reasons against it, amongst which were the youth of the Society, the inexperience of many of the members in preparing plants for show, the failure in the growth of numerous plants owing to extremes of temperature throughout the summer, and the lateness of the season. But they decided that if the flower show was to be an annual affair, the first year of its existence should