

loured double varieties belonging to Mr. Boulton. Verbenas possessed nothing remarkable, and the Calceolarias, perhaps not above the average of former years. Mr. James Fleming had some very beautiful specimens of pinks and tulips,—and his artistically combined bouquets commanded universal admiration. In consequence of the backwardness of the season, the roses were but few and mostly indifferent,—Mr. John Gray's usual rich collection being absent, was a marked falling off of the show. The vegetables were as numerous as could be expected, considering the drought and cold that has prevailed for several weeks, their quality generally denoted skilful culture.

There can be no doubt that the Toronto Horticultural Society has been largely instrumental in improving the taste and increasing the domestic comforts of a large number of people—the occupiers of the cottage and the stately mansion—and we trust that it and other similar organizations throughout the country, will continue to receive increasing support.

The following remarks were made by the Judges, Messrs. D. Murray, C. Meston, and W. Hill, of Hamilton, in their Report:—

"The judges, while they think that the entries are not so numerous as might be expected, are highly gratified with the exhibition, and discern unmistakeable signs of progress. They would specially notice as worthy of recommendation:

"In the Floral Department, the whole of the stove and greenhouse plants, including many rare and well-known specimens.

"The two collections of orchids, Nos. 10 and 49, these they consider the great distinguishing feature of the exhibition, including, as they do, some of the rarest and most beautiful of this class, and forming without doubt the best collection ever exhibited in this Province.

"The fancy geraniums exhibit signs of careful cultivation.

The foliage plants would be worthy of a place in any exhibition. Some of the specimens are entirely new and most magnificent; amongst a very fine *Cyanophyllum Magnificum* is particularly deserving a notice.

The six petunias (No. 88) could not be surpassed in Canada.

"In the fruit department, the collection of apples (No. 106), and the nectarine tree in full bearing (No. 94), are deserving of notice.

"And amongst the vegetables, the asparagus and sea kale are the most deserving."

Hamilton Horticultural Society.

We had the pleasure of spending Her Majesty's birth-day at Hamilton, on the occasion of the first exhibition of the present year of the Horticultural Society. The day was fine, and business in the city being suspended, everything assumed a holiday appearance. Having an hour or two to spare before the opening of the show, Dr. Craigie kindly conducted us through the gardens and conservatories of Messrs McLaren, Kennedy and Brown; gentlemen occupying extensive and highly picturesque villas on the slope of the ridge, or, as it is here designated, the "mountain," and commanding beautiful and extensive views both of land and water. We had time for a mere glance only of the tastefully laid out grounds, most of which, well as several others in this vicinity, were designed and executed by the late Mr. Mundie, whose skill and good taste in landscape gardening many places in Canada afford a happy illustration. Whether we look for flowers and fruit under glass or in the open air, these establishments are alike creditable to the skill of the gardeners who conduct them, and the liberality and taste of their enterprising owners. In the expense of bringing this rough and stubborn soil into so high a state of beauty and productivity must have been very great, and the qualifications of those who planned and conducted the operations not less so.

The Show, particularly the floral department, was exceedingly good, but the vegetables in the open air were, in consequence of the backwardness of the season, few and inferior. Geraniums were truly splendid, both as to form and varied beauties of color. The culture of these fine flowers does great credit to the skill and attention of their producers. We have never seen such magnificent fuchsias before this side the Atlantic as those which characterized this exhibition. Several of them were 10 to 12 feet high, well proportioned, like the geraniums, very luxuriant, and the florescence rich and varied. Calceolarias rather numerous and, upon the whole, good, but it was said not quite equal to what Hamilton growers usually produce. Of the plants there were several excellent specimens, and also ferns, both native and foreign.