

On the platform were some gorgeous specimens of vegetation. Wherever a position was to be had that could add dignity to the surroundings a magnificent tropical or greenhouse plant or tree was to be found.

A rubber tree of about seven feet in height with its bright olive green, leathery leaves was a point of admiration. Others as beautiful tho not so large filled positions no less inferior.

A branch of a peach tree laden with ripe fruit (24 peaches in a cluster), caused many to stop and make the enquiry, "Can such peaches as these be grown in Kincardine?" Mr. E. Miller is the grower. A snap shot was taken of the prolific branch.

A very large agapanthus in full bloom was a much admired plant. In the center of the platform was a tall and graceful spike of campanula with its scores of bell shaped mild lilac flowers. A tripod with a beautiful jardiniere just visible through a maze of asparagus sprengeri, and a grand vase with choice asters held prominent positions. These with castor beans, sword ferns, cacti, etc., rendered the platform a "thing of beauty." Some music to enliven and cheer the admiring spectators was given by the Misses Smith and Henry on the piano.

Woodstock.—Another very successful garden meeting of the Horticultural Society was held last night at the residence of Mr. Wm. Grey, Graham street. The attendance was unusually large, proving that the holding of garden monthly meetings brings out more members and their friends than when the meetings are held in the Council chamber. Those present at last night's meeting spent a very pleasant hour between seven and eight o'clock, seeing Mr. Grey's vegetable, fruit and flower garden, and walking about his well-kept lawn. The distinctive characteristic of Mr. Grey's flowers is that a considerable proportion are old-fashioned or those that were common a quarter of a century or more ago. Many of these are now popular in the most modern gardens and they were seen last night with evident pleasure. Several evening primroses attracted general attention as they came into bloom while looking at them. But Mr. Grey's fruit and vegetable gardens are quite equal to his flowers, and he has an abundant crop.

At eight o'clock the regular monthly meeting was held in the spacious parlor. The chief business was the making arrangements for the forthcoming horticultural exhibition. The President reported for the committee in charge that they had selected the market building as the place for holding the

exhibition, and this was approved by the meeting. It was also decided to hold the exhibition on Wednesday and Thursday, the 20th and 21st of August. A large committee to carry out all the arrangements was then appointed, including the following: Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Hoare, Mrs. H. J. Finkle, Mrs. Dawson and Miss Moyse, together with the President, Secretary and Messrs. Woodroffe, Richmond, Sproat, Calender, Hoare and Dawes. This committee will meet at an early date.

THE FIRST SOCIETY.

The President, on behalf of the Society, thanked Mr. Grey for his kind invitation to hold the meeting on his grounds and for the pleasure which had thereby been afforded the members of the Society and their friends. He also requested Mr. Grey to give a sketch of his horticultural experiences in Woodstock and of the formation of the first horticultural society. The latter, Mr. Grey explained, was formed, according to his recollection, some time in the forties. The late J. T. Cottle was a prominent member, and the first exhibition was held in his house, then a frame one, which subsequently gave place to the brick structure known as Altadore. Two subsequent exhibitions were held, the latter being a failure. After that the Society seems to have collapsed, but it was revived in the fifties, and if we recollect aright, also in the late seventies, prior to the formation of the present organization later on. Mr. Grey mentioned a Mr. Jones, a blacksmith in the east end, as one of the pioneer settlers who indulged in flowers. The gentry, a large number of whom were located in Woodstock and vicinity at that time, had also creditable flower gardens. The Cottle's, the Ladies of the Graham family, George Alexander, Deblaquires, Vansittarts, General Murray and others cultivated flowers and helped to give an impetus to their general cultivation in the then "clearing" and subsequent village, town and city of Woodstock. Mr. Grey also mentioned the formation of the first Agricultural Society, whose exhibition was held for some time on the Bettridge property below Riddell street, later on what is now Victoria Park, then to the grounds west of the present C. P. R. railway, and finally to the present fair grounds on the Alexander property north of the city.

Mr. Grey's story was listened to with interest and pleasure by those who heard him last night, and at the close he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. The serving of light refreshments by the venerable host, and Miss Sharp brought to a close an unusually interesting meeting of our local Horticultural Society.