

## Our Affiliated Societies.

WOODSTOCK. The once hospitable doors of old Knox church were thrown open last night for the first time since the old church was deserted by its congregation for their new building. The days of the old church are numbered, and in a short time it will be torn to the ground, but even in its palmiest days it seldom presented a brighter appearance than it did last night. If Knox were an Irish church anyone might have supposed on seeing the lights and the flowers and hearing the music that "Sure, it must be a wake, plaze yer honor," being held in honor of the passing away of the old church, but as Knox is not Irish, a more prosaic explanation must be found in the fact that the Horticultural Society had rented the building to hold their annual exhibition of flowers and fruit.

The society were very happy in their choice of a building, as the church lends itself well to purposes of decoration. The exhibit this year was also an exceptionally fine one, and a great deal of artistic taste has been displayed in the arrangement of the great variety of plants and flowers. The galleries were draped in red, white and blue bunting, which formed a very effective background for the green foliage of the plants. The draping, by the way, was done by Mr. Smith, of John White & Co. Between the posts of the gallery hanging baskets were suspended and Chinese lanterns.

The centre of the building was occupied by a large rectangular bed, composed of palms, foliage plants, geraniums, etc., and banked with ferns. Two large banana palms belonging to Mr. J. S. Scarff, and a handsome palm, the property of Mrs. J. J. Hall—the latter is for sale—were the most notable features of this bed.

The pulpit was elaborately decorated, and, if there are sermons in flowers as well as stones, many eloquent sermons must have been preached last night. A very handsome rubber plant, the property of Mr. W. H. Van Ingen, occupied the centre of the reading desk, baskets of asparagus spengari, belonging to Mr. Hoar and Mr. Thos. Douglas, Brock street, were placed at the sides and in front, while clusters of golden rod and sun-flowers gave the needed touch of color.

A long table placed across the front was devoted to cut flowers, as were also two tables at the back of the building. Along the sides stands were arranged on which were displayed the different exhibits.

### CUT FLOWERS.

The display of cut flowers was a very fine one. Conspicuous amongst these were the large bouquets of geraniums, salvias and petunias that were brought from the garden at the Central school. There were also some fine specimens of asters, gladioli, zinnias and other seasonable flowers.

There was not a very large display of fruit, but it was of a very fine quality. Mr. John McLean had an assortment of plums and pears a number of baskets of which were offered for sale and disposed of before the evening was over. Mr. Jas. Cantfield showed pears, plums and peaches. Mrs.

H. J. Finkle, grapes and plums; Mr. J. S. Scarff, grapes.

Doyle & Son have a splendid display of plants of different varieties. Their ferns are exceptionally fine. A great many beautiful specimens of the Boston and maidenhair fern were shown. In fact, one large stand was devoted solely to these varieties. Another large stand was occupied by palms, begonias and geraniums. This exhibit is worthy of special attention from all horticultural enthusiasts.

Amongst the private collections Mr. Jas. Scarff showed the greatest number of plants. Nearly the whole south side of the building was occupied by his exhibit. Mr. Scarff has devoted most of his energy to begonias, and had a great variety of fancy-leaved, tuberous rooted and rex begonias. He also showed some fine foliage plants.

Mrs. George McPherson's exhibit was a beautiful one, and included a great variety of different plants, probably more variety than any other exhibit. Besides a lot of cut flowers, she showed a fine specimen of the day lily in full bloom, palms of several different kinds, begonias, a century plant and cacti. All looked in the pink of condition, and showed signs of care from a practiced hand.

Mrs. John Pascoe showed two fine specimens of begonias in full bloom and with fine foliage.

Mrs. Hoar supplied a number of hanging baskets, one of asparagus spengari deserves special mention, and also two large stone vases of trailing nasturtiums.

Mr. D. C. Richmond exhibited hanging baskets and two large pots of varied flowers.

A window box belonging to Mrs. H. J. Finkle excited a great deal of admiring comment. It is ten or twelve feet in length and is filled with a great variety of plants, cordylina, foliage plants, geraniums, petunias, etc., forming one of the handsomest window boxes to be found in the city.

Mr. C. R. Reid's collection of cacti was an interesting study. He possesses a great many varieties of these freak plants and not satisfied with nature he has brought art to bear upon them and has grafted different varieties of cacti on to each other. One plant has specimens of six different varieties grafted on to its stem, forming a curiosity that it would be difficult for a botanist to name.

Thomas Douglas, Brock street, had an exhibit of great variety. He showed a campanula persicaefolia in full bloom and of great beauty, the only plant of that variety shown. It is placed in a conspicuous position in front of the pulpit and should not be missed by anyone. Mr. Douglas also shows a magnificent sweet-scented geranium, an asparagus fern of exceptional beauty, and a basket of asparagus spengari.

The pleasure of looking at the flowers was very much enhanced by the excellent impromptu concert that was given during the evening. A pianauto, operated by Mr. D. W. Karn, gave a great variety and number of selections and the following well known vocalists rendered solos in