

ANNUAL EXHIBITION, SEPTEMBER, 1894.

AN EXCELLENT DISPLAY AT THE VICTORIA RINK—THE PROCEEDS FOR THE BENEFIT
OF THE HOSPITALS.*(Montreal Gazette, September 12, 1894.)*

With something like 1,200 exhibits of products of the floral and vegetable kingdoms, aided by a large quantity of bunting and a hard-working committee, the Montreal Horticultural Society and Fruit Growers' Association of the Province of Quebec has succeeded in transforming the Victoria Skating Rink into what should certainly prove a very attractive and popular spot during the present week. It is the Society's annual exhibition, and that organization has undoubtedly done its share towards making the event a success. It now only remains for the flower-loving public, which may be said to include everybody, to show their appreciation of the Society's efforts to give them a first-rate exhibition. The show will remain open until Saturday, and, beyond the excellence of the exhibits, the Society may justly claim to be deserving of all patronage, for it has magnanimously decided to donate the gross proceeds of one day to the General and Notre Dame hospitals, half to each.

The prize money is the largest ever offered by the Society, and this has had the effect of bringing together, at least in the floral section, a display that has never been surpassed in the history of the organization.

From the roof of the rink depends an aggregation of bunting that, with the festoons of greenery that run from side to side of the building and adorn the galleries, produces an effect that is decidedly pleasing. The central portion of the floor is occupied with a grand display of ferns, foliage plants, and plants in bloom, the whole arranged in a manner well calculated to convey to the visitor the idea of walking through a magnificent garden. Surrounding these, and arranged on tables, are the cut blooms, fruit and vegetables. Taking first the floral section, which to the ordinary observer is the most attractive, it may be said that the collection is one which will delight the casual observer as well as the professional florist, the former by reason of its beauty and neatness of arrangement, and the latter by the excellence of the blooms and foliage, as well as the symmetry of the plants. It is a collection with which none but a pessimist would find fault. There is a good collection of crotons, all of them as showy as ever, and those who have a penchant for caladiums will find some fine specimens. The begonias—seedlings, tuberous and foliage—are a really excellent lot, and one that it would be hard to beat, being fine in both bloom and