

## OUR AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

inaugurate the institution, and the citizens of Deseronto are very much indebted to them for that decision.

The directors and officers are deserving of great credit for the prompt manner in which they acted upon their decision. Their first meeting on the subject was held on Saturday evening, 18th Sept. On Monday morning the prize list and rules were in the hands of the printers, by Thursday morning following they were printed and bound and by Friday they and the complimentary tickets were in the hands of the citizens.

The show was held in Union Hall on Friday afternoon, from 3 until 6, and in the evening from 7 until 9. The hall was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and on entering the building, everyone was pleasantly surprised at the brilliant display at this late season of the year, and perhaps none more so than the exhibitors themselves. At the back of the hall, above the platform, was a broad band of evergreens, in the centre were the initials D. H. S., worked in rich yellow Marigolds by the president, while over them and stretched all the way across the hall, British ensigns were festooned in graceful folds. To the left as one entered the building, was a fine display of farm produce, exhibited by James K. Mitchell, the background being Corn stalks: there were some immense Squash, Pumpkins, Mangolds, etc., and also some fine specimens of grain. To the right was a fine collection of Greenhouse plants, shown by E. W. Rathbun; noticeable amongst other beautiful things, was a magnificent specimen of "The Crown of Thorns," which attracted great attention and was much admired. Alongside this collection was a collection of Cacti by the same exhibitor, in which was a very fine specimen of the Night-blooming Cereus. Three tables ran the whole length of the hall; on the centre table there were some very fine exhibits of Grapes, Apples, Pears and Plums, also a fine show of vegetables. H. Townsend's collection which took first prize, was very nicely arranged, and Jas. K. Mitchell's made a splendid second. C. Bennett showed some fine specimens of very large Tomatoes, they looked good enough to eat. The Cabbages, Savoy, Parsnips and Beets were good, but the show of Celery and Brussels Sprouts was poor.

On the table to the right was a fine show of cut flowers, some tastefully arranged in bouquets of garden flowers and bouquets of wild flowers; there was nasturtiums galore and very fine ones too, also some fine sweet peas, the beautiful, pure white sweet peas, of the Emily Henderson variety took 1st prize. There was a good show of geraniums of all shades from deep crimson and bright scarlet to pure white; some pretty spikes of hybrid gladioli were also shown. Asters, zinnias, balsams, pansies, roses, carnations, dianthus and stocks were well represented, but being so late in the season, the Verbenas were poor. On the same table were shown the Amateur Exhibits of plants, and judging from the grand

display made there must be many ardent lovers of flowers in Deseronto. It would be almost impossible to single out plants that were specially worthy of mention, they were all so good, but we will have to notice a very fine specimen of Maidenhair fern, a *Lilium speciosum* roseum and the collection of begonias — Rex, Maculata and Tuberous. There were some fine coleus, cannas, geraniums and hanging baskets. The Professional exhibits were shown on the table to the left, and the first thing one noticed was a very fine design by C. Bennett; the ground work was the white blossoms of the Sweet Allysium with the letters D. H. S. picked out in Zinerarias, yellow dahlias were placed at the corners and a pretty border worked all around it. The display of plants was good. Some fine specimens of ferns, tuberous and Rex begonias, etc., were here in bewildering profusion. The upper portion of this table was devoted to collections of fruit. E. W. Rathbun's collection was very fine, also H. Townsend's which won the Leslie prize. On the centre of the platform was a grand collection of greenhouse plants shown by Mrs. F. S. Rathbun. It was composed of very many beautiful and valuable plants, the names of which are quite beyond the layman, and we will have to hope that the Horticultural Society will so educate us, that these grand names will be as familiar to us, as household words. Behind this collection and arranged on a terraced stand was a grand collection of palms and coleus exhibited by Mrs. E. Walter Rathbun and James K. Mitchell. To the left was a fine display of plants by C. Bennett, flanked by some grand specimens of palms by Mrs. F. S. Rathbun, and a fine jasmine in full bloom by H. Briscoe. To the right was the ice cream stand, where there was a profusion of flowers and an abundance of grapes, cakes and ice cream, which were supplied by the fair hands of the President and the lady directors to the eager throngs that besieged the stand throughout the evening. The background of the stand was a splendid collection of palms exhibited by E. W. Rathbun, who also supplied the two immense rubber plants which were placed on either side of the platform. In the evening the Citizens' band occupied the gallery and discoursed sweet music, and the Society feel deeply indebted to them for their assistance in making the Flower Show the most successful event of 1897, in Deseronto.

### Smith's Falls Horticultural Society.

When a little less than a year ago, Dr. McCallum called a meeting of those interested to organize a Horticultural Society in Smith's Falls, the response was not so hearty as might have been expected, only about two dozen gentlemen putting in an appearance at the Town Hall. The society was organized how-