Daily Mercury.

FRIDAY EV'G, DEC. 26, 1879.

Projected Canals.

The Trent Valley Canal deputation waited upon the Minister of Public Works on Tuesday, and laid before him the particulars of the scheme. There were some fifty delegates in all, the deputation being composed of leading men from the section of country interested. The promoters of this canal claim that the cutting of it from the southeast corner of the Georgian Bay to the Bay of Quinte, would shorten the distance from Sault Ste. Marie or the Straits of Mackinack to Montreal to such an extent as to secure for the Canadian seaports the bulk of the trade now finding its way to New York by the way of Buffalo. It is also held that the new route would shorten the water way between Chicago and Duluth and Montreal by 400 miles. The other scheme is the construction of the Murray Canal from the Bay of Quinte to Lake Ontario, across the "Carrying Place," the narrow isthmus connecting the country of Prince Edward with the mainland. The Minister of Railways and Canals spoke as if personally favorable to both schemes, but virtually told the promoters that they could not be taken up by the Government until the Dominion finances were in a more satisfactory condition. The Trent Valley scheme would supersede that of the Georgian Bay which has now and again been agitated for more than twenty years. But the completion of any of them is in the remote future, for it will be a long time before Canada can spare the money.

THE nomination for Stormont took place on Tuesday and resulted in the selection of Mr. Finlay McNaughton, for some time Reeve of the Township of Finch, and a thorough Liberal, to run against Mr. Joseph Kerr.

CONSIDERABLE adverse comment is made upon the appointment of Elliott Galt as secretary to his father, Sir A. T. Galt, the Canadian Minister resident in London, the affair being said to wear the appearance of a family compact.

MR. FROUDE is the last public writer who has come out in favour of Imperial Confederation. He says: "Canadian statesmen have already hinted that they cannot stand alone. They must be one with us or one with the United States. The present relations are too precarious to stand a strain."

No less than 32 bills providing for change in the tariff were referred to the Congressional Committee of Ways and Means previous to adjournment. The United States is evidently getting restive under the law, and it has been observed that the feeling against protection is growing in the West, where the agricultural interests are held subordinate to the manufacturers of the East.

SAYS the London *Spectator*:—"Lord Granville is shrewd and subtle; Lord Hartington has a very solid judgment Mr. Forster is full of strength and popular sympathy; Sir William Harcourt is a great wit; Mr. Bright is a fine orator; Mr. Lowe is a trenchant antagonist; Mr. Childers is a thoughtful and wise financier. But, take them altogether, and they could not do half as much toward making out a true policy and then recommending it to the people as Mr. Gladstone can do unassisted, and with plenty of power to spare."

IT is now pretty certain that a meeting of the Quebec Legislature will be held in the month of February. The immediate cause of so early a session is to be found in the fact that the Government can obtain no money to carry on the affairs of the Province, and desire the authority of the Legislature in order to impose special taxes, upon the strength of the possible revenue from which they intend to apply for another loan. It is said that the Bank of Montreal the other day refused to honour the Government checks.

OTTAWA *Free Press*:—It appears that the Minister of Public Works has a very simple method for deciding what are the qualifications which entitle a workingman to be dismissed from employment in his department. The other day, we are assured by one who saw the paper, he caused a list of the employees to be laid before him, from which to select those whose services were to be dispensed with, classified by somebody who knew, and opposite the names of several was written the ominous word GRIT. Curious to relate, every one who had this suggestive tail to his name was dismissed.

The "Complete Home."

The "Complete Home," by Mrs. Julia McNair Wright is a book that has long been wanted, though few may have been aware of it. We have books in abundance on nearly every other conceivable subject, but the "home," around which so many interests cluster, how sigularly it has been neglected. A look at the very extensive index gives us an idea of its exhaustive and valuable character, and only a cursory glance through it pages impresses us with its great literary merit. The authoress possesses the rare faculty of making what is usually thought to be dry instruction full of interest. When to get married and when not, how to start a "Complete Home" and keep it after it has been started, are the lessons the writer would teach, and she has succeeded in writing a book that does this. Furniture, cooking, manners, beauty in the home, sickness, treatment of children, of servants, and a thousand and one things in connection with home are here discussed, and not with the pen of an amateur. Here are facts and theories. This book will make any home better and richer. Published by Bradley, Garretson & Co., Brantford, Ont., and sold by subscription.

An M. P. and County Treasurer in Trouble About His Finances.

We have municipal Treasurers in the east in trouble about their finances as well as in the west. Dr. Snelling, of Toronto, and Mr. McArthur, of Kingston, were some time ago appointed a Commission by the Ontario Government to examine into the finances of the County of Lennox and Addington, which the Treasurer Mr. E. Hooper, had got into a muddle. This is the gentleman who defeated Mr. Cartwright in September, 1878, and over whose victory the Tory papers had such a lusty crow. They are now, however, keeping very quiet about his irregularities in managing the finances of the County, of which he is Treasurer and representative. It seems that Mr. Hooper was allowed every opportunity, both by person and counsel, to explain things before the Commission, but he declined doing so, and the Commission had, therefore, to proceed with their investigation. As it will be of interest to our readers to know how Mr. Hooper managed things we will give the following particulars from the *Globe*:—

Pending the appearance of their formal report a number of facts have been published by the local journals, which will afford some idea of the character of the report, and of Mr. Hooper's method of bookkeeping. Frontenac was separated from Lennox and Addington in 1863, and two years afterwards the sum of $968 was charged in the Treasurer's books as paid to Frontenac, whereas the accounts of the latter county vouched for the receipt of only $698; the dicrepancy of $270 Mr. Hooper declined to give any explanation of, and it therefore stands at present against him. In 1865, payment of a note of $450 was charged against the county; the Commissioners failed to find any corresponding credit for the amount, and again Mr. Hooper declined to explain. In 1876 a $1,000 note, and in the same year a $1,500 one, was paid and charged without any corresponding credit being discoverable. A note for $500 was discounted in 1877, no credit being in this instance either given to the county. A note for $2,000 seemed from the books to have been charged twice and credited only once, Mr. Hooper persisting in all these cases in his refusal to explain. But a much more serious matter still is the alleged discovery that the amount paid over to the county out of the proceeds of $60,000 of debentures was only $49,318, leaving $10,681 to be accounted for—quite too large a sum apparently to be fairly chargeable to discount. It istated that the amount of deficiency reported will be about $25,000. If this is anything like a correct statement of fact, one can hardly tell which to wonder at most—the astounding laxity of auditors who could allow these irregularities to go on for so many years, or the foolhardiness of the man who, with such a record, could presume to ask his fellow-citizens to return him to Parliament, as their representative.

Agricultural Exhibitions.

To the Editor of the Mercury.

SIR,—We have gone through another year's Exhibitions, and the time is drawing nigh when an annual meeting for the election of officers for 1880 will take place. It might not be out of place to cast a glance behind and see how our rules and regulations have worked, and what improvement can be made in the future. A good discussion on these matters at the annual meetings will be a great help to the Directors in shaping things for the future.

The Guelph Central is perhaps as well managed as any. Your prize list is respectable, the officers are civil, trustworthy and obliging; your business men give liberally in goods as special prizes, although some think they put rather a high cash value on some of their merchandize. I am not prepared to say this is true, but if anyone does this it will be to their own disadvantage in the end.

There has been considerable talk about the exhibits of those who are simply agents for the manufacturers, such as the hardware men for example. They deserve all credit for their enterprise in showing the articles they sell but do not manufacture, and their exhibits help to make the Show more attractive. But don't you think that honorary prizes should satisfy them, as they are simply advertising their goods, that they should generously hand back the prize money to the Society, which would be all the better of the money.

In your prize list there are prizes offered for a number of varieties of swede turnips. Now I have an objection to this because I do not know of any variety that is uniform in shape and color, and therefore exhibitors may practice deception, and the officers of the Show cannot detect it. I would encourage the cultivation of roots, and it might be done as well by giving a number of prizes in the same class or section of a class in all those cases where there is no distinctive mark by which the exhibitor obtains a sort of annuity. Perhaps there are articles which cost a great amount of labor in their preparation, and are also very attractive, and help to make a display at the show. That might be excused. But when a hooked mat and other small articles I might mention are shown at the Central and other neighboring shows for seven or eight years in succession, I think it is time they should be kept at home. I am told that a gentleman's shirt was shown at Rockwood the past season that was shown at Nassagaweya some ten years ago. It is time that shirt was on somebody's back.

I know by experience that the Directors feel a delicacy about ruling these things out for fear of offending the ladies and thereby injuring the Show. But if the parties who made these pretty things would only try their hand again they could certainly make something just as pretty or even prettier, or some one else must try as these old things must be left out of the show room in future, or they soon will know enough to come alone, and then if the judges do not give them the red card they will steal it. The fact is, we do not go to the Show to see these old things. We want something new, and this is why Shows are held and premiums offered. I conclude at present. Perhaps you may hear from me some other day.

Yours, &c.,
GRUMBLER.

Nassagaweya, Dec. 19, 1879.

MONTREAL, Feb. 25, 1879.—WM. M. GILES & Co., 120 West Broadway, N.Y., DEAR SIR: Enclosed please find a check for one quart of your Liniment. I use it for almost everything, and I know it to be best I know of or seen tried. It prevents all discoloration from bruises, and in neuralgia, headaches, &c., it is king. When you struck Iodide Ammonia you struck a bonanza, and a big one too. Send the Liniment to the address of H. H. RANNEY, Mohawk, New York.

Parliament will be asked to authorize a Farmers' Bank with $5,000,000 and powers and privileges of Banks as now usually constituted, except the power to discount promissory notes or to take any personal security, and with powers and privileges of Building Societies or Loan and Savings Companies as now usually constituted.

Municipal Affairs in Puslinch.

To the Editor of the Mercury.

SIR,—The few observations I made in a recent number of the MERCURY on our municipal affairs, and which have been so limpingly replied to by two members of the Council, were based entirely on the following paragraph taken from Mr. Leslie's card, viz.:—"That he had the proud satisfaction of knowing that he left $50 a year to each School Section, not one cent of debt, and $1,500 in the Treasurer's hands. Now, I think that any person other than a councillor, or one who had access to the Treasurer's books, and knew otherwise, would take the facts to be as stated, and it was on the strength of the same being correct that I based the calculations then made, and which are now characterised by one as being "unworthy of notice," and by the other as "an attempt to darken words without knowledge."

I notice, however, that the Reeve in his reply neither maintains nor denies the correctness of his figures, but, instead, throws up a cloud of dust in order, I presume, to blind the ratepayers and distract attention from the subject discussed, by saying that "Reader's" remarks are not only unworthy of notice, but that he must be ashamed either of his name or the article, or perhaps both, and finally clinches all by requesting "Reader" to publish his name, age and profession, or as an alternative "Trot" himself out on nomination day for inspection, and then forsooth Mr. Leslie will rise and explain. This is all very fine, but it does not cover the point. The question at issue is not who is "Reader," and can he trot in 2.15, but it is this: Have we, or have we not, a surplus of $1,500? That is the point? Now, I state again that the Reeve said that when he retired this year, he would leave $1,500 in the Treasury, with no claim against it. Mr. McFarlane on the contrary, states that after all liabilities are paid, the legacy to their successors will be very small. Now, which is correct. It is impossible that both can be, and yet both are men high in authority and have access to all the facts. Then why this discrepancy?

The truth is, that we are as much in the dark as ever, and can't tell which is which, and must hold our souls in patience until nomination day, when such a flood of light will be thrown on the subject as will not only enlighten, but also teach "Reader," and others like him, how dangerous it is to formulate any opinion upon municipal affairs without first consulting the Fathers, and ascertaining from them whether $1,500 is $1,500 or only $300. I may have been presumptuous in interfering with matters belonging—shall I say—exclusively to the elect, but I was innocent enough to imagine that I had a voice in the matter, and might reasonably object to the Council taxing so greatly in excess of its requirements, but I suppose on the principal that our fathers know best, I should have swallowed it all smilingly, and said nothing about it, and this, undoubtedly, I would have done had I but known that the basis upon which I calculated was wrong. It would also have saved me the necessity of exerting my "wonderful, great power of calculation," but unfortunately, I took the figures as given, and thought the deductions nearly correct. Notwithstanding all this I still claim that I was not $1,200 astray, and that seems to me about the difference between Mr. Leslie's figures and Mr. McFarlane's.

Because in my previous communication I signed myself "Reader," Mr. L. charges me with subscribing a fictitious name, and accuses me of being ashamed either of the production of my proper name, perhaps both. Well, I am ashamed of neither, and deny *in toto* that the signature used is fictitious, for I am one of a large and increasing family in the Township, who legally claim that name (of whom Mr. L. is not the father) and who though not eloquent speakers, are thinkers as well as readers, and who have grit enough to form their own opinions without asking permission.

In conclusion, if there is anything in the question at issue to be ashamed of, it lies neither in the letter nor the name, but rather in the data, (for which I am not responsible) from which the discussion arose. Had there been no text there would have been no discourse, and I did not indite the former. As I have no desire either for a seat amongst the elect, or for promotion, or in the Agricultural College, I decline to trot and again subscribe

READER.

Puslinch, Dec. 22, 1879.

The State of the York Road.

To the Editor of the Mercury.

SIR,—In the issue of the MERCURY of the 11th inst., a correspondent signing himself "Taxpayer," writes complaining of the state of the York Road, near Malone's hotel, and endeavours to lay blame on the Eramosa Council for squandering the public money in spoiling that particular part of the road. I as a member of the Council, hold that no blame can be attached to them in the matter. That the piece of road is very bad, no one will dispute, but its condition is owing to the fact of so many heavy loads of lumber from Nassagaweya passing over it during an interval of continuous wet weather, causing the break up of the road. On the same road, a little further east, another piece was gravelled about the same time, and the gravel used thereon was taken from the same pit as that used on the bad piece, yet it is in good condition. Now, Mr. Editor, it is not the bad state of the road that has called forth from your correspondent his unwarranted attack on the Council. He has been aspiring for the last four or five years to become a member of the Eramosa Council, and no doubt expects to manufacture popularity by writing on the bad state of the road. Hoping your correspondent will receive a nomination on Monday next and succeed in getting elected, is the wish of your humble servant.

A MEMBER OF THE ERAMOSA COUNCIL.

Eramosa, Dec. 23rd, 1879.

To Pork Packers.

For sale in the City of Guelph, at a great bargain, the most complete Pork curing establishment in the country. Every facility for carrying on a large and lucrative trade. Premises unrivalled and fitted with all modern appliances, such as boiler, smoke house, steam pipes, vats, chopping blocks and knives, rendering kettles, &c. Large quantity of salt, empty pork barrels and lard crocks, &c., &c., on hand. A splendidly fitted-up retail shop, fronting Wyndham street, stuck in the very centre of business part of the city. In front of the premises (which extends from Wyndham to Woolwich street) with every convenience for the retail trade. Marble counters and shelving, meat racks and hooks, chandeliers, counter scales, knives and blocks, wrapping paper, &c. A complete new steam cutting machine. Premises and cellerage are the most commodious and complete in the city. Immediate possession. The outlay necessary to begin business, apply to J. C. McLagan, Agent, Guelph. eodtf

Skates,

Skates,

Skates.

Every style, a large variety, quite cheap,

AT JOHN HORSMAN'S

The Spot for Hardware.

BIRTHS.

MCCORKINDALE—In Guelph township, on the 25th instant, the wife of Mr. John McCorkindale, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

MCLEAN—BINNIE—At Georgetown, on the 24th instant, by the Rev. John Pringle, B. A., Mr. Donald McLean, to Miss Mary Binnie, both of the township of Erin.

DEATHS.

PORTE—In Guelph, on the 25th instant, John R. Porte, aged 39 years.

Funeral from the residence of Samuel Shaw Surrey street, on Saturday morning, at 10 a. m Friends will please accept this intimation without further notice.

BROTCHIE—In Huron, on the 5th November, after a lingering illness of two months, James Brotchie, aged 75 years. He leaves a widow and eleven children to mourn his loss.

MARRIAGE LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES issued by authority, under the new Marriage Act, at the Division Court Office, Guelph. No Bondsmen required, and licenses are reduced in price to two dollars.

ALFRED A. BAKER Issuer

Guelph, July 15th, 1875. dwtf

Xmas and New Year's Presents.

Choice Fur Caps,

Lined Kid Gloves and Mits,

Silk Handkerchiefs,

and a General Assortment of Gent's Furnishings.

SHAW & MURTON, Merchant Tailors

THE WONDERFUL MAN.

Mantles,
at $4 and $5.

Mink Muffs,
at $3, $4 and $5.

Grey Lamb Caps,
at $2.50 and $3.

Dark Mink Sets,
$15 and up to $40.

Ladies' Astracan Caps,
$1.25.

Ladies' Mink Caps,
$2.30 and up to $15.

Black Squirrel Tail Boas,
$1.90.

Shawls, $2.50 up to $18.

Blankets, $3.45 up to $8.

Our entire stock of Fine Pattern Mantles, ranging in price from $15 to $30 will be offered from $8 to $22.

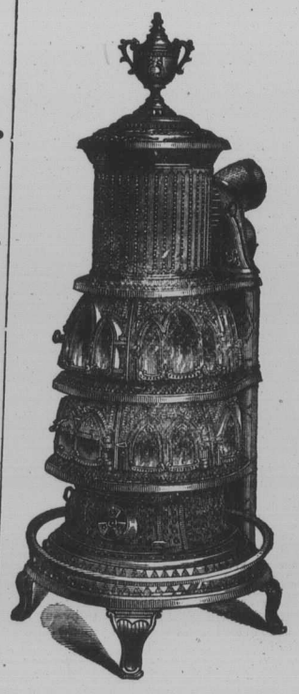
THE FACT IS

that John Hogg & Son have the largest stock of NEW GOODS in the City, and our prices win every time.

JOHN HOGG & SON,

The Wide Awake Merchants

BRANTFORD STOVES.



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Is warranted to be the best and most economical heating stove made in Canada, and is the only stove that has

Clinkerless Grate Ash Sifter, etc

And is the only stove that is

Perfectly FREE FROM GAS.

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DOUBLE HEATER

is warranted to be the Best in the World.

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DEALER IN

Coal and Wood Cooking, Parlor Cook and Heating Stoves, Base Burners, with and without Ovens, Box Stoves, and Tinware of all kinds.

MARKET SQUARE GUELPH, ONTARIO.

BOOTS & SHOES

"It matters little where we lie," soliloquized a Sunday school teacher, as he walked with his class through a grave-yard, "Yes, it does," said one of the youngsters, "'cause if I lie to my dad where I can't get out of his reach gets a darn good licking So it matters a good deal to me, you bet!"

Just Received a

LARGE AND COMPLETE

Stock of

BOOTS & SHOES

FALL AND WINTER WEAR.

Prices Lower Than Ever

Ordered work and repairing a specialty.

A cal solicted. Leather and findings for the trade

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25 Wyndham Street.

For Xmas Presents

GO TO

A. McBEAN'S,

Where you will get Bargains.

Skates,
Cutlery,
Plated Ware,
Spoons,
Forks,
Fancy Lamps and Chandeliers.

Remember the Place.

91 Upper Wyndham Street

Christmas Presents
CITY BOOKSTORE.

Christmas Presents
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Cheaper than the Cheapes

Better than the Best,

AT J. A. NELLES'S

CITY BOOKSTORE.

GUELPH AND ONTARIO

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A dividend at the rate of 8 per cent per annum on the Capital Stock of this Company has been declared, and will be payable at this office, on and after January 1st, 1880.

Stockholders, and Depositors in Savings Bank are requested to hand their Pass Books to the Secretary not later than January 1st, 1880, in order that they may be examined and audited.

dw ja

THE FASHIONABLE WEST END TAILOR

DESIRES TO THANK HIS NUMEROUS customers for the liberal support accorded him in the past, and hopes that his continued good workmanship, and strict attention to business will draw new as well as old customers in the future. Fashions received regularly. Suits made to order as low or lower than any other place in the city. Samples for inspection always on hand. Clothing made to order for parties furnishing their own goods. If you want the best fit and best workmanship in the latest and most approved styles, go to N. CROFT, Upper Wyndham Street, (up stairs) opposite Hazelton's Block. se11d6m

Christmas Candies
NOW READY.

ALL PURE, ALL OUR OWN MAKE. A large assortment of pure candies, comprising fresh cocoanut, cream candy, fresh chocolate caramels, chocolate cream drops, a very good assortment of cough candies, all our own make. Also, a choice mixed candy at 20c per lb. Pure teas, coffees and spices as usual. Hot coffee and lunch rooms comfortably fitted up at rear of store. Store—immediately opposite the market.

o4dw3m J. STOVEL

Cutting and Tailoring.

R. MARTIN

IS NOW PREPARED TO DO CUTTING and Tailoring in the latest styles, on his own account, and will be pleased to see his numerous friends and patrons for the past 40 years, at his rooms—at present over Jeffrey & Knowles' store—Wyndham street.

A GOOD FIT GUARANTEED.

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Assurance Company.

INCORPORATED 1833.

Head Office--Toronto.

CAPITAL.....$500,00
ASSETS OVER.....$1,100,000

THE UNDERSIGNED, AGENT FOR Guelph, for this the oldest Canadian Company, is prepared to accept risks in their reliable office, on all classes of property, on most favorable terms.

Three years' Policies issued on Dwellings, and Farm Buildings, at lowest rates.

All losses promptly settled.

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Assurance Company!

ESTABLISHED 1851.

Capital - - $ 800,000
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THE UNDERSIGNED, AGENT FOR Guelph and vicinity, of this old established and reliable Company, is prepared to accept applications for Insurance on ALL CLASSES OF PROPERTY on most favourable terms.

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All losses promptly settled.

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Work Boxes,
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Toys,

AND OTHER

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will be sold off cheap,

AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE

Day Sells Cheap.

Iron Castings.

Of all kinds, made to order

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Crowe's Iron Works,

Iron Fences
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JOHN CROWE,

PROPRIETOR

GUELPH, Dec. 24th, 1879.

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Offers the following inducements from now till the 3rd January 1880:

Photographs, Best Retouched, $1 00 per dozen.
Cabinet Photos " $2 50 " "

Larger sizes, half the usual Price

Chromos, Mouldings, Frames and Steel Engravings at cost.

Remember the place, over Pringle's ewellery store. dw

SMOKERS,

I will unhesitatingly guarantee my

Gold Flake Cut Plug

to be the BEST SMOKING TOBACCO in

CANADA.

It is made by a new and original process through which the rank nicotine is extracted and the sweet Aroma and Natural Flavor are retained. It is made from pure sun-cured, Bright Virginia Leaf, without the aid of coloring or injurious compounds. It is cut ready for use and neatly packed in tin foil, in compact 4 ounce packages. It will keep in any climate and will not burn the tongue.

As dealers are slow to take hold of a new thing, however much its merit, until there is a demand for it, I have determined to place it directly within the reach of all. For the next ninety days, where it cannot be obtained of local dealers, I will send two sample packages (4 oz. each) post paid, to one address, on receipt of 50 cts. (postage stamps or currency.) All lovers of the pipe are invited to give it a trial. J. E. SAXTON,

GLOBE TOBACCO WORKS, WINDSOR, ONT.

HUGH WALKER Sole Agent for Guelph.

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Organ, Piano, and Violin taught on reasonable terms. Also lessons in singing and harmony Practice allowed organ pupils on the church organ, and when qualified take part in organ recitals. Choirs instructed, and concerts taken charge of by special arrangements.

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Money to loan on good security.

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