

blind tuners, and the School Board has repeatedly expressed its entire satisfaction with the manner in which the contract is carried out. It will only be a matter of time before our tuners will gain the entire confidence of the public. For the meanwhile, we are grateful to those who have cheerfully placed their pianos in the charge of competent and reliable tuners like Mr. Reid.

WORK DEPARTMENT.

It is note-worthy that among the industrial blind, the graduates of the institution of Saxony are most successful. This may be attributed first, to the fact that all the pupils are trained in handicrafts; whereas, in a school like ours, many are drafted off into the musical and tuning departments; second, to the admirable system of aid extended to graduates in making their first start in the world. Through the agency of our loan fund, which now amounts to \$1036.67, we are enabled to extend like assistance to those who are trained in this school. Intelligence is as essential to success in industrial pursuits, as are patience and skill. Willow workers have to go through a long course of instruction in order to turn out first class work; but as they have to buy material, as well as dispose of the finished products, it is absolutely necessary that they should receive some instruction in the primary rules of arithmetic. With this end in view, I have directed that adults in the work-shop do attend in the class-room during the first hour of each day; after which they retire to the work shop, in which they remain four hours before, and four hours after dinner. While there these young men are trained by Mr. Baird our efficient trade instructor, who is continuously on hand to direct the work. Seventeen pieces of willow-work, including twelve different kinds of baskets, several toys, a child's rocking-chair, and a work-stand, are now made in our shops; and if the ready sale of the articles manufactured may be taken as a fair criterion of the value of the trade to the blind, it may safely be predicted that an industrious man who has mastered his trade can by it readily earn a livelihood. The Halifax and Ontario schools are the only ones on the continent in which willow-work is taught; but as soon as it becomes generally