

Grafton Historical Notes

(17) By T. R. M.

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In No. 11 of these "Notes" printed on Jan. 11, 1935, reference was made to the institution proposed to be built at Wicklow by the "Canada Literary Manual Labour and Educational Society". We are indebted to Mrs. Etta Flynn Gilliland, a former resident of Haldimand now living in Calgary, for the following interesting letter, adding to our information on the subject:—

"In recording the establishment of a 'Manual Training School' at the 'Four Corners' I notice little is known of it and as my father and mother both attended the school in their 'teens they frequently reminisced concerning these old days.

The promoter and headmaster was an American, one Mr. Fay, who succeeded in arousing sufficient interest among the pioneer heads of families, to have a working directorate formed, with the result that a large building, with some land attached, was built on the site of where now stands the residence of Mr. J. G. Walte.

With its two large dormitories, dining room, class rooms, office, etc. the plan evidently in the beginning was to found an institution bearing similarity to a present day agricultural college. Boys were taught gardening, etc., and the girls domestic arts, together with the "Three R's" course. It was an ambitious undertaking for those days and most of the eligible boys and girls of the vicinity were enrolled. It was to some degree a success but after some two or three years a fire broke out and the buildings were totally destroyed. A good deal of debt was entailed and all seemed to have lacked the courage to rebuild and resume the work."

(B)

Despite the vicissitudes which constantly overtake old papers a faded pink hand-bill containing the programme for the opening of the Town Hall, Grafton, has survived to the present day, and is now in the possession of Mrs. Rose Prentice. Before the building of the present structure, public meetings were held both in the

Potomac Shore Serenaders
Cornett Duett McCarthy & Dermidy
Wrecker's Daughter Band
Strike the Harp Gently ... Serenader
Recitation Amateur
Love—not Quick Step Band
Few Days Serenaders
God Save the Queen

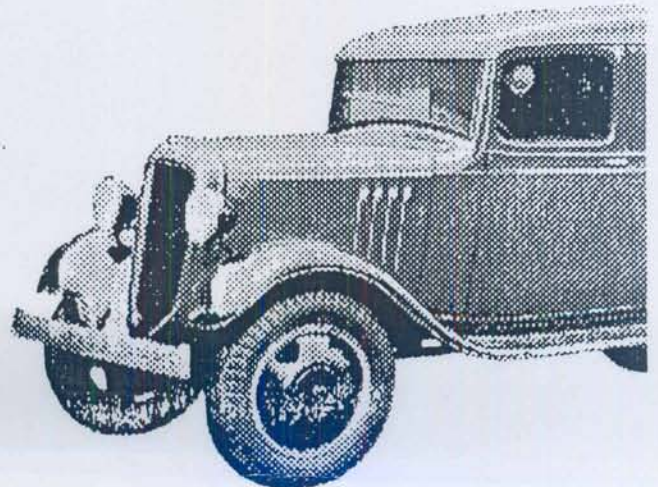
Tickets of Admission 25 Cents;
Children half-price.
Doors open at 7½; Concert to com-
mence at 8 o'clock.

Scattered references to various changes made in the interior arrangement of the Hall are to be found in the newspapers. Perhaps the greatest addition since 1859 was made last year when a well-equipped kitchen was built. Although it has no claim to architectural beauty such as its contemporary, the Town Hall of Cobourg possesses, yet many villages and towns more populous and fortunately situated than Grafton, might well envy this community its possession of such a useful building. Public spirited citizens might well institute a campaign for the re-decorating of the interior of the Hall as a present for its 76th birthday.



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 public meetings were held both in the
 "Mansion House" (Arklands) and in
 the upper part of what is now Bry-
 son's Garage. The latter was known
 as the "Town Hall" in 1840's. Noth-
 ing is known about the erection of the
 present building, as the files of con-
 temporary Cobourg newspapers are
 destroyed. Aided by the gift of im-
 agination, however, the reader may
 attend the first of the many hundreds
 of entertainments held in this build-
 ing and admire either the music of
 the Serenaders and the Band, or the
 whiskers, sideburns, beaver hats,
 hoop-skirts, trains and pantalettes of
 our mid-Victorian grand-parents.

**Grand Vocal and Instrumental
 Concert!**

Opening of the Town Hall, Grafton.
 The
 Grafton Brass Band
 Will give a Concert in the Town Hall,
 Grafton, on Thursday,
 6th. of January, 1859,
 assisted by
 The Grafton Serenaders
 And other Amateur Performers.

**Programme
 Part I.**

- Fest March Band
- Joanna Snow Serenaders
- Recitation Amateur
- Harp that once through Tara's
 Halls Band
- Kitty Dear Serenaders
- Guitar Solo Amateur
- Sultan Polka Band
- Recitation Amateur
- Red, White and Blue Band

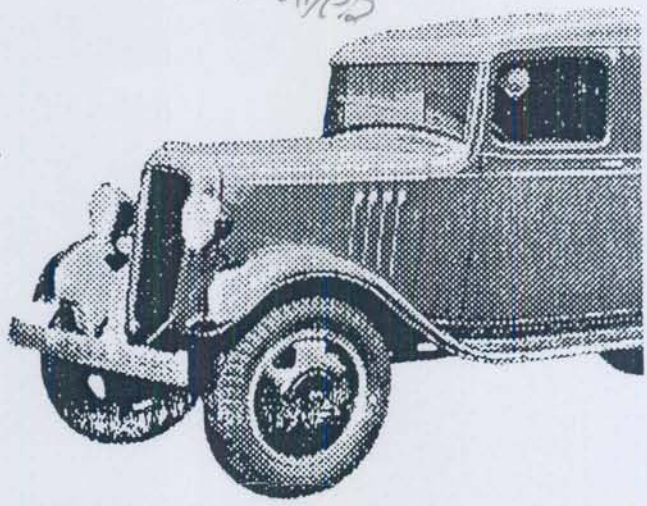
Part II.

- Grand March from Norma Band

Banana Cream Pie

One cup banana pulp, ½ cup sug-
 ar, 2 tablespoons molasses, 1 tea-
 spoon grated lemon rind, 2 table-
 spoons lemon juice, ½ teaspoon salt,

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 purchasing power. Prompt & e
 delivery. Two trucks at your

CHOICE GROCERY

- GREEN GAGE PLUMS
- FIG BARS
- GOLD MEDAL MARMALADE
- GRAPEFRUIT
- SPANISH ORANGES FOR JUICE
- SPANISH ONIONS
- 1 Large CHIPO, and 2 cakes CASTIL
- FRESH ROLLED OATS