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Cigars. Comfortable rooms for commercial
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Best Liquors and Cigars. Good stabling and
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12 1/2 Queen St.,
TORONTO.

Toys that step with the
period. Of course the spark
of womanhood in the girl de-
mands the Doll. Here they
are blue-eyed, coquettish
beauties, kitchen and parlor
belles, white and black, and
at prices that range from 5c to
\$1.00. A unique doll stock.
And side by side are the Guns,
Swords, Balls, Tops, Horns
and Trumpets, etc., that the
boys look so eagerly for.

Apart from this we have
floated with the times and
found that advancement looks
for more of science in the toy.
Something that while it gives
all the pleasure that the Toy
can give, performs the service
of, and is in fact a great edu-
cator. For this reason we
have brought together Me-
chanical Toys. Men and
Animals that do strangely
amusing things. Building
Blocks and Architectural
Model, Game Boards, Steam-
ship Models, Sleighs of Sci-
entific construction and all of
that kind that are apt to pro-
mote intellectual activity in
the boy mind.

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bringing together oddities and
nick-nacks to make the Christ-
mas-tree look bright and
tempting. All will make a
serious mistake in passing our
Toy collection.

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yard, Extra Heavy Meltons in
Fawns' Navy, Grey and
Garnet at 12c and All-wool
Foule Cloth in the freshest
and newest of shades at 18c
should be especially price in-
teresting. By looking around
you can easily prove the gen-
uineness of their value.

The low prices that Furs
go at here may be the cause
of many a wondering thought.
We mean to keep the load in
these as in everything else we
sell. Bear, Otter, Lynx,
Nutria, Seal, Goat, Astrach-
an, and all the Fur family
have prices at the lowest ebb,
and from the Coney Muffs at
75c to the higher priced Bear
or Otter or Seal Muffs—
Coney at 75c, 90c, \$1.00,
\$1.10, \$1.25. Astrachan at
\$1.75 to \$3.25; Goat, \$1.75
and \$2.00; Nutria, \$1.75 and
\$3.75; Snow-hare, \$1.75 and
\$2.00; Beaver, \$6.50 to
\$9.00; Baltic Seal, \$3.00 to
\$4.50; Boas—Coney, at 75c,
\$1.00 to \$3.00; Goat, \$1.25
to \$4.00; Squirrel, 11.00 to
15; Lynx, 9.00 to 16.00;
Bear, 15.00 to 20.00. A full
line of Fur Caps, Capes and
Fur Trimmings. Write for
price list.

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Richmond Hill and Vicinity
No. 22.

The Playters.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL.
In the Gazette and Oracle, the first
newspaper published in Toronto, on
December 29th, 1798, under the head of
marriages was the following notice:—
Married, last Monday, Mr. James Playter
to the agreeable Miss Hannah Miles, of
this town York.

Capt. Geo. Playter, father of the above,
was an Englishman by birth, who came
out to the British Colonies before the
Revolutionary War of 1776, and settled
in Philadelphia among the Society of
Friends. He became a member of the
silent brotherhood, and from among the
modest sisters selected for himself a
Quaker wife. During the struggle of the
revolting colonies for independence, Mr.
Playter's loyalty to old England mani-
fested itself pretty strongly. As the ex-
citement ran high and hostilities began
to loom up, he became more and more
inclined to belligerency, until one day he
threw off his cut-away buttonless coat and
giving his broad brimmed hat a fling into
a corner he said: "Lie there, Quaker,"
and donning a military suit he was ready
for marching or fighting. A spirit like
his would not be long before he would
find something to do, resulting in his
being engaged in active service until the
close of the war. After the Declaration
of Independence the Royalist soon per-
ceived that he was not only looked upon
by his neighbors as a dangerous citizen in
the past but a doubtful citizen for the
future, and that his surroundings were
made as uncomfortable as possible.

At the close of the last century King-
ston was just coming into notice as a naval
and military station under the British
flag. There Simcoe was sworn in as
governor of Upper Canada, the first
Cabinet formed, and from there the writ
was issued for the first Legislative As-
sembly to meet at Niagara. It was
known as the centre of attraction to
French refugees, U. E. loyalists and mili-
tary officers. To Kingston Capt George
Playter came, and between him and
Governor Simcoe there sprang up an in-
timacy that lasted as long as His Excel-
lency remained in Canada. When the
seat of Government was moved from
Newark (Niagara) to York in 1795 among
the first settlers in the new capital were
the Playters. In close proximity to
Castle Frank, the Governor's residence,
was the estate of Capt. George Playter,
and on the other side of the Don that of
his son, Capt. John Playter. During the
war of 1813 when the town was in the
hands of the Americans a large number of
valuable papers, belonging to the
Government, were secretly conveyed to
the houses of these gentlemen for safe-
keeping, but marauding soldiers in boats
made their way up the windings of the
Don, ransacked the houses, found the
documents and carried them off.

Dr. Scadding, in his "Toronto of Old,"
says that when a boy he remembers see-
ing Capt. George Playter, that he was a
man of sprightly and humorous tempera-
ment and that his society was much en-
joyed by all who knew him. Capt.
Playter seems to have been a fair speci-
men of an old English gentleman. Col.
Whitehead who visited York in 1819 says
that he had often walked by Castle
Frank with the old gentleman who would
be dressed in the neatest style, silver
knee buckles, broad-toed shoes with large
buckles and white silk stockings, to these
equipments was added a gold-headed
cane, of what would now be thought an
unnecessary length.

The Playters have played important
parts in the early history of Toronto and
the adjacent townships. One of the
captains' sons, his namesake, was sheriff
of the Home District, and his brother,
Mr. Eli Playter, represented the North
Riding of York in Parliament for several
sessions, and another brother was assessor
for the townships of Markham and
Vaughan.

In the year 1800, according to the Gazette
the people of York had a meeting to
improve Yonge street, Mr. Chief Justice
Elmsley (who perished with Surveyor
Stegman in the ill-fated Speedy in 1804)
in the chair. The road was to be opened
up four rods wide, and the stumps in the
two middle rods to be cut close to the
ground for seven shillings and sixpence
per rod. The committee to see this car-
ried out was Secretary Jarvis, Mr. Allan
and Mr. James Playter. In 1801 we find
Mr. Playter's name on the subscription
list for six dollars for the purpose of
making Yonge street "accessible and con-
venient for the public" On the 29th of
March, 1802, Levi Willard advertizes
that he will run a boat to the head of the
lake once a week—all commands to be
left at Miles' and Playters'.

Capt. George Playter's grandson, Mr.
James Playter, succeeded to the home-
stead of Mr. James Miles, and lived
among us for many years. He was a
well-read man, useful in many ways and
kind to the poor. He was captain of the

4th Battalion of York militia, retiring
with rank in 1861. Dr. Edward Playter
is the talented editor of the *Sanitary*
Journal, under the patronage of the
Dominion Government. At a still later
date the family show an admiration for
military valor, for after the Fenian raid
of 1866 we find a Playter rising in his
place in the York county council and
moving "That the heartfelt thanks of the
council of these united councils are due
and are hereby tendered to the gallant
officers and men of the volunteer orga-
nization, who so nobly did their duty in the
defence of all that is dear to us as British
subjects."

Another gentleman connected with the
Playter family was Mr. Thomas Stoyles.
From the frequency with which Stoyles'
name appears as witness in Mr. Miles'
account books it leads to the supposition
that he was the book-keeper. He be-
came Mr. Miles son-in-law by marrying
his daughter Mary. Stoyles was the first
settler on the farm now owned by Mr.
John Duncan drawing his patent for the
same in 1805. He was a non-practising
medical man from the States and was
rather suspected of being loyal to his
adopted country on the wrong side.
Along with Mr. Playter he was assessor
for the townships of Markham and
Vaughan. In religion Mr. Stoyles was a
Methodist, but as it was long before the
advent of the temperance reformation
this did not prevent him from becoming
Mr. Miles' successor in the house of en-
tertainment at York, nor did his being
proprietor of that establishment hinder
him from opening his house for Divine
service, for before the first Methodist
church in Toronto was erected Elder
Henry Ryan (and Elder Case held their
religious services in the doctor's
large kitchen, the most commodious room
in the house, until a more suitable place
was provided. At a later date the doctor
reverted to a private residence, where he
lost his wife, and in suitable time was
provided with another, as was pleasantly
remarked by the Methodist ministers,
"as a small token of their appreciation of
his courtesy and liberality in the past."
This was a widow lady, a Mrs. Matthews,
with several daughters, one of whom was
married to Mr. McDougal, father of the
Hon. Wm. McDougal, and grandfather of
the present Judge McDougal. At his
death Dr. Stoyles was considered a
wealthy man, as builder and owner of one
of the largest breweries in Toronto, and
the possessor of twenty acres of land in
the centre of the city.

When living amongst us his residence
was a rough log settlement duty house
surrounded by a dense forest, the
swampy nature of the land discouraging
much improvement. Intelligent and
kind, Stoyles was deservedly popular, but,
as with many other good men, his popu-
larity was sometimes an inconvenience.
His neighbors used to borrow the doctor's
cart, returning it only after long intervals,
often trying his patience to the extreme.
On one occasion when the vehicle had
been a long time kept by a negligent
neighbor, Stoyles went to the bush, select-
ed three stout beech gads, trimmed them
and hid them by for future use. In
course of time the borrower arrived with
the cart and a load of excuses. The doc-
tor never answered a word, but went for
the switches, stripped off his coat, went at
the cart and switched it until he had used
up the whole three. "There," said he,
giving the cart a shove into a fence
corner, "you will stay at home after this,"
and walked into the house. The man
stood by and looked on with astonish-
ment, but he never asked the loan of that
cart again, and when it was told around
among the neighbors it stopped all the
rest.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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ment should meet the eye of some one
who wants to purchase. Advertisements
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CUT and PLUG
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T. & B.
In Bronze on each Plug
and Package.
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