

been used but the incandescent lamp, for interior use, is being introduced. The electric lamps were first lighted in town on May 23rd, 1884.

PETERBOROUGH GAS WORKS—Established in 1869 by a joint stock company, with a capital of \$40,000. The company, in which Mayor Stevenson is a principal shareholder, has well equipped works, recently completely overhauled and improved. There are between fourteen and fifteen miles of street mains, eighty-five street lamps and three hundred and twenty-five private consumers. The works are situated on Simcoe street, next the river, and the office is at 328 Water street.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

The importance of the educational institutions of Peterborough may be approximately judged of from the fact that fully \$75,000 are invested in buildings and equipments for the several collegiate, public and separate schools, and the people annually contribute to the maintenance of these schools and for school purposes, over \$15,000, about one-third of the whole amount of taxes collected. The boards of education, both the united boards of High and Public schools and Separate school board, are composed of gentlemen, who have a broad conception of the importance of educational facilities, as indicated by the liberality they show in the employment of none but the most capable teachers and in the procuring of the best of modern equipment and school accommodation, and, consequently, the highest local educational advantages.

THE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE building is situated on Murray Street, opposite the Court House Park, a beautiful site for the splendid pile of white brick in the Italian style of architecture. This building is equipped in the elaborate manner, required by the departmental regulations, and the staff of teachers consists of five, each a specialist of experience in the department in which he is engaged. The classics, modern languages, the higher branches of English, and mathematics and science are taught, and the facilities, for the children of citizens acquiring a liberal education, are of the best. In connection with the Institute is a large library, well equipped laboratory, and a gymnasium, also elaborately equipped, together with large recreation grounds, in addition to the adjoining Court House Park, which serves a similar purpose in summer. A thriving Literary Society is conducted and weekly debates recitations, etc., are held. The Institute is maintained in a high state of efficiency and has done, and is still doing excellent work. The average attendance is one hundred and twenty. By virtue of a yearly grant, Ashburnham enjoys the same Collegiate Institute opportunities as the people of Peterborough.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS are on a similar scale of excellence, as regards housing, teaching staff and equipment. There are at present three separate buildings, the Central School building adjoining the Collegiate Institute building, the West Ward and South Ward buildings, each well built, with good grounds and good equipments. These buildings, though large, are not any too large, though, at the time of their erection, they were considered absurdly extensive. The increase of school population demands an increase of buildings and a site has been purchased for a new school building in the north part of the town. The public schools employ nineteen teachers—eleven in the Central; West Ward, four; and South Ward, four. The total registered public school attendance is one thousand one hundred and fifty and the average attendance is one thousand.