

is forced into the mains. The pure water supply for domestic and drinking purposes is drawn from a crib with filter screens, which is situated in midstream of the river, about one hundred yards above the dam, by a supply pipe eighteen inches in diameter, and subjected to a very thorough course of filtration, combining the most exact mechanical and chemical purifying processes. From the pure-water tank, a fifteen inch pipe connects with the pumps. Mention has been made of the purity of the water supply. The water is drawn from the deepest part of the river, and the river draws its supply from the great chain of northern lakes. These are in their native purity, comparatively uncontaminated by contact with human population. From the forest primeval, untenanted or untrodden by man, down through all the chain of lakes and rapids, with inconsiderable exceptions, there is not sufficient proximity of human habitation to permit of the possibility of appreciable contamination. Being thus almost absolutely pure, as regards organic matter, when it enters the Otonabee River, the riotous tumble over nine miles of rapids, between Lakefield and Peterborough, exercises a powerful depurating and aerating effect upon the water supply of the Peterborough water works system. The company has now laid eight and a quarter miles of water mains—chiefly twelve, ten, eight and five inch, and there are placed sixty-seven fire hydrants of the Matthews pattern, and every year the mileage of mains and the number of hydrants is added to. The system of mains is one of the best in the country; the majority of the mileage having been laid or re-laid under the directions of Mr. W. Henderson, the present superintendent, whose extensive practical knowledge is aided by the application of the principle that, "what is worth doing is worth doing well." One thing is certain; the works have given general satisfaction and have done the best of duty as the chief element in our excellent fire system. For domestic purposes an average pressure of seventy pounds is carried and for fire purposes one of one hundred and twenty pounds, though if necessity requires it the mains will bear a pressure of one hundred and forty pounds. In addition to supplying the sixty-seven hydrants, the works also supply four hundred private consumers, and the G. T. R. and C. P. R. stations, with their average of fifty locomotives per day, as well as supplying motive power to church organs, printing machines, etc.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT SYSTEM—The electric light system of Peterborough furnishes the best and also the cheapest light in the Dominion. The works of the Electric Light Company, organized in 1884 with a capital of \$100,000, are situated at the eastern end of Dickson's race, and water wheels giving three hundred horse power are available for use in the generation of electricity. With abundant power and the best of dynamos, it is no surprise that a first class quality of light should be produced. The current of electricity is strong and uniformly continuous, and, therefore, the light is brilliant and steady. There are four dynamos used, furnishing electricity for one hundred and twenty lights, each of two thousand candle power, and the demand is so great that it is contemplated adding another forty-light dynamo. The company has about ninety lamps in use, of which thirty-nine are street lamps and the remainder those of private consumers, churches, shops, etc. The lamps for street lighting serve their purpose so admirably, that they are being largely extended at intervals. For the service done—the wide area lighted—their cost is exceedingly moderate. The contract of the company, with the corporation, calls for the thirty-nine street lamps to be kept burning three hundred nights in the year, at a cost for the light itself, attention, repairs, etc., of twenty cents per lamp. The arc lamp has hitherto

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