

SPARKS.

St. Cunegonde, Que., has been equipped with complete electric fire alarm and police signal systems by Mr. N. Simoneau, of Montreal, who was awarded the contract for the work.

In another part of this paper the city of Fredericton, N. B., invites tenders for electric street lighting. Mr. Chas. W. Beckwith, City Clerk, writes as follows "I may say that we have a company here to whom we pay about \$2,000 for 62 gas lights, and as they also run an electric system (the only one in the city) they will not furnish us with electric street lights at any reasonable figure, preferring to keep us to the old gas lights. We are therefore seeking some advance, and if satisfactory tenders are received, are in a position to close a contract on terms advertised."

The gigantic undertaking of harnessing Niagara is rapidly nearing completion, and when finished will be one of the triumphs of the nineteenth century. The large tunnel through which the water will have to pass after being utilized to rotate the large turbines is nearing completion, and the total length of the tunnel is 7,000 feet; 19 feet wide and 21 feet high. The immense shaft in which the turbines will be situated is sunk to a depth of 200 feet. Turbines of enormous size and capable of producing 5,000 horse power each will be used, the largest ever constructed. Large dynamos will be vertically coupled directly to the main shaft, so that no power will be lost through the means of belting, and the electric current generated will be used to furnish power, heat and lighting. This large undertaking is engineered over by G. B. Burkink, of New Aqueduct fame, and Prof. Geo. Forbes, the great English electrician. On the Canadian side work is finished. In this case the water power is obtained from a cut leading from the river of about 100 feet in length, at the end of which the sluice gates are situated, thence a fall of eighty feet, the waste water passing through a tunnel situated below the Falls. In this case two turbines of 1,000 horse power each are used. The current furnished will be used to operate the electric railway, which is now built, running from Queenston along the brink of the river to the prettily situated village of Chippewa. On every pole used to suspend the wire between the Clifton House and Queen Victoria Park, there are situated six 16 candle power lamps, which will be lit up at night, making it one of the prettiest rides imaginable.

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