

THE TELEGRAPH.

The Western Union Telegraph Co. operate about 340,000 miles of wire, which is constantly being increased.

The Great North-Western connect with over 2,000 various telegraph offices, and new stations are being constantly opened.

The Great North-Western Telegraph Company operate nearly 35,000 miles of wire, and are constantly adding thereto.

George H. Wilkinson, who is Manager of the G. N. W. at St. Johns, Q., has been long in the Company's service, and in his other capacity also as express agent is exceedingly popular with the St. Johns people.

We hope at the next annual reunion of the "Old Timers" some Montreal delegate may be present and offer the hospitalities of this city for the next meeting. Have we not an army of the best of veterans, and can we not offer a tempting programme, with our venerable ex-secretary to make the welcome address. We do not like the present name. We should much prefer that of the "Veteran Telegraphers Association."

Mr. F. N. Gisborne, F.R.C.S., the able and energetic Superintendent of Government Telegraphs and Signal Service of the Dominion, delivered a very interesting lecture on the "Origin and Development of Electrical Science" at Ottawa, under the auspices of the Literary and Scientific Society on the 21st of last month. The chief feature of the lecture consisted of original colored drawings expressly prepared by him for explanation to those uninitiated in electrical science, thus enabling all present to understand the general principles upon which dynamos, cable testing and duplex working, &c., &c., are based. The lecture was delivered without notes in a clear and pleasant off hand manner. Not the least interesting part was that describing the introduction of the electric telegraph into Canada in 1846, when Mr. Gisborne was an employee of the Montreal Telegraph Company, and who opened the first office in Quebec. The discourse drew forth frequent applause and was a most comprehensive survey of the whole field of modern electrical application.

CANADA'S FIRST TELEGRAPH.**MONTREAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**

Capital £15,000, in shares of £10 each.
Bankers—City Bank of Montreal.

Notice is hereby given that an **INSTALMENT OF TWO POUNDS** per share of the capital stock of this Company is required to be paid in to its credit at the **CITY BANK**, of this city, on or before **MONDAY, the 8th day of MARCH.**

By order,

FREDERICK A. WILSON,

Montreal, Feb. 27, 1847.

Hon. Secretary.

The above is a copy of the original notice calling for the capital to erect the first telegraph line in Canada. Will some of our readers tell us who the Secretary, Mr. Willson, was, and his present address?—Ed.

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.**

TENDERS will be received at the office of the above Company, St. Joseph Street, until the **TWENTIETH** instant, for the **CONSTRUCTION OF A LINE OF TELEGRAPH BETWEEN THIS CITY AND TORONTO.**

The said line will be about 400 miles in length, and is to consist of one iron wire, to be thoroughly tinned in the most approved manner, and of a weight not less than 330 lbs. to the mile. The posts to be not fewer than 20 to the mile, each 25 feet long by 5 inches in diameter at the smallest end; to be of such durable kind of timber as the neighboring districts may afford and to be inserted not less than six feet in the ground, excepting where rock exists, and then the posts are to be steeled by substantial frames at the lowest possible depth, such posts to be suitably dressed within the boundaries of the several farms through which the telegraph shall pass; the wires attached to each post to be insulated by a strong glass cup, and the whole work to be completed in the most efficient and substantial manner, and put in working order.

The terms of the proposal to be at so much per mile, which sum must comprehend the supply of all batteries and the necessary apparatus for six stations. The line of telegraph to be completed and ready for operation by the **FIRST** day of **August** next at latest.

Satisfactory security will be required for the due performance of the work. Payment by periodical instalments, as the work advances.

Further particulars may be obtained on application to Mr. F. A. Willson, Honorary Secretary.
Montreal, January 7th, 1847.

The above is a copy of the original notice issued at the time, and must prove quite interesting to our readers of to-day. What were the first stations opened?—Ed.

WESTERN UNION QUARTERLY REPORT.

This Company's financial statement for the quarter ending March 31st shows a surplus on the 1st January last of \$3,970,931.78. The net revenues of the current quarter are estimated to reach \$1,650,000, making available or distribution the sum of \$5,620,931.78, or deducting \$126,420.90 for interest on bonded debt and sinking fund \$5,494,510.88. Out of this the Executive Committee have ordered to be paid April 15th to stockholders of record a quarterly dividend of 1½ per cent, requiring \$1,399,800, and leaving a surplus of \$4,094,710.88. This is certainly a healthy balance sheet.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.**OPENING OF THE FIRST OFFICE.**

We publish for the first time part of a letter addressed to us in 1865 from the genial, bluff and whole-souled E. I. Conway, now alas! dead many years. Many of the present "old boys" will recollect him well. We believe he commenced his career in this city on the Grand Trunk Line, where a younger brother much esteemed is to-day serving under that Corporation:

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C., March 7th, 1865.

DEAR JONN,—I have to thank you for two *brief* notes and one copy of the *Telegrapher*. How much subscription do I owe? Will forward as soon as I am notified. I am well pleased with the *Telegrapher*, and think it is a credit to the fraternity and those connected with it.

I have just returned from San Francisco, where I have been to confer with Col. Bulkley. Since my return I have built a short line from this city to the Governor's residence. It being the *first* telegraph in the colony, the largest portion of the population have imbibed rather freely, and the electric sparks seem to have set every-