

# Electrical Department.

A QUANTITY of editorial matter on electrical subjects is unavoidably crowded out of this issue.

A COMPANY of Canadian capitalists are pushing an invention of Thomas Harris, by which it is thought the necessity for a trolley on electric railways will be done away with. The chief points in the system are a third rail and two brushes placed beneath each car, while placed underneath the ground is the main wire which feeds the third rail by means of a switch.

A DEPUTATION representing the electric light, gas and telephone companies of Toronto, St. Catharines, Kingston, Stratford, London, and other Ontario towns, recently waited on the Ontario Government, to protest against recent legislation which looks upon their poles, wires, pipes, etc., as taxable property. They claimed that they had a right to exemption privileges in the same degree as railways and other corporations. Their grievances were promised early consideration.

AN exhibition will be held at the Imperial Institute, London, Eng., during the summer, of artistic and decorative pottery, china and glass manufactured in the United Kingdom, with which examples from India and the Colonies will be included. All exhibits, fittings, etc., must arrive at the Institute not later than the 9th of May next, and communications should be addressed to the secretary of the Pottery, China and Glass Exhibition (1894), Imperial Institute, London, S.W.

## Electric Flashes.

LETHBRIDGE, Alta., is to have telephone communication with Cardstone.

CARBERRY, Man., electric light plant has been bought in for H. Boyd, for \$3,950.

THE Packard Lamp Co., Montreal, have received an order for 10,000 lamps for Brazil.

A TELEPHONE line is to be constructed between Stittsville, Munster and Richmond.

MONTREAL Electric Street Railway Co. will increase their capital stock from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000.

THE projected electric railway between London and Woodstock is to carry freight as well as passengers.

ROBERT THOMSON has been elected president and John Knox vice-president of the Hamilton Electric Light and Power Co.

A COMPANY is being formed to supply power for the electric lighting of St. Anne de Beaupre, from the Chateau Richer Falls.

THE Niagara Falls Electric Railway is double-tracked from Dufferin Island to Chippewa and from the Whirlpool to Queenston.

AT the annual meeting of the Valley Telephone Company of Annapolis, N.S., last month, a dividend of 11½ per cent. was declared.

THE Electric Storage Battery Co. of Philadelphia purpose the establishment of a factory somewhere in Canada during the next few months.

COTE ST. ANTOINE council, Montreal, have granted a franchise to the Westmount Electric Road, which, it is expected, will be built by July 1st.

EFFORTS are being made by the Hamilton & Durdas Railway Co. to get permission to introduce electricity instead of, at present, "dummy" steam engines.

WM. SMITH read a very interesting paper a week or two ago before the Junior Electric Club, Montreal, on electric bells and batteries and how to set them up.

A NEW system of electric lighting is to be put in at Nanaimo.

THE Grand River overflowed its banks at Fergus, Ont., last month, causing damage and irregularity at the electric light works.

THE Bertram Engine Works, Toronto, have the contract for building a new 1,000-horse power engine for the Toronto Street Railway.

WORK has commenced on the west end cross-town line, Toronto. The idea of continuing the line to the beach has been abandoned.

THE Toronto Street Railway Co. are pushing on with their extension to Toronto Junction, and have only about an eighth of a mile to finish.

AN Ottawa journal suggests that water power sufficient to run ten electric plants in that city could be obtained from the Chats Falls, Fitzroy Harbor.

By the sudden rise in the Grand River, the Brantford Electric and Power Co.'s embankment was carried away and their whole works were endangered.

C. C. PAIGE, of the Packard Lamp Company, Montreal, has returned from Detroit and the principal cities of Ontario, after a most successful business trip.

JAMES ARMSTRONG's action to have York Township's bonus of \$20,000 to the Toronto and Richmond Hill electric railway quashed has been dismissed by the judge.

THE City and Suburban Electric Railway Company, of Toronto, have decided to extend their track to the water-works on the lake front near the Humber.

THE amalgamation of Ottawa's three electric light companies will come into effect about June 1st. The object of this combination is believed to be to cut down the expenses of management.

A LARGE portion of Windsor, Ont., was last month thrown into complete darkness owing to the burning out of an armature at the electric light works. The light committee are negotiating for a new one.

A CHARTER is being applied for by a new telegraph company, which proposes to construct a line between New Westminster, Vancouver, Victoria and Nanaimo, making connection with the Great Northern system.

THE Commercial Cable Company's report shows that the gross earnings for 1893 amounted to \$1,842,346, and expenses to \$784,600, leaving a balance of \$1,057,746, a decrease in net earnings compared with the previous year, of \$41,840.

IT has been decided by the Government to refund the amount paid by the Hamilton, Grimsby & Beamsville Electric Railway, as duty upon iron rails, though the question as to whether such articles are dutiable or not has not yet been settled.

AHEARN & SOPER, Ottawa, have the contract for all the electrical appliances, including two vestibuled cars, required by the Galt and Preston Electric Railway. The same firm have a contract for building five miles of the road.

IN the case of the old street railway at Winnipeg against the electric street railway, on the ground that the former company held a monopoly of the streets, Privy Council has decided in favor of the electric system. Numerous extensions will now be made.

THE cost of a single track railway from Hanlan's to Ward's, including four motor cars and four trailers, is estimated by Toronto city engineer at \$50,000. This estimate is based on the provision that power can be obtained from the city by means of a cable.

RAT PORTAGE, N.W.T., town council call for tenders to be sent in before May 1st, for lighting the town by electricity. The requirements are 22 arc lights of 2,000 candle-power, or a combination of 14 arc lights of 2,000 candle-power and 14 incandescent lamps of 64 candle-power.

IN the case of the G.T.R. and C.P.R., respecting the crossing of their tracks by the Toronto Electric Street Railway, the former companies claiming that the latter ought to cross either above or below their lines, the counsel for defendants put in the novel plea that an electric railway was not a railway at all, but merely a highway with facilities for transporting passengers. The point will probably come before the Supreme Court.