

THE PROVINCIAL.

HALIFAX, JULY, 1852.

THE ELECTRICAL TELEGRAPH.

It has been said by a modern writer that "science fulfils her holiest mission when ministering to the wants of mankind. Every discovery, every new truth, and every new application of an old truth, has a direct relation to the well being of man. The ultimate end of all scientific investigation, is to increase the comforts and to aid in all that pertains to man's physical well being, and moral and intellectual progress." The force of these remarks has been evidenced in a peculiarly striking point of view by the Electrical or Magnetic Telegraph—and daily experience is shewing to the world its almost inestimable value, and giving evidence that it is an agency of such social and commercial merit that its importance can scarcely be overrated. To shew that its practical value is even now extensively appreciated by the public in America as well as in Europe, we may refer to an authentic statistical authority as regards a single telegraphic circuit. The extent, says Appleton's Mechanics Magazine, to which telegraphic operations are already carried on, is evidenced by a statement of the business done on the lines between Philadelphia and Boston, which in a single day have amounted to 500 and 700, and upon the line from Pittsburg to Cincinnati in the year 1850 there were transmitted a total of 364,559 despatches, and the amount paid for them to the Operators was \$73,278. We are not furnished with the like statistics of telegraphic operations since the opening of our Provincial lines, now in a state of successful working, but have no doubt that all experience will demonstrate the great and increasing appreciation of this most rapid of all modes of friendly, commercial and scientific communication. The extension of Telegraphic lines is continuously proceeding throughout this North American Continent, and it is stated that further south a line is about to be opened the present season between Puebla and Orizaba in Mexico. It may thus be reasonably anticipated that within a brief period the chief cities and towns of this whole Continent throughout its vast extent will be brought within hail of each other. The greater facilities for the attainment of this grand result, as compared with Europe, tend to command for the subject peculiar interest and attention. On the score of economy the advantage is