

FIRST REPORT

OF THE

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

1861.

THE TORONTO STREET RAILWAY COMPANY (the first street railway of Canada) was organised at a meeting of the Provisional Directors, held May 29th, 1861, by compliance with the 3rd clause of the Act of Incorporation.

The construction of the Yonge-street line was commenced on the 26th day of August, 1861, and it was opened to the public on the 11th day of September following.

The Queen-street line was commenced on the 16th day of October, 1861, and opened to the public on the 2nd day of December following.

The travel on Yonge-street has been so much greater than was anticipated, as to require a double track. A great portion of it has been laid down, and would have been completed but for the approach of winter. It has been decided, so soon as the season opens, to remove the present track on Yonge-street over to its proper location, and complete the double track to Queen-street.

An arrangement having been made with the Toronto Road Company, the Yonge-street line has been extended to the northern limit of Yorkville. It is considered that this extension will be of essential benefit to the business, inasmuch as it will afford passengers living within a distance of four or five miles from the city, easy access to and from the country; and experience of street railways elsewhere proves that excursions and pleasure riding form a profitable part of the business.

Mr. Easton has made an assignment of his Agreement with the City of Toronto, and all interest therein, to this Company, a copy of which is appended. It contains the fullest covenants for ensuring and carrying out in the strictest terms every provision and condition made between the Corporation and Mr. Easton.

It is to be regretted that from unforeseen circumstances the citizens were put to much inconvenience and discomfort by the use of salt on the line of railway, while at the same time the traffic of the Company was interrupted. It is due to the public to state, that the evils referred to will not again occur.