

## THE CANADIAN ELECTRICAL NEWS.

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Correspondence on all Telegraphic, Telephonic or Electric Light subjects is solicited.

Readers are cordially invited to communicate their views and opinions on all topics within the province of this journal.

Items relating to Telegraphy, Telephony, Electric Light, or Inventions, will be thankfully received.

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MONTREAL, JUNE 1, 1884.

### A SUPERANNUATION FUND.

An Operator who enters the service of our leading Telegraph Company, may remain in the employ for many years, all the best years of his life, acting loyally and faithfully by his employers, and as old age creeps on him, has nothing laid by for the time when the Operator's foe, paralysis, renders him incapable of winning his bread. This is not a problem which can be solved with increase of pay, for now-a-days there are so many artificial wants that married men with limited income find it next to impossible to lay by sufficient money to enable them to pass their last years of life in comfort. Pay cannot exceed, even in the most prosperous times, a certain limit, and when the limit is judged by what similar service of others is worth, and this is usually the criterion with Managers and Superintendents, it is not to be expected that our operators can lay by any considerable sum from their earnings, for use in their days of incapacity. Besides when we have good times, they are so because every one is spending money lavishly; and telegraph operators are of a class who associate with those who have plenty of money, and they too spend their money freely. They cannot help it, their friends and associates do it, and why should they not enjoy life also? They spend their earnings, and cannot save.

The only solution of this problem that we can see, must result from action taken by the employers. The earnings of the employees cannot be reduced by any assessment either forced or voluntary, as they require all they get, to live. Were the employing Company to set apart a certain sum yearly to fructify at compound interest, and additions be made thereto from time to time by means of entertainments given in the cities by the operators, to which the general public might contribute by the admission fee; any surplus over the expenses going to the Superannuation Fund, and further contributions be obtained from annual subscriptions given by the Daily Press which

could not now exist; but for the patient and careful labor of telegraphers, and also by gentlemen who have during their career been indebted to Telegraphy for a living, and who may have become wealthy in other pursuits, it is quite possible that from all these as well as other sources, a respectable Fund would, in the course of years be formed, and some help be given in their old age, to those who have spent the prime of their life as continuous Operators, in this service.

### A SINGLE POLE QUADRUPLIX.

We have the pleasure to place before our readers a description of a Single Pole Quadruplex, which has just been invented by Superintendent B. B. Toye, of the Great North Western Telegraph Company's service at Toronto. We understand the patents have been applied for, as we are confident from the serviceable appearance of the innovation, that this new Canadian invention will be adopted everywhere in America and Europe.

We think the arrangement of Arm X a very pretty one, where it cuts out a magnet, when it is required to be cut out, and cuts it in again, when it is necessary to be in, and both by a stroke in the same direction.

The apparatus works remarkably well on a short line; and will, no doubt, do all that is anticipated, when introduced on a main business circuit.

We understand Mr. Toye has given this invention most of his spare time during the past six months, overcoming one difficulty after another, and in many cases "overcoming a difficulty" means introducing another, in another place. Thus it seems the main parts of this new invention are nearly as simple as a Repeater. We are pleased that a Canadian gentleman should be the first to invent this improvement, and we wish him all the success he merits.

### AGENTS.

We would like to have an operator in each of the large cities to act for us as Agent, to obtain subscriptions and advertisements. Besides assisting *their own* Canadian Paper, we will give a liberal remuneration for such services, and as only a portion of their spare time would be devoted to this work, we trust to have responses from many of our friends.

### CLUBS

Any friend who forwards us five subscriptions, we will send a copy of the News gratis for one year, to any address in Canada or the United States.

We are very thankful for many items of news from all quarters, but wish many more, as we are quite certain there is much transpiring of which we have no knowledge. Will every Superintendent, Operator and Clerk of every Telegraph, Telephone and Electric Light Company, as well as every other worker in the science of Electricity, consider him, or herself our SPECIAL correspondent, and in this way assisting to make our Journal, which is really *yours*, the repository for all information that may prove interesting, as well as having it printed in a form easily preserved for future reference.