

TORONTO and Hamilton, Ont., are both agitating the question of municipal lighting plants. Tenders will, probably, be called for in each case; but only in order to determine prices for purposes of argument.

THE Shipton Electric Light and Power Co., Danville, Que., has received a Crocker Turbine from the Jenckes Machine Co., Sherbrooke, which is proceeding with the installation of the same with penstock and draft tube.

THE report of the U.S. commissioner of patents for the year 1897 shows that to residents of foreign countries the number of patents issued were: England, 706; Canada, 286; Germany, 551, and France, 222. The most noted are those connected with the development of electrical inventions.

T. E. McLELAN, the courteous and obliging manager of the Berlin and Waterloo, Ont., Street Railway, has resigned his position to go to the Klondyke. He will be succeeded by H. H. Hilborn, E.E., of Montreal, who, since his graduation from Cornell, has been in the service of the Montreal Street Railway Co.

THE Halifax Electric Tramway Company, Limited, has just installed two large generators, each having a capacity of 6,000 sixteen-candle power lamps, which, together with generators previously operating, make the capacity of the company 18,000 sixteen-candle power lamps. There is no ground, the company states, for the rumor of the amalgamation of the company with the People's Heat and Light Company.

THE transfer of the Quebec District Railway from the present company to the new one formed by H. J. Beemer, will take place before July 1st. New open cars for summer use have been already ordered. Meanwhile the changing of the steam system to electricity on the line of the Quebec, Montmorency and Charlevoix Railway will be proceeded with. Most of the cars now in use upon the road will be run as electric cars with one, two or three trailers, as necessity may arise. It is the intention to run electric trains to Ste. Anne about every hour. About the whole amount of the capital stock of the new Quebec Electric Railway Company has been underwritten.

Personal.

MORGAN BALDWIN, harbor master, Toronto, died last month at his residence in that city.

THEO. ZWICKER, machinist, has now charge of the machine shop at the Halifax dry dock.

S. S. FOLEY, Chapleau, Ont., has been appointed despatcher on the Crow's Nest Pass Railway.

ED. S. FRASER, C.E., New Glasgow, N.S., has taken a position on the staff of the South Shore Railway.

JAS. W. MILNE, formerly of the Waterous Engine Works Co., Brantford, Ont., has gone to Vancouver, where he will represent a Montreal firm.

ENGINEER HUTCHINSON of the G.T.R., who was badly burned in the railway accident at Burlington, Ont., died at the Hamilton Hospital, March 4th.

ARCHITECT ADAMS, of the Kingston Penitentiary, has been suspended from duty on a charge of insubordination preferred by Deputy Warden O'Leary.

H. GARDNER SMITH, the new engineer of the D.A.R. steamer "Prince Edward," has arrived at Yarmouth, N.S., from England and entered upon his duties.

R. G. McCONNELL, of the Dominion Geological Survey, has accepted the position of mineralogist of the Province of British Columbia, to succeed W. A. Carlyle, who resigned.

THE death occurred at Truro, N.S., last month, of Wm. Yould, sr., assistant trackmaster of the I.C.R., aged 78 years. He was the first foreman of tracklaying on the Nova Scotia Railway, now a part of the I.C.R.

RAOUL RINFRET, C.E., of Montreal, who is going to the Yukon with the Slavin-Boyle party, has been commissioned by Minister Sifton to organize a meteorological service in the Yukon country, as well as to make certain surveys for the Interior Department.

THE well-known contractor, John Ross, died very suddenly at Lancaster, Ont., March 12th. He was very successful as a railway contractor, and very wealthy. It is said of him that he built more miles of railway than any other contractor in America. He was 78 years of age.

ALBERT ROBINSON, formerly of Crowe's Iron Works, Guelph, Ont., and lately of Detroit, has been made foreman of the Cossitt Works, Brockville, Ont.

JOHN GALBRAITH died recently in Brantford, Ont., from blood poisoning. Deceased had been employed for the past ten years as boiler-maker at the Waterous engine works. A few weeks ago he got his foot badly bruised with a heavy piece of iron, from the effects of which blood poisoning set in.

JAMES M. MACGOWN, who has interested himself in the Behring Sea investigation for some years, has, in recognition of his services been appointed by the Government assistant naturalist of the Geological Survey. He has been on the temporary staff of the Geological Survey since 1883.

THE death of W. M. Hamilton, recently, removes an old resident of Toronto. Mr. Hamilton had been for the last year manager of the St. Lawrence Foundry, but from 1885 to 1893 he was superintendent of the Parkdale Waterworks Department, but resigned when it was amalgamated with the city.

SIR HENRY BESSEMER, the celebrated inventor of Bessemer steel, died in London, March 15th. Deceased was an eminent engineer, born in Hertfordshire, England, in 1813, he early devoted himself to the improvement of machinery, and acquired celebrity by his invention of a new practical process for the manufacture of steel, which was extensively adopted in Europe and America, and the product of which is known in trade as Bessemer steel.

CECIL B. SMITH, M.A.E., A.M., Mem. Can. S.C.E., who has just resigned his post at McGill, to take a position on the engineering staff of the C.P.R., was born at Winona, near Hamilton, March, 1865, and received his education at the Hamilton Collegiate Institute, and afterwards in civil engineering at McGill University, graduating in 1884 with first honors and the Governor-General's medal. Since that time he has been engaged chiefly on railroads, although working for a short time under Mr. Thomas Monro on the Welland Canal, and under Mr. John Kennedy on the Montreal Harbor Commission. He has had charge of many heavy pieces of construction; on the Northern and Pacific Junction Railway under Mr. J. C. Bailey, on the St. Catharines and Niagara Central Railway under Mr. B. N. Molesworth, on the C.P.R. at London, Ont., under Mr. W. T. Jennings; surveyed for the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway during the summer of 1889, under Mr. A. L. Hogg. He was then appointed successively: resident engineer, chief draughtsman and division engineer on the C.C. and C.R.R. in Tennessee and S.C. under Mr. A. N. Molesworth, constructing 70 miles in all. He was then appointed division engineer on the Roanoke and Southern Railway, under Mr. Andrew Onderdonk, in charge of 65 miles of heavy work, including track-laying and maintenance. On this being completed, after short reconnaissances for the Concord Southern Railway, he was appointed resident engineer on the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, under Mr. W. T. Manning, in charge of 14 miles of very heavy work. On completion, he was appointed Lecturer in Civil Engineering and Descriptive Geometry at McGill University, the duties of the former being to lecture in railway engineering and on testing of materials of construction. In 1888 he was made associate M.C.S.C.E., and in 1894 obtained the degree of Master of Engineering from McGill University. On the occasion of his resignation from the faculty of applied science, McGill University, Professor Smith was the recipient of a beautifully engraved walnut case containing two very valuable aneroid barometers, with kindest expressions of regard and regrets at his withdrawal from the university, on behalf of the undergraduates of 1898 and 1899 of the faculty of applied science. The interesting series of papers from Mr. Smith's pen which have appeared in the CANADIAN ENGINEER during the past year will be continued in next year's volume. The articles which have already appeared are now ready to be issued in book form as "Railway Engineering," Vol. I.

Marine News.

Edwardsburg Starch Co., Cardinal, Ont.: Steamer—Rose-dale, Capt. Jas. Ewart, Engineer E. O'Dell.

Myles' Sons, Thomas, Hamilton, Ont.: Steamer—Myles, Capt. John S. Moore, Engineer Jas. Smeaton.

Sylvester Bros., Toronto, Ont.: Steamer—Eurydice, Capt. J. Jackson, Engineer Alex. Munro. Schooner—St. Louis, Capt. Geo. Williamson.

Merchants' Line, G. E. Jacques & Co., Montreal: Propellers—Cuba, Capt. Robert Chestnut, Engineer Wm. Kennedy; Melbourne, Capt. Hy. Chestnut, Engineer, Thos. Milne.