

SPARKS.

Watford, Ont., has two rival electric light companies, both having recently installed new plants.

It is the intention of the London Street Railway Company to extend their line to the village of Pottersburg.

The Electric Light and Power Company have offered to furnish the town of Dundas, Ont., with 25 street lights of 1,600 candle power for 300 nights a year at \$61.25 each.

The steamer Acadia, recently put on the St. Lawrence route by the Hamburg-American Packet Company, is fitted with quadruple engines of 2,500 horse power and lighted by two dynamos.

The McCormick Mfg. Co., of London, have changed their steam cooking system. The work was superintended by Mr. F. Mitchell, and the test now running shows a saving of fully 45% in fuel.

An Austria fluid designed to prevent boiler incrustation is composed of water, calcined soda, oil soot, pulverized zinc, caustic lime and mineral oil, to which blend are added tannin and tartaric acid.

Mr. C. E. Evans, manager of the Quebec District Electric Railway Company, expects to have the road completed before the first of July. Several cars have already been received from the manufacturers.

The city council of Chatham, Ont., by a vote of the ratepayers taken in February last, were authorized to purchase an electric light plant, and steps looking to that end are now being taken. The present contract for street lighting expires on September 1st.

In Gananoque, Ont., there are sixteen arc and eight incandescent lights, costing \$1,216 a year, or \$70 for each arc and \$12 for each incandescent. Under a new five years' contract there will be twenty-one arcs for \$1,200, and nine incandescents for \$80; total, \$1,280.

The Montreal Belt Line Railway Company officially opened their road to Bout de l'Isle last month. The line is twelve miles in length, and is thoroughly equipped. The officers of the company are: W. Dale Harris, president; Charles Desmarreau, vice-president; J. P. Mullarkey, managing director. It is expected to continue the road down the north shore of the St. Lawrence a considerable distance, and eventually to Berthier.

The Bell Telephone Company won the case brought against it by the United States to annul the last Berliner patent. This decision has the effect of continuing the control of the telephone by the Bell Company for seventeen years from the date of the last patent, which was granted in 1891. The government asked to have the patent of 1895 set aside on the ground that the delay of thirteen years in the patent office was fraudulent and the fault of the telephone company, and that the patent issued in 1880 covered the same ground on which the new patent was applied for in 1891. Justice Brewer said that there was no evidence of corruption or undue influence exercised over the patent office by the telephone company, and that there was no evidence that the delay in granting the patent had been brought about by the company. It held that whatever delay there had been was through the fault of the patent office.

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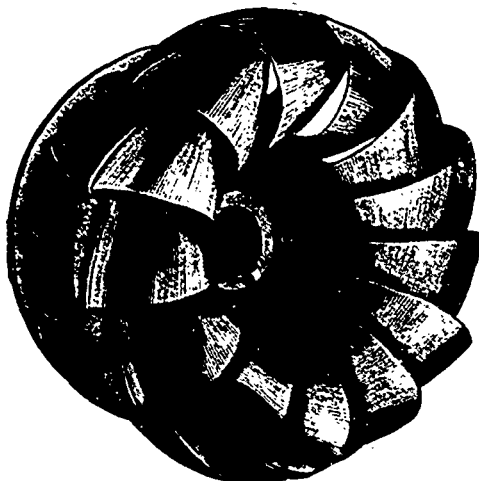
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The above Engraving illustrates the Runner Removed from Case.