

## ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS.

There have been several changes in matters Telegraphic during 1867. We therefore put our statistics in a new shape.

*Organisation of Companies.*—The "Montreal" Telegraph Company purchased, March 1st, 1867, the interest of the "Provincial." The lease of the Nova Scotia lines was, at about the same time, transferred to the "Western Union" instead of the "American" Telegraph Company, and the former ceded to the "New York, Newfoundland and London" Company, August 1st, the control of the Cape Breton portion thereof. The "Western Union" now controls the two New Brunswick Companies also. There thus remain in the Dominion the following Telegraph Companies:—

1. The Montreal Telegraph Company, having lines (a) in Quebec and Ontario and (b) in New Brunswick.
2. The New Brunswick Telegraph Company.
3. The Fredericton and St. John Telegraph Company. } Lines leased by the "Western Union."
4. The Nova Scotia Telegraph Company (lines leased by the Western Union.)
5. The New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Company in New Brunswick and in Nova Scotia.

*Miles of Posts and Wire.*—These Companies own the following mileage of posts and wire:—

	Montreal Tel. Co'y.		N. Brunsw'k Tel. Co'y.	P. & St. John Tel. Co'y.	Nova Scotia Tel. Co'y.	N. Y., Nfld & L. Tel. Co'y.		Total.
	In Q. & O.	In N. B.				In N. B.	In N. S.	
Length of Line—Miles	5,000	220	370	130	1,230	40	237	7,227
Miles of Wire used...	6,400	220	500	130	1,480	(a)40	270	9,040

In addition to this, it may be stated that the Montreal Telegraph Company own the following cables under the St. Lawrence, at Cap Rouge (Quebec)  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; at Bout de l'Isle,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; at Prescott,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; at Black Rock (Buffalo) two,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile each; at Sarnia,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. Also one at Dalhousie, N. B.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile.

The New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Company own 84 miles of cable between Port au Basque (Nfld.) and Aspy Bay, C. B.; also 10 miles between Cape Tormentine, N. B., and Cape Traverse, P. E. I. (b)

The Nova Scotia Company has two cables of 2 miles each across the Gut of Canso, one at Pugwash,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; and one at Arichat, 1 mile.

The Montreal Telegraph Company, the New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Company, and the Western Union Telegraph Company, are all busily increasing their net work of lines. The Montreal Telegraph Company now reaches almost every village in Quebec and Ontario. The New York, Newfoundland and London Company is about laying a new submarine cable from Placentia (Nfld.) to Sydney (C.B.) The Nova Scotia lines have been lately brought into communication with the coal mines, and the Western Union Company is now stringing 500 more miles of wire in that Province, for the transmission of its increasing European business, and lines and offices will shortly be established for the benefit of the gold mining districts.

We may here add, that the length of posts and wire in Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island is as follows:—

In Newfoundland, 649 miles of posts, 1,216 miles of wire, owned by the New York, Newfoundland and London Company.

In Prince Edward Island, 30 miles of wire and posts, owned by the New York, Newfoundland and London Company, and 20 miles of posts and 50 miles of wire by private parties.

*Offices, Instruments and Messages.*—The numbers of offices open to the public, of sets of instruments in use, and of public messages sent, was as under, in 1866:

	Montreal Tel. Co'y.		N. Brunsw'k Tel. Co'y.	P. & St. John Tel. Co'y.	Nova Scotia Tel. Co'y.	N. Y., Nfld & L. Tel. Co'y.		Total.
	In Q. & O.	In N. B.				In N. B.	In N. S.	
Offices .....	413	8	18	3	44	(a)2	9	497
Instruments .....	488	(a)8	25	3	45	(a)2	13	594
Messages .....	499,757	(a)6,000	(a) 20,000	(a) 3,000	61,000	(a)1,000	(a)10,000	600,757

There is no doubt that, during 1867, the number of messages sent has very much increased, especially on the line of the Montreal Telegraph Company, which has considerably reduced its tariff.

The above messages do not include "through" messages, such as those by the Atlantic cable between Europe and the United States, but are those originating, or delivered at different places in the Dominion.

*Connections.*—The Montreal Telegraph Company's lines connect with the New Brunswick lines at Campbelltown, those of New Brunswick with those of Nova Scotia at Sackville, to which place the Montreal Telegraph Company's wires extend, and with the Prince Edward Island cable at Cape Tormentine. The Nova Scotia lines connect with New York, Newfoundland and London wires at Plaster Cove, on the Gut of Canso.

(a) Estimate.

(b) We believe we may lay claim to the Atlantic Cable as, in a great measure, a British American work. From the facts elicited in the debates of the last session of the Newfoundland Parliament, it appears that the idea and plan originated with Mr. Gleborne, a Canadian. The actual length of the cable is 1866 miles, and it was laid in the year 1866.