

## TELEGRAPHS.

The past year has been an unusually active one in Telegraph matters in Canada.

The Montreal Telegraph Company has reduced its charges very materially, as per altered tariff elsewhere given. The change has not diminished the revenue of the Company but must have been a great boon to the Public. Telegraphic messages need now no longer be so brief as they formerly were, and can take the place of correspondence by letter to a greater extent.

The Montreal Telegraph Company has also added nearly 15 per cent. to its lines, during the year. It is almost matter for regret that we cannot give figures later than November, 1863, but it is better to be exact than to run the risk of inaccuracy by giving a hurriedly made up statement.

The Dominion Company in the West, and the People's Telegraph in the East, both now appearing for the first time in the returns, are approaching each other, and will endeavour to dispute the supremacy of the Montreal Telegraph Company—no easy task.

We regret that we have no later figures from the New Brunswick Companies, which must, we should think, have extended their wires along the new railroad lines considerably.

With these remarks we refer to the following table, which shews the principal facts connected with Canadian telegraph lines.

	Montreal Telegraph Company.			The Dominion Telegraph Company †	Th. People's Telegraph Co ‡	New Brunswick Telegraph Co.	Frederickton and St. John's Telegraph Co.	Nova Scotia Telegraph Co. §	New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Co.				Total.
	In Quebec and Ontario	In N. B.	In the U. S.						In N. B.	In U. S.	In Nfld.	In P. E. I.	
Miles of Line - -	5,849	236	789	113	333	369	130	930	40	335	649	30	9,563
Miles of wire laid - -	7,811	236	915	20	666	693	130	1,516	40	400	1,216	50	13,793
Offices open - -	385	10	87	5	8	20	3	44	2	17	20	2	603
Instruments used - -	523	11	115	5	10	32	3	60	2	21	25	3	816
Messages sent * - -	552,638	16,051	61,839	-	-	60,688	18,620	58,000	1000	20,000	20,000	1000	809,331
Capital of Co. authorized - -	\$750,000			500,000	100,000	32,240	11,000	125,000	200,000				¶
Subscribed - -	750,000			150,000	100,000	32,240	11,000	125,000	200,000				
Last year's divid. - -	10 per cent.			-	-	9 p. c.	7 p. c.	5 p. .	10 per cent.				
Each share, par value of - -	\$40			-	-	-	-	-	-				
Chief offices of the Company - -	Hugh Allan, President, Jas. Dakers, Secretary, Montreal.			Hon. W. Cayley, President, Toronto.	A. Joseph, Chairman, Quebec.	Return of 1868.	Return of 1868.	W. H. Wiswell, Auditor, Halifax.	-				
Date of the statement - -	Nov 30, 1863 †			Sept. 23, 1869.	Oct. 21 1869.	-	-	April 29, 1869	-				

\* This excludes Cable Telegraphs for the U. S. which is "through business" and does not appertain to the business of Canada.

† No complete statement later than this can be rendered, but in 1869, to date, the Montreal Telegraph Company has built upwards of 1,000 miles of new lines and opened between 50 and 60 new offices.

‡ This is the statement respecting the Dominion Telegraph Company at the date of the line being taken over from the contractor. The number of messages sent, and other details, cannot be given until another year. The Company is calling for tenders for the completion of wires to Montreal and Sarnia.

§ Not including the lines in Cape Breton, which at the close of 1867 passed under the control of the New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Company.

|| This Company is only just commencing business; all its offices not being yet opened.

¶ The value of Telegraph property in the Dominion is considerably over \$2,000,000. A total to the above figures would only mislead, as the capital is doubtless much below the present value of the lines.