

ford, Ontario, to the residence of the Rev. T. Henderson, also of Brantford. The first commercial line was established at Hamilton, Ontario, in October, 1877. In the same year Edison opened up correspondence with parties in Montreal, but he admitted Bell's claim to priority. Canada is the birth-place of the telephone.

1187. From an article in "Economiste Francais," quoted in the "British Board of Trade Journal," September, 1893, the following statistics of telephones are compiled:—

Country.	Year.	Length of wire.
Germany	1890	71,000
Austria.....	1890	21,000
Belgium.....	1890	13,000
Switzerland.....	1890	10,150
Sweden.....	1890	34,000
Russia.....	1890	16,500
Japan.....	1890	1,100

1188. Of France the "Economiste Francais" said: 'At the present day France is covered from one end of the country to the other with a net-work of telephone lines. France set the example of long-distance telephones by the creation of direct communication between Paris, Lyons and Marseilles (562 miles). This, however, has since been excelled by the telephone line between New York and Chicago (994 miles)."

1189. The United States in 1893 had 307,791 miles of telephone wire. Canada had 8,800 miles of wire for each million of her people; the United States had 4,700 miles.