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TELEPHONE LINE BUILDING IN LONDON

Electrical Transmission of Light_Ed Ison's Pictures on the Wall_Important Improvements in the Application of Electricity.

It was a year ago, on the 4th inst., that Mr. Rudolph Baumann, the Swiss engineer, moved the small hand wheel which control the first great turbine in the central station of the Niagara Falls Power company. Then the field of the generator revolved quietly effectively, and the civil, hydraulic and electrical engineers who had helped build the plant knew that their work was a success. The machinery which had the power of transforming the energy was all it was expected to be, and since then two others have been successfully erected. All that remained to be done one year ago was the construction of proper conductors to convey the electrical force to the point of application and use, and since then this has been done, so that today the lands of the power company are enlivened by several factories, the growth of a year. Briefly recalled, says the Philadel-phia Record, they are a carborundrum plant, formerly of Monongabela City, Pa.; an aluminum plant, a branch of the Kensington (Pa.) plant; a carbide factory, to furnish the ma-terial with which to make acetylene gas, and a potash and sodium works. In addition to power from these mighty generthese the power from these mighty gener-ators, built by the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company of Pittsburg, Pa., is being used for operating the Buffalo and Niagara Falls Electric railway, and the varies in the City of Niagara Falls. It is also being used to light Niagara Falls. factories are in process of erection, all dem-onstrating that the first year of the applica-tion of power from the large dynamos has been an unqualified success, and that the tur-bines built by R. D. Wood & Co. of this city are unequalled in the world. These great turbines have withstood the

great strain on them for a year without Never before have turbines been subjected to such a etrain. The specifica-tions furnished to the builders of the ma-chinery for the Niagara power development named physical tests so high as to deter some manufacturers from bidding. When terial to employ, preference was given to that which would put the durability be-yond any doubt. This is particularly the case in regard to the wheels themselves. case in regard to the wheels themselves. Bronze was adopted at a very great in-crease of cost to render failure from any cause impossible so far as the wheels are concerned. The tests of the material used in the construction were followed by the inspectors from the mills to the manufacturing establishments making the wheels and other machinery with the most careful precision and rigid adherence to the rements of the specification. Each of three wheels now in place in the l pit consist of two Fourneyrou tur-the one inverted and vertices. wheel pit consist of two Fourneyrou tur-bines, the one inverted and vertically over e other, so as to neutralize weight on e bearing. Each of these twin wheels moreover, made three stories high, while the speed gate consists of a cylindrical rim, moving up and down on the outside of

To further neutralize weight on the upper bearings of the shaft, the water from penstock is allowed to pass through the disk of the upper guide wheel and to act vertically upward upon the disk of the lower guide wheel is, on the other hand, solid. The eight of the water upon is is supported by three inclined rods passing through it and the wheel casing. These wheels will each discharge 430 cubic feet per second, and, acting under about 136 feet fell from surface of the upper water to the center be-tween the upper and lower wheels, will make sent them a letter copying their note, and 250 revolutions per minute, and at 75 per

THE FIELD OF ELECTRICITY cent efficiency will give 5,000-horse power. The guide wheel has thirty-six buckets, and the turbine wheel thirty-two. These buckets by noon the next day. are thickened in the middle, this being the most approved form of bucket, said to be Dr. Frank M. Close of Oaklan especially useful when the wheel is acting at part gate. The shaft wheel leading from the wheels to the generator is a steel tube, thirty-eight inches in diameter, except at points where it passes the journal bearings or guides, at which point it is eleven inches a diameter and solid. They are warranted by the makers to keep the speed constant within 2 per cent under ordinary conditions of operation, and not allow it to vary more han 4 per cent, should the work done be suddenly increased or diminished by 25 per cent. The entire weight of the shafts and all revolving parts aggregating 160,000 pounds, is supported and float, as is were, in

> TELEPHONE LINES IN LONDON. Obtaining the rights from property owners

or the running of telephone exchange lines London is a very troublesome and exnaive business, says a writer in Electric large number of the buildings are built on ground which is leased for a long term of years, and since these are often sublet it necessary to get the written permission of fixtures on the erally, as a consideration for this privilege the telephone company has to agree to keep the roofs in repair. In laying out the route for trunk lines, often the particular building you require is very difficult to secure, and more especially so if the janitor should by accident ascertain this fact. In 1882 the London and Globe Telephone

Maintenance company was engaged in entablishing a telephone service in London in opposition to the United Telephone comwhich controlled the Bell and Edison London. Conflicts arose frequently between the employes of the two companies and especially in reference to conscious rights.

In one instance where the London and Globe company had secured rights for a long trunk line and had run wires out from the central office about a mile, the men quit work, as was the custom, at noon on a Saturday. On Monday when they started to continue their work they found that the United company had placed high fixtures directly at right angles to their line, and placed thereon continue the extension of the trunk line, and a large portion of the work had to be aban-doned and a new route secured. Within a few days the United company leased the roof of one of the buildings in which we had a small office, and served a written notice upon me to have a fixture we had upon the build-ing removed by noon the next day or they would take it down themselves. The fixture was taken away, and we of course, had to abandon the office. Previous to this I had written to the United company several times, advising them that we should take steps to protect ourselves if they continued his kind

The central offices of both companies were located on the same street and in the same block, but some distance spart. The Lonion and Globe company had their offices in Wool exchange, an immense building, fronting on two streets, the entire roof pany, without any permit from us, had placed large number of wires with fixtures on the building. I secured for the London and Globe company the lease of the roof of the building on three sides of that occupied by the United company-the fourth side being the street. There was also a place near the Bank of England, where it was very difficult to secure a building high enough to carry the trunk lines to one section of the cityin fact, there was only one, and that was occupied by a firm with which our company had considerable business. The United com-pany had appropriated the roof of this building without any lease, and had a large number of wires and cables thereon. The lease of this roof having been secured for the London and Globe company, I constructed an ap-paratus which would send over a line a very strong current of electricity that would ring arrong current of electricity that would ring magnetic beils, and when the telephone was taken off the hook to answer a supposed call would cause the induction in the receiving telephone to be so strong that no conversa-This instrument,

nected to a large battery, was placed in the Wool exchange office ready for use. A few days after the United company had ordered our pole removed from our building

discovered a new application for the X or Roentgen ray, by which he expects to de-velop an apparatus for the electrical transmission of light, so that in the future it will be possible to see long distances through the medium of electric wires, "Telectro scope" is the name Dr. Close applies to this apparatus, which in its present crude state is little more in appearance than two cigar boxes connected with 10 feet of wire, one of which is called by its inventor the trans mitter and the other the receiver. In from of the receiver a piece of tourmaline or Ice land spar is placed, and to this the eye of the person testing the apparatus is placed In front of the opening of the transmitter is the eye perceives the flame of the candle though ten feet distant and in an adjoining For the purpose of the experimen the tourmaline of the receiver is removed the transmitter, no light is seen.

The explanation of this phenomenon Dr Closs demonstrates to be very simple and analogous to the transmission electricity. 'I was first led into these ex-periments by the discovery some years ago of the thermal ray, a hitherto unknown property of light. By passing a thermomeback and forth along the solar spectrum it was found that neither of the seven-colo rays had a perceptible influence upon the mercury, but that at a certain distance de yond the red rays there occurred a remarka ble effect, the mercury rising rapidly. Re-peated experiments demonstrated that the effect was a result of a peculiar invisible heat property of light. Afterwards Dr. Vogel, the eminent photographic scientist, dis covered the existence of the invisible ac

"Proceeding along this line of experiment passed a magnetic needle back and forth along the spectrum and discovered at a certain distance beyond the violet ray the existence of an electric ray, or, more prop erly, an electric division of the ray. Proceeding further with the experiment, found that an ordinary machine needle sus pended by a cobweb passed back and forth along the spectrum was at a certain point between the electric and actinic division plainly influenced by an invisible force, and as an electric property.

"I made no attempt to utilize these pror erties of light in any other manner than to make the discovery of the means of transmitting light electrically after the manner of sound by the telephone. Sound in the telephone is transformed into electricity in the transmitter and is conducted by wire to the receiver, where the electricity is transformed into sound. So it is with my apparatus. It is simply a soft iron magnet inclosed in a box, connected by ten feet o wire with a similar soft iron magnet at the other end. A lighted candle placed in front of the opening in one box by means of those invisible properties excites a current of electricity, which is transmitted to the other magnet and there reconverted into its original form. By interposition of a prism the light is reproduced. I make no claim for this discovery beyond the opening of a new field of possibilities and experi-ment. The Roentgen ray is denoted X ray because its properties are unknown. I be-lieve the X ray and the ray I have utilized is the same. It seems to me possible to de-velop this discovery of mine into a means of enabling a man to see great distances. "In my present apparatus only about ten fee of wire is used, but the result would be the same with ten miles. It is crude, but so was the first telephone. It was long after sound was first transmitted before articulate speech could be heard at great distances. I

speech could be heard at great distances. It may be years before the perfected 'telectro-scope' is a perfect realization, but I be-lieve that, whether I succeed in perfecting it or not, some one will solve all the diffi-culties that stand in the way, and that it will be possible some time to stand at an instrument in San Francisco and not only

hear, but see the man with whom we talk in Oakland. That is why I have called it

relectroscope. By a perfect 'telectroscope' photographs may some day be made in San Francisco of a subject in Sacramento, or even farther away, and the transmission of photographs around the world in as short a

A new invention by Thomas A. Edison was shown to a few favored persons at the West Orange laboratory one evening last week. The new machine is really a grown

up kinetoscope, and it is a success, in the opinion of the New York Herald. Mr. Edison calls his latest invention vitascope, which he says means a machine showing life, and that is exactly what the

new apparatus does. The vitageope, which has been in process of perfection at the Liewellyn laboratory for the last seven or eight months, under Mr Edis-n's direction, is the ideal he had in mind, he says, when he began work on the kinetoscope machine, with which he has never been satisfied.

The vitascope is an improvement of th kinetoscope, by which moving life size fig-ures of men, women and animals are thrown upon a screen by means of bright lights and powerful lenses. The trial of the new ma-chine was made in a cold corner of the big foundry at the works, and Mr. Edison, with Richard N. Dyer, William J. Gilmour, mannograph works; Raff & Gam men of New York, and a few invited guests huddled around a red hot stove and gazed at and admired the marvelous figures thrown upon a big white screen at one end of the

The first picture shown was a colored pane went out to West Orange to pose one day last summer. The film roll on which the photographs were attached was arranged over a half dozen spools and pulleys, and the ma-chine was set in motion. Even the inventor himself was surprised

at the result, although with his usual critical eye he discovered flaws in the film which he declared must be disposed of hefore the vitascope would come up to his ideal. Anabelle danced for five minutes, and ther a panorama of the latest English Derby was thrown upon the screen. feature of the new machine which as

tonished all who saw the views was the al

most entire absence of vibration in the pic-tures as they appeared on the screen, and which had been the hardest obstacles to sur mount in perfecting the apparatus. The original photographs as by the kinete scope and developed on the film roll are about the size of a special delivery postage stamp, and to produce a life size picture they course each vibration of the film or the apwhich revolves it is magnified in like proportion, and every previous attempt to de

away with this vibration had been unsuccess

Mr. Edison expects to be able soon to im prove the phonograph so he will be able to take records double the length of these which the present cylinders will contain, and the vitascope and phonograph will then be so combined that it will be possible for an audience to watch a photographic reproduc tion of a grand opera and hear the singers and see the acting with as much distinctness of sound and vision as if they were in th

opera house ANNEALING WIRE RODS. The bending of a wire rod heated to red The bending of a wire rod heated to red-ness causes sing scale, and oxidated parti-cles adhering to it will drop at or near the bend. This has been remedied by the use of electric heating. The rod is reeled off the coll without previous subjection to an acid bath. A current of electricity then passes through it and brings it at once to red heat. Passing on its way, the red-hot rod is fed to a set of rollers, by means of which every portion of it is bent, and the scale is loosened. The rod is then passed

through wire brushes and other cleaning apparatus, from which it comes out a pure soft wire ready for drawing. When necessary, the rod after being heated by the current may be passed through rollers to reduce its diameter, and thus labor and expense will be saved. This process can, course, he repeated whenever through application of the drawing block the rod has application of the drawing block the rod has become too brittle. This method of pre-paring the rod offers many palpable ad-vantages, especially the elimination of klins, baths and baker, and the drying, beating and shaking of the red coils. It also re moves one of the great troubles of the wire

in the application of external heat. scale is not burned in, but drops naturally, and the oxidation is slight, and in the form of an easily removed soft powder. Since it teriorating effect on the rod, the process is especially valuable for the production of wire for cables. This preparation of wire rod for drawing not only effects economy in time, labor, expense and space,

gives a greatly improved product.

ELECTRIC HAND LAMPS. The attempt of the manufacturers to turn out an electric hand lamp has not hitherto seen attended with much success. The lamp, fairly serviceable, has generally been A Vienna electrical engineer unwieldly. A Vienna electrical engineer seems to have overcome the difficulty. His lamps are constructed in the shape of botles, clocks, opera glasses, or in imitation of any object whatever, but they all embody the same principle. In the bottle-shaped lamps, the bottle neck contains a small bat-tery, in which three pairs of platinum and zinc elements of the smallest possible size are concealed. This battery is said to furnish a current of from four to five amperes at six volts. A minute incandescent lamp is connected to the poles of the battery, and protected by a knob of cut glass, the lower part of which is silvered, and acts as a reflector. The body of the bottle contains he reservoir, in which the battery solution As soon as the bottle is inclined so that the fluid reaches the battery the current is generated, and the lamp glows with a brilliant light. No sooner is the bottle replaced in a vertical position than the light is extinguished. When the lamp is not in use there is no waste of material, and the smallest-sized bottle will furnish a continuous light for about half an hour. POPLAR TREES AS LIGHTNING RODS.

There has been an investigation in Gerin general to be struck by lightning, with special reference to the poplar. The con-ductivity of different kinds of woods was determined by placing pieces between the poles of a Holtz machine, and noting the quantity of electricity which was accumulated before a spark passed. The woods containing fats were in all cases poorer conductors, while the latter the best were poplar, oak and wil-low, and it was decided that the poplar tree was an exceptionally good lightning con-ductor. Various authorities were cited in support of the conclusion that where protec-tion from lightning was specially desired to be protected was advisable. At the same time the trees need not be too numerous A number of cases were cited to show that tection is not increased, and that absolute sifety was not obtained even by a circle of trees. In many cases the lightning had jumped from the trees to the house. It was found that the danger of the current jumping from the trees to the roof of a building is very great when the distance between them is less than six and one-half feet.

RELIGIOUS.

Luther's bible, which he used in his study, is in the possession of a Perlin museum. margins are covered with notes in Luther's Dr. Alexander, the new primate of all Ire-

land, is over 70, and of late he has lost something of the fire of his eloquence; but he is, with the possible exception of Dr. Sal-mond, by far the greatest preacher in the church in Ireland. Holman Hunt is father of a scheme

forming a Jewish nation in Palestine. He wishes to raise \$100,000,000 and buy out all Turkish rights in the holy land. have the same boundaries as indicated by Moses. "Rev. Austin Willey," says the Springfield

Republican, "who died at Northfield, Minn., at the age of 89, had the distinction of being

parts of the rod. This secures not only ties of the southern tier of Maryland-Prince thorough cleaning and annealing, but, as George's St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert. division was made not only with the consent, but with the recommendation of the bishop of Maryland. Rev. John B. Devins, pastor of Hope chapel,

New York, and an expert in city mission work, in a recent number of the Independent gives it as his opinion after extended per-sonal contact with officers and men of the Salvation army that the army, as an instituion, is a dangerous rival of the Christ, instead of being the helpful ally that t has been uniformly considered to be A Cripple Creek correspondent of the Chicago Evening Post says: "Among the celebrities of Cripple Creek is Rev. C. Y. Grimes, an Episcopal clergyman, educated at the Chicago Theological seminary, whose early career embraced life on the frontier among 'cow-punchers.' He is a man of unusual force, of dignity and fire. His church is crowded to overflowing. His eloquence and presence would grace the foremost churches in the east, where \$10,000 salaries are paid, but he modestly prefers to stand his ground fitness to fearlessly cope with the old red rustler. Some day he may be chosen bishop. His guild house floats the American flag, surmounted by the cross, for which he has been criticised, but his reply came that God was first, country afterward, and that no man could be intrusted with the latter unless a firm believer in his Creator. That flag floats in spite of croakers, and assures the incoming stranger of the existence of righteousness and patriotism."

IMPIETIES.

Rev. Dr. X, occupying a charge in a New England church, announced some time ago that the regular weekly prayer meeting would be devoted to discussion of a certain pounds, an increase of fifty pounds over that question of general interest to the congregation. Many members of the church wished tion. Many members of the church wished to take part in the discussion; it was thereexpired, the clergyman was to notify him by rapping with a pencil on the desk. Deacon restriction was specially directed. As every-body anticipated, the deacon was one of the first to address the meeting, and he had not fairly started on his remarks when the rap of the pencil was heard. "Am I to understand," asked the deacon,

turning to Dr. X, "that my five minutes have bed. expired?"
"Yes, deacon; I am sorry, but your time is "And all general remarks are limited to

ave minutes? "Yes; that was the understanding.

The deacon turned very deliberately to his fail. fellow members. "Then, brethren," he proceeded, "I shall throw the remainder of my york remarks into the form of a prayer."

The deacon kept the floor.

The late Archdeacon Denison of England was always violently opposed to the govern-ment school inspectors. "My dear Bellairs," he said to one of them, "I love you very much, but if you ever come here again to inspect I will lock the door of the school and tell the boys to put you in the pond." Mr. Bellairs did not go again. Some years later another inspector, his "dear friend Tmling," proposed to come and inspect the school. "Oh, come by all means," he said; "I shall never ask a sixpence of their money, and I hink them quite as mischlevous as I ever did; but pray come if you like; always very glad to see you." On the day of inspection, when the archdeacon supposed that the work out.

A clergyman in an castern town baths and baker, and the drying, beating and shaking of the red coils. It also removes one of the great troubles of the wire industry, the objectionable drainage and offal water, and the unhealthy fumes of the support of the country. This was the Advotate of freedom, which was started in 1839, at Bangor, by the Maine abolitionists."

A clergyman in an castern town warned Burton had recovered his hearers lately "not to walk in a slippery paper in the country. This was the Advotate of the support o

hear, Mr. Archdeacon, as how you refuses to bury dissenters." "No," replied the archdeacon, "you have been wrongfully informed, my man. I should really like to bury then

An English preacher was speaking of the transitoriness of earthly thinge. "Look at the great cities of antiquity!" he exclaimed, "where are they now? Why, some of them have perished so utterly that it is doubtful if they ever existed."

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Of the 40,000 species of beetles widely diffused over the earth's surface not one known to be venomous or armed with a

A young lady in New Jersey heard a man in her wardrobe and after neatly turning the key sent for a policeman.

The first Greek to explain the true charcter of the sun, and to hoot the idea of it being a God was Anaxagoras, born in Ionia he was punished as an atheist.

The "Breeches" bible is so called because of a peculiar error it contains. printed at Geneva by English exiles, and has this curious rendering of Genesis "Making themselves breeches out of fig leaves.'

During the past year Sandow has become a confirmed bicyclist. He did not at first give his approval to this form of exercise, thinking it would develop the leg muscles only. He has increased his single finger lift from 600 pounds to 750, while the dumbbell that he raises with one hand weighs 255

One of the most remarkable freaks of nafore decided to limit each member's remarks to five minutes. When the speaker's time Thomas Flannigan, a Panhandle section foreman, who lives in Elwood, Ind. The rooster is 2 years old and, although otherwise a common looking chicken, it has two well de-A. a notoriously long-winded speaker and ex-horter, was one of the members at whom the out from the hips immediately behind the ordinary legs, and when it walks the hind legs go through the motions of walking. The chicken is a great pet and attracts wide-spread attention.

A Chicago woman found a man under her bed. As she had been anticipating this event since the age of maturity, she was prepared for the emergency. True to the program which had been mapped out in her mind for many years, she seized the intruder by his shoulders and yelled for the police. The scheme succeeded and the burglar is now in

There are over a thousand men in Nev York and Brooklyn, according to the lafest returns, who are worth between \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000 each, and the most of them are entirely unknown to the general public. Only two citizens of New York—John D. Rockefeller and W. W. Astor—are supposed to be worth more than \$100,000,000 aplece; but there are nine who are each worth \$50,000,000 and over, as well as two estates of like amount. The total number of million-aires in these two cities is greater than in all the rest of the country.

While the friends of Clara Heppenstall write the friends of Clara Reppensions
were gathered in her home at Freehold,
N. J., on the night of the 4th inst., talking
of her life and of her death on the day before, they were startled by a shrick coming from the room where the body had been laid out. Several of the men present rushed when the archdeacon supposed that the work was nearly over, he and his wife went to see "how they were getting on." Her majesty's inspector said he would like to hear them sing, whereupon the children struck up "Goosey, goosey gander," going on to "Old Father Longlegs wouldn't say his prayers," anding with "Take him by the left leg and throw him downstairs."

Several of the men present rushed to the room, but instantly ran back with blanched faces. Sitting upright in her white open eyes. Her lips began to move as if she would speak. Then the young woman fell back into the coffin. Charles Burton, a neighbor, fainted. The frightened men finely plucked up courage enough to go to the assistance of Burton, and a doctor was health. pineked up courage enough to go to the as-sistance of Burton, and a doctor was hastily When the physician