
Mr. Brush and His Work.

A recent interview in the *Boston Globe* presents Mr. C. F. Brush in an interesting light, as he appears in Cleveland to-day, enjoying the fruits of a useful life and attending regularly at his office with hours 11.30 to 12. Speaking of his early work in arc lighting he said:

"The capacity of the first French machines was but one light apiece. They never could have been successfully used except in a very limited way. With the current of my dynamo, however, I could light 2 and then 4 and then 16 lamps. To-day dynamos are manufactured which light 125 lamps.

"Thus, what we call series arc lighting was made practicable, and a whole city could be illuminated from a central station.

"During the summer of 1876 I took my first dynamo to my father's farm, and there, where no one could see me, gave it a thorough trial. Two horses from the plow supplied me with power. So far as I could judge, the machine was a distinct success.

"That autumn a company in Cleveland began to manufacture it for electro-plating purposes. At that time the use of electricity was limited to telegraphing—a single message on a single wire—to door-bells, annunciators in hotels, burglar-alarms and plating. While my dynamo was given over to electro-plating, my purpose all along was to make a machine that would successfully and economically produce light.

"Late in 1876 I ran a wire from our little factory to the roof of a building on the public square in this city. I set up a lamp and during a parade of soldiers in the evening threw my light into the street below and the eyes of the men and their horses. That was the first public exhibition of the arc light.

"The men in the parade were confused, and there was some trouble with their horses. The police scrambled to the roof and, in more roughness than I thought to be necessary, stopped me.

"Dr. Longworth, of Cincinnati, was our first customer. He bought a dynamo and lamp—I had also invented a lamp—and I set them up.

"In 1878 I made it possible to operate a machine at a central station and to light lamps in a series and long distances apart. The first series plant, a six-light machine, was sold in December to a clothing dealer in Boston.

"Twelve arc lamps were hung in the public square of Cleveland in April, 1879, and thus was inaugurated the era of street lighting by electricity. Sixteen-light machines followed, and in 1880 we were making dynamos of 40-light capacity.

"We sent a 16-lamp outfit to London in 1880, and the Anglo-American Brush Electric Company was organized, the capital of which was \$4,000,000. In 1882 we exhibited our light in the main street of Tokio, Japan."

As to future developments, Mr. Brush remarked: "Ten thousand able men are investigating and experimenting in all parts of the world. We may have no important discoveries for ten years—that happens sometimes. Then they follow in quick succession and startle mankind. I believe the telephone to be the greatest discovery of the age. We could use steam for power and gas for lighting, but there is no substitute for the telephone.

"Radium, a marvelous revelation of one of the secrets of nature, may help to clear up the mysteries which now conceal the truth concerning electricity and gravity and work other wonders of which we little dream."
