



THE GATHERER.

Electric Ship Lights.

Crocodile, in Portsmouth Harbour, have demonstrated that the incandescent lamp is far superior to the ordinary oil lamp used for ships' port, starboard, and mast-head lights. A 50-candle power Edison lamp was pitted against the ordinary oil lantern, and several observers sent a mile to sea in order to compare their brightness. The electric lamp was by far the brighter, and a 16-candle power Edison lamp was therefore substituted for the 50-candle power one. Even this was visible at a much greater distance

than the oil lamp; the latter being cut off by a haze, while the former remained distinctly visible to the observers when two miles away. It is expected that the Admiralty will adopt the new light in preference to oil on ships carrying electric machinery.

Azotine.

A French inventor, M. Heddebault, has found that when rags of cotton and wool, mixed, are subjected to the action of a jet of superheated steam under a pressure of five atmospheres, the wool melts and sinks in a liquid mud to the bottom of the receptacle, while the