

In another year we shall have a larger hall, and own it; but I do not want it too large. We must not run the risk of growing out of ourselves, so to speak. The mutual profit in our case depends on our keeping close to one another, and that cannot be done if we become too many. But we do need more room, especially for our Sunday-school and the sermons on Sunday mornings, and this we shall have."

The pastor said he had received no money at all from American friends. Not that he expected it, but he thought proper to deny the statements made to the effect of Mr. Wanamaker's having subscribed fifty thousand dollars to his enterprise.

"I should never refuse money for our

cause," he said, "that would be wrong. But I believe that, as in the past, so in the future, we shall have to depend on our own efforts. That is the way things are done, and we shall succeed all the better for it."

Our conversation could not be prolonged, for a group of happy children poured in through the door, and in another moment the pastor, the keynote of whose character is cheerfulness and the love of children, found himself the centre of a merry picture, being dragged towards the spot where the big tree stood laden with its marvels for the little people of the mission.—Valerian Gribayedoff, in *Christian Herald*.

HARNESSING NIAGARA.

BY THE REV. JOHN O. FOSTER.

Niagara Falls, if completely harnessed, would do all the mechanical work of the world. It would turn every wheel, easier than father ran his corn-sheller or than Bridget twisted the wringer on wash-day. That immense power has been running to waste for a long while, and the time has now come to bridle the furious steed, put on the collar, hitch him to wire traces, and tell him to "Go." And go he will, no matter if every railroad and canal boat, factory and machine shop were tugging at his heels.

Thousands of men are now at work in the hitching-up process, and are in a hurry about it, for the growlers are saying: "They have spoiled our scenic views already. Will they never stop?" But there is no help. Niagara must go to work, and do something for mankind. The hour of play is passed. The time for shouldering responsibilities began a few years ago, and man is impatient to lay hold of the unused energies now doing no good. True, a few thousand horse-power has been utilized, but that is less, in comparison with what is available, than what would be needed to turn a pin-wheel in a gale of wind.

The Falls of Niagara have for a reservoir 90,000 square miles of water, which in some places is a thousand feet deep—ample indeed to feed those awful floods. The lower gorge, through which these blue waters rush after the tremendous plunge, averages 3,800 feet in

width, and over 200 feet in depth. Over a sheer precipice of 135 feet 275,000 cubic feet of water plunges every second of time. The impact grinds rocks to powder, and they are floated away toward the distant sea. During long ages this herculean force has dug a canal by the slow process of erosion, averaging more than three-fourths of a mile in width, and over seven miles in length. It is claimed that the Falls are receding at the rate of one foot a year, and are gradually draining Lake Erie, making that body of water the shallowest of all the lakes drained by these giant falls. A calculation has been made by some one, showing that Niagara has been at work digging that long narrow gorge for 36,000 years. This unused force has a great mission for man than this generation will see. It must do something for the race. Man must have light, heat, and power, and Niagara has these in unknown quantities, if only she can be compelled to deliver them up.

The Niagara Falls Power Company has now twenty-one monster alternators (dynamic electrical generators) that will deliver 105,000 horse-power for much-needed commercial purposes. Each one of these great machines has 5,000 horse-power, and may run singly, be coupled in pairs, or all may go "tandem," producing a voltage equal to several thunderstorms rolled together.

The Niagara Falls Power Company, on