

## EUROPEAN HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT

## ITALIAN PLANTS AT ROME AND NAPLES.

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## IV.

## THE ROMAN PLANT AT TIVOLI.

To write of modern twentieth century electric power installations in the ancient city of Rome, seems almost a romance; but like the ancient city, which was ever seeking new things; modern Rome has risen to the requirements of

squares, and clanging past the grim Colosseum, the silent Forum and radiant St. Peter's.

As a user of electric power, Rome has but little demand beyond lighting and traction. Notwithstanding her population of 450,000 there are few factories, and most of the power used in motors is in very small units. The lighting and traction using about 10,000, and 4,000 H.P., respectively,

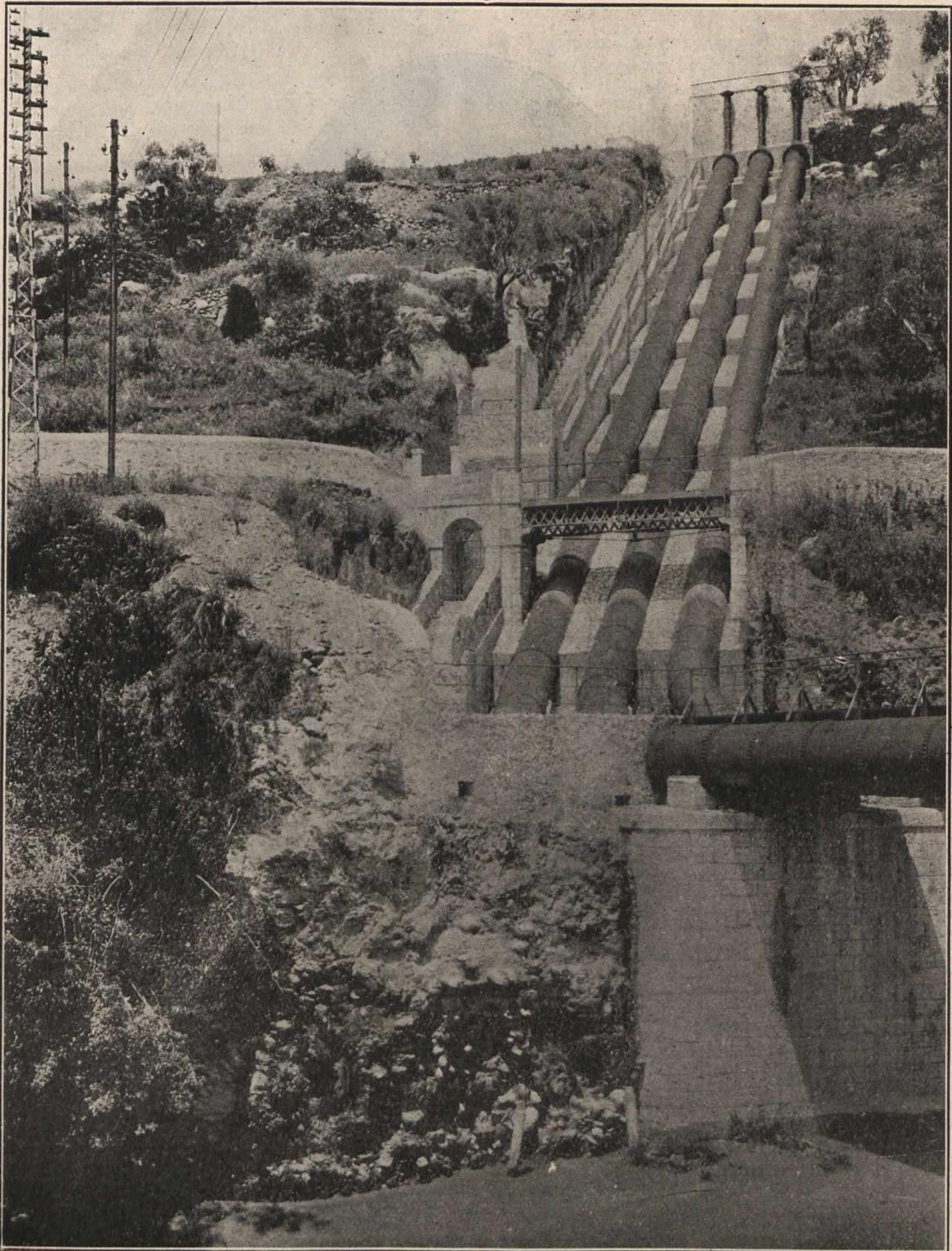


Fig. 1.—Tivoli Station: Penstocks, Francis Turbines.

the present age, and is evidently determined not to lag behind the rest of the world—in which at one time she reigned supreme. It is quite true, that Rome has one of the largest hydro-electric plants in Europe; that she has a most modern electric lighting system; and that she has hundreds of up-to-date electric cars—veritable hill climbers—traversing her narrow streets, crowding across her fountain splashed

form almost 90 per cent. of the total requirements. One company, the "Societa Anglo-Romana" operates the gas, electric light, and traction systems; for all of which it has a monopoly until 1928. Previous to 1892 all electrical energy used in Rome, was generated by steam as the motive power; but subsequently a small hydraulic plant at Tivoli, eighteen miles east of Rome, was constructed and operated by the