

past, and the demand for this cheap and constant power has been so urgent that it has been impossible for the power company to keep pace with it. The original development of 50,000 horse-power at Niagara Falls, N.Y., was utilized some time ago, and the company has been working night and day to double the capacity of the plant, the tunnel providing for a discharge of water that would develop 100,000 horse-power. The second shaft has been completed, the machinery has been installed, and within a few months the full capacity of the Niagara Falls, N.Y., plant will be at the service of the Niagara frontier.

WORK ON CANADIAN SIDE.

"Realizing that the plant on the New York side of the cataract would only suffice for a short period, the power company commenced operations on the Canadian side of the river in August of last year. The work has been pushed rapidly, and it is expected that by next August 50,000 horse-power will be available. Already the demand is so great that last week the power company let a contract for extending the wheel pit at once, so as to develop 110,000 horse-power, instead of the 50,000 horse-power first contemplated. The two companies are practically identical as to stockholders, the Canadian company being officially designated as the Canadian Niagara Power Company.

"A radical departure from the installation on the New York side of the river is the utilization of dynamos of 10,000 horse-power each instead of the 5,000 units that were installed in the original power-house. The 5,000 horse-power dynamos were such mammoth experiments that it was feared they would prove impracticable, but now they are to be succeeded by dynamos of twice their capacity. Quite a marked saving is effected in the construction of a 10,000 horse-power dynamo over two of 5,000 each.

AN ASSURED SUCCESS.

"The fact that cheap Niagara power is going to do all that was claimed for it in the way of attracting industrial concerns to the Niagara frontier is being so thoroughly demonstrated that a second company—the Ontario Power Company—has secured rights from the Canadian Government. The development of its plant commenced last April, and 50,000 horse-power will be the initial product, but this will be increased to 150,000 horse-power. Instead of being carried in an underground tunnel, the water is directed into flumes, carried to the brink of the Niagara gorge and then dropped into the river through penstocks, which develop the power.

"These two companies are backed almost exclusively by United States capital. A third company, which claims to be wholly Canadian, has applied to the Government for the privilege of developing 100,000 horse-power near the two plants now under construction. A full hearing of all the parties interested was given by the Government on Friday, December 19, at Toronto, and a decision will be announced shortly. As special stress is laid on the fact that a Canadian company should have preferential rights, it is believed that the petition will be granted. The Canadian Government exacts in all cases that 50 per cent. of the power developed must be provided to Canadian consumers, if called for, the balance will be exported to the United States.

ENORMOUS REVENUES.

"While millions of dollars are being expended in developing these various power plants the revenue will be enormous. Comparatively little labor is required once the energy of Niagara is under control. When the 350,000 horse-power now in process of development is placed on the market, the gross income of the power companies will be in the neighborhood of