CHARLOTTE DAILY OBSERVER, OCTOBER 7, 1906.

REAT DATES POWER

the Southern Power Company Made to Furnish Thousands of ortical Horse Power-What Na-Bas Done to Aid in the Work-pescription of the Plant in Detail I the Plans for the Plant in Detail I the Plans for the Plant or De-tions to be Begun in January, 7--The Remarkable Holdings of Southern Power Comptuy. cannot conceive of the Immen-f the development of the South-

One cannot conceive of the immen-of the development of the South-Power Company at Great Falls, C. until the scene has been visited the thousand and one details of wark explained. To the casual relator who may perchance pass by, a first impression is that of confu-n, lack of order and a general dis-rangement of parts. It looks as if the was no one plan being followed that the several works, scattered a that the several works, scattered and the river for a distance of are than a mile, were nothing more in the play house of a Cyclops boy. Incongruity of the scene is strik-Out there in a wilderness, away m any city, town or village, be-en two immense hills, hundreds t men are working as if for dear fe, building an immense wall. The all is really a dam, but there is othing to indicate it for there is no e question, "What does all this against It.

It is but necessary to watch the progress of the work for a short time to learn that there is system and orin everything that is done. One ral scheme has been planned, in completion of which all the parts figure. The task is so immense the amount of work to be done so that it must needs be done in arts all of which are directed to one mmon end, namely, the construc-on of one of the largest hydro-elec-

rio plants in America. THE CATAWBA GREAT FALLS. The Great Falls of the Catawba are erries of rapids which are situated miles below Charlotte and mid-ray between Chester, Winnsboro, anden and Lancaster, thriving outh Carolina mill centers.

The river falls 175 feet in 7 miles, ording three fine sites for hydro-ctric development. When work ric development. When work ready to begin, surveys were ade of the adjacent country and it as found that by building a dam out was found that by building a dam out into the stream at the middle of the mapids, the current might be turned into the bed of a natural canal and thus the development greatly facili-tated. Six thousand feet below na-ture had placed two large hills on lither side of the canal and it was evident that the main dam could be thrown across there at a relatively small cost. Work was commenced in the spring of 1905 and to-day the dam the spring of 1905 and to-day the dam and headgates to the canal are more than two-thirds completed, the great-er part of the bulkhead-wall and power house is finished, the draught tubes and water wheel casings are nearly all set, and the transformer house is well under way. A railway capable of handling the heaviest cars, has been run from Fort Lawn

to the Falls, a distance of 12 miles, and the river on either side has been leared of trees and undergrowth. At motion several thousand men have New Year's. employed and the amount of

complished has been nothing hort of wonderful. The plant will a in operation the first of January, or very shortly thereafter.

The first glimpse that one has of the work of the Southern Power Company is at Fort Lawn. Besides the railroad which runs due south a ance of 12 miles, there are to be double line of tall steel towers. On these steel towers will be placed the

tervals falling and turnhiling over shouls and throwing the spray high in the sit. The effect of the sunlight on the water is surpassingly besult-ful, the green hills forming a mag-nificent background. Here and there the sices of the hills have been our-rowed into and huge rocks have been extracted for use in the construction of the dams below. About 10 miles from Fort Lawn, and midway of the rapids, the track suddenly lurches over to the fiver's side and a fine view of the first dam and headgates may be had. The river, which had divid-ed several hundred yards above, turns a sharp corner with a considerable fall.

WHAT NATURE HAS DONE.

Nature, in digging a canal from his turn of the river to Rocky creek, a tributary stream of the Catawba, 7,000 feet below, contributed no little part in the work of harnessing the river. It was only necessary for those in charge to blast and excavate a little and then throw a dam across the current and so turn all of the water into the new channel. In this dam headgates have been built so as to regulate the flow of the river into the new course. In times of high water, it will only be necessary to shut down the gates and the water will continue by the old channel. This dam is composed of rock and concrete mixed. It has been strong enough to resist any pressure which may be brought

The main dam is located a little more than a mile below. The material used in the construction there is the same as that above. The dam is little more than half finished. Hundreds of men, in squads, are hard at work every day. Railway tracks run in every direction and every labor saving device is being used to facili-tate the construction. A half dozen immense cranes are in constant op-eration on the dam, lifting and placcommenced. ing in position the rock and cement. ger. Engines are puffing, workmen are

Engines are puting, workmen are shouting, wheels are screaking and whistles blowing incessantly. Men like pygmies appear here and there about the works. The scene is one of tireless activity THE MACHINERY EQUIPMENT.

The main dam will furnish a fall 72 feet. The power house will be of 72 feet. located just in the rear. In this build ing will be eight 3,000-kilowatt, three-

phase, 2,200-volt Westinghouse gen-erators, direct connected to six horizontal turbines of the Escher-Wyss pattern and two Hercules turbines. The water after having been used will pass out under the power house, down the canal to Rocky creek and on back into the river. Besides this development which is now nearing completion there are two other sites which are as yet undeveloped. These will be taken up and used later. The cornerstone of the power house was laid Friday, the dedication power

and invocation being said by Miss Mary Duke, of Durham. Among those who were present to witness the ceremony were Mr. J. B Duke, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Duke, and daughter, Miss Mary Duke, of Durham; Dr. and Mrs. W. Gil Wylie, and daughter, of New York, and oth-

ers. The next event of the kind will be the formal opening of the power house when the machinery is set in This will likely be about

The Southern Power Company, which owns and will operate the Great Falls station, owns seven other powers on the Catawba river, and one of the Broad river. The water rights cover a distance of 110 miles and

form an aggregate head of 500 feet, in all about 150,000 horse power. Having thus the control of every power on the Catawba, the Southern Power Company can thus regulate the flow of water from one storage to THE NEW LIMITS OUTLINED.

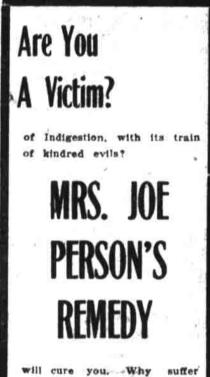
Well-Known Charlotte Cliffen Sug-gents What the Extended Limits Should Be-A Sig-Zagger, Certain Charlotte citizens are wasting much time in discussing just what the extended city limits will be. The

straight out beyond the fair grounds to a point near Mr. O. A. Robbins' new home. From this point, continue to the Shorter Caldwell place and on around in front of Elizabeth College.

From the end of the street car line in front of Elizabeth College, run the line North, parallel with the college grounds, to Seventh street and on across to the terminus of the car line in Piedmont Park. From there ex-Louise Mill and around near Belmont spring to this side of the plant of the Elba Manufacturing Company. From that point, across to Groveton, pear Alexander's truck farm and on by Biddle University. From Biddle University draw the line through the Wadsworth farm to the end of the trestle across Sugar creek on this side of the Elizabeth Mill and then by the Rudisill mine back to the Camden road, at the place where the boundary

This citizen is evidently a zig-zig-

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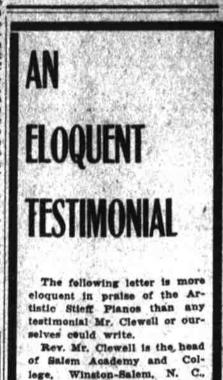
longer?

praises.

tive Agencies.

be enlarged, but there is considerable difference of opinion as to the new territory to be taken in. A well-known cilizen, who has been fying in Charlotte for 35 years and who is a staunch expansionist, flas suggested the following limits. Be-finning on the Camden road, near the b. A. Tompkins Difference, and the fair ground the line down the East boulevard o a point near the enident, Jir

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Parker-Gardner Co.

r wires for the transmis sion of the current from Great Falls to the Catawba station, 34 miles away. ted to Charlotta will be distrib

tied to Charlotte, Gastonia, Rock Hill and other mill centers, The journey from Fort Lawn to the Great Falls is through a section of broken country, a large part of which is the property of the Southern Power Company. Here and there along the route one can see the river at in-

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