

Niagara Falls & BLONDIN.

A GUIDE & SOUVENIR



With a new Series of Views from Photographs
taken on the Spot

TO WHICH IS ADDED A COMPLETE GUIDE IN BOTH

FRENCH AND SPANISH

Published by

SAGE SONS & CO.

ARCADE BUILDING, BUFFALO, N. Y.

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NIAGARA FALLS.

A

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NEW SERIES OF VIEWS

FROM

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN ON THE SPOT.

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1866.

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Clerk's Office of the Northern District Court of New York.

NOTICE.

To meet the wants of those whose time is limited, and enable them to visit all the most noted localities, and at the same time to furnish them with such facts and incidents as might prove interesting for future perusal, is the object of this work. All the Guide Books heretofore published, (our own former editions, and those compiled or copied from them included,) have failed in this; but we offer this new edition with confidence, knowing that our past experience has enabled us to remedy the defect.

At the back of the book, and under the head of "THE GUIDE," will be found a complete tour of the noted points, together with those of less importance, which are passed on the route, the minute details of which will be found on the pages designated. Thus the traveler is saved the annoyance of reading over what at another time might be interesting, in order to get at the points he wishes to visit.

NIAGARA.

THE NIAGARA FALLS are, by universal consent, pronounced the greatest natural wonder of the world. No one ever beholds them with a feeling of disappointment, no matter what may have been his previous expectations. The power of the Almighty is here more grandly exhibited than in any other scene on earth.

Situated on the Niagara River, about twenty miles from the foot of Lake Erie, the waters of the great chain of Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, St. Clair and Erie, dash over a rocky bed, and plunge with unceasing roar into the abyss below, and after a circuitous, and in many places turbulent passage, through a deep and romantic channel more than two hundred feet below the land on either side, find their way into Lake Ontario.

The river forming the boundary line between the American and Canadian domains, divides the Falls between the two countries, "as if," as the venerable John Quincy Adams expressed it, "Heaven had considered this vast natural phenomenon too great for any one nation."

The American Falls are nine hundred feet wide, and vary from one hundred and sixty to one hundred and sixty-five feet in height, while the Canadian or Horse-Shoe Falls are upward of two thousand feet in width,

when measured along the line of their brink, (which, as its more general name implies, is in the form of a horse-shoe,) and about one hundred and fifty feet in height. The width of the river just above the Falls is about three quarters of a mile, and the depth of water varies from five to thirty feet. It is estimated that at least fifteen million cubic feet of water pass over the Falls in a single hour.

Village of Niagara Falls, its Hotels, &c.

Arrived at the village on the American side, it is only necessary to follow the crowd and one cannot go astray.

The village lies on the east side of the river, and in the immediate vicinity of the great Cataract, and is a fashionable place of resort during the summer season. The Hotels are large, commodious, and excellent in all respects. The principal ones are the Cataract, International and Monteagle, on the American, and the Clifton House on the Canadian side. The Cataract and International are just above the brink of the Falls, and from the balconies at the rear a magnificent view of the Rapids and Goat Island is obtained. The Clifton House, on the Canada side, is a short distance below the Falls, and is reached from the American side either by Ferry Boats crossing below the Falls, or by the Suspension Bridge. From its balconies the whole Falls are seen. The Monteagle is at Suspension Bridge, some two miles below the Falls.

TOUR OF GOAT ISLAND.

The Rapids.

The street between the Cataract and International Hotels leads to the river where it is spanned by the

Iron Bridge over the Rapids.

The bridge is one of the finest points from which to view the Rapids, but the rush of the mighty flood over its rock-bound bed, at first sends a shudder through the veins of the beholder, and it seems hardly possible that the frail looking bridge from which he views it, can withstand the force of the wild and furious stream. But he is soon re-assured by the fact that hundreds of thousands have stood there before, and as yet no accident happened. The bridge is almost entirely of iron, and is built on the plan of "Whipple's Iron Arch." All the materials are of the very best quality, and the strength much beyond what is necessary. It is 360 feet long, having four arches of 90 feet span. Its width is 27 feet, with a double carriage way and two foot-paths.

The first bridge that was thrown over these turbulent waters was constructed near the head of Goat Island in 1817. It was carried away by ice in the following spring, and was succeeded by another, which was built

NOTE—At the back of this book will be found an abridgment of the various "Tours" designed for the use of those whose time is limited, and to whom brevity is of great consequence.

in 1818. The difficulties attending its construction were overcome in the following manner: A massive abutment of timber was built at the water's edge, from which were projected enormously long and heavy beams of timber. These beams were secured on the land side by heavy loads of stone, and their outer ends were rendered steady by means of stilts, or legs framed into them, and resting on the bottom of the river. A platform was then thrown over this projection, from the outer extremity of which a small skeleton pier, composed of four posts, properly girted and braced together, was lowered and held to its place on the bottom by piling stone on it. This skeleton was then made into a box by thrusting down plank on the inside. This done, the box was filled with stone, and thus a nucleus was formed, around which the permanent bridge pier was put together. Thus the first permanent section was built and the operation repeated.

The present bridge was built in 1856, by the Messrs. Porter, who are extensive proprietors in this neighborhood.

Chapin Island

Is the first of the two small islets below the bridge and near the brink of the Falls. It received its name from a workman named Chapin, who, while engaged in repairing the bridge in 1839, fell into the river and was carried by the current to it. He was rescued from his perilous position by the late J. R. Robinson, who will long be remembered for the many daring deeds he performed in this vicinity; the last and crowning one of

which was piloting the little steamer "Maid of the Mist" safely through the Rapids and Whirlpool, an account of which is given elsewhere.

Joseph Avery.

In July, 1853, another accident occurred near this point. Two men took a boat and set out for a pleasure sail on the river above the Falls. Nothing more was heard of them until next morning, when one of them, named Joseph Avery, was seen clinging to a log sticking in the midst of the Rapids, near the bridge between Bath Island and the main land. Thousands of people assembled to render the poor man assistance, and during the day various attempts were made to rescue him from his perilous position, but without success. At length a boat was lowered down the Rapids toward the log to which he clung. It reached the spot, but the rope became entangled under the log, rendering it useless. A raft was then let down, and he succeeded in getting on it; but these ropes also became entangled, and the raft could not be brought to the shore. Another boat was let down to him, but as it reached the raft it struck with such force that Avery, who was standing erect, fell off backward, and in another moment he was swept over the Falls. His body was never found.

Low Water.

Though it may seem improbable to the visitor that human feet have ever rested on the rock bottom of those surging Rapids, it is nevertheless true. In the spring of 1848, the river was so blockaded with ice, that the Falls were nearly dry. Persons walked round

the "Three Sisters without wetting their feet. This happened on the 30th of March, and the paper then published at the Falls, mentioned it in its issue of the 1st of April, but it was not generally copied, for most every one who saw it supposed it was a "Hoax of the Season."

Mr. George E. Hamlin, an old and esteemed resident at the Falls, furnishes us the following from his journal kept at the time:

"Thursday, March 30th, 1848. Low water in the river. George E. Hamlin and wife, rode in a buggy, and drove horse Prince out fifty rods above the head of Goat Island on bare rock, thence out to the head of the Three Sisters, and turned around without driving into the water;" afterwards rode to Grass Island on horseback, in company with Mr. D. R. Jerauld, of the Cataract House.

In February, 1856, Mr. H., accompanied by Mr. Geo. M. Simms, crossed the ferry on the ice in a cutter, from the Canada side to the American, and returned; and a few days previous drove horse and cutter on the ice to "Chapin's Island," and from there to the brink of the Falls and returned.

During the last winter, (1865-6,) the ice blocked the Rapids so that the course of the water was turned from the channel between the Three Sisters, and many persons crossed on the rocks to these islands, the Hermit's Cascade being nearly dry.

Bath Island.

Crossing the bridge we find ourselves on Bath Island, on which is a toll house, where each visitor registers his name, and pays Twenty-five Cents, which entitles

him to cross the bridge and visit this and Goat Island. The payment of one dollar entitles him to visit the Island as often as he chooses during the current year.

On this Island there is a large Paper Mill, owned by L. C. Woodruff & Co., of Buffalo, and which for many years has supplied the paper used by the New York Daily Tribune.

At the left of Bath Island, are two smaller islands called respectively *Ship* and *Brig* Islands. The former, however, is more generally known as the "Lover's Retreat."

Down the river are also several smaller Islands, most of which are more or less connected with hair-breadth escapes and daring adventures. One of them has never but once been visited by man. Five or six years ago, in the winter season, ice formed on the sides of the swift flowing channel, and an adventurous fellow laid a ladder from one side of the ice to the other, crossed on it, cut a stick for a cane, and returned.

Another bridge connects Bath Island with

Iris or Goat Island.

This Island is half a mile long by a quarter broad, and contains about 70 acres. It divides the Falls, and is heavily wooded. In 1770, a man by the name of Stedman placed some goats here on pasture — hence the name. Its other name, *Iris*, is derived from the number of beautiful rainbows that are so frequently seen near it. It is the property of the Porter family, and to them the public are indebted for most of the facilities which are afforded them in visiting the Falls. Goat Island was visited long before the bridge was constructed, but the visitors were not numerous, the risk being

very great. The dates, 1771, 1772 and 1779, under the names of several strangers, were found cut in a beech tree near the Horse-shoe Fall.

Three paths diverge from the terminus of the bridge; the one to the left leads to the head of the Island; the centre road cuts right across it, and that on the right conducts to the brink of the Falls. Following the latter through the trees that line the margin of the Rapids, we reach a spot named *Hogs Back*, from which we have a good view of the Central and American Falls, and the river below. Dr. Hungerford, of West Troy, was killed under this point in 1839, by the falling of a portion of the cliff.

Centre Fall.

At the right of this point, and between it and Luna Island, is the Centre Fall. Although a mere ribbon of white water when seen from a short distance, in contrast with the Great Falls, it is by no means unworthy of notice. It is 240 feet wide, and is a very graceful sheet of water. Crossing a bridge we find ourselves on

Luna Island,

So called because it is the best point from which to view the beautiful LUNAR BOW, which, however, is only seen once a month, when the moon is full and sufficiently high in the heavens.

The SOLAR BOW is always visible when the sun shines on the Falls.

A very melancholy accident occurred on this island in the year 1849. The family of Mr. De Forest, of Buffalo, visited the Falls on the 21st of June of that

year, accompanied by a young man named Charles Addington, also of Buffalo. They were about to leave the island when Mr. Addington playfully seized Annette, the little daughter of Mr. DeForest, in his arms, and held her over the edge of the bank, exclaiming, "I am going to throw you in." A sudden impulse of fear caused the child to bound from his grasp and fall into the rushing stream. With a loud cry of horror, the young man sprang in to save her, and, ere the stricken parents could utter a cry, they both went over the Falls. The mangled remains of the child were found on the rocks near the Cave of the Winds, the same day, and by turning the current of the Falls above, were secured; but poor Addington's body was not recovered for several days, and when found was on its way to the Whirlpool.

The Biddle Stairs

Are situated a little above the point of the Island, toward the Horse-shoe Fall. They were erected in 1829, by Mr. Biddle, President of the United States Bank, for the purpose of enabling visitors to descend the perpendicular precipice. The stairs are firmly secured to the cliff, and are said to be quite safe. They are 80 feet high. The total descent from the top of the bank to the bottom is 185 feet.

Between this point and the Centre Fall is the spot where the celebrated Sam Patch made his famous leaps. Sam made two leaps in 1829. A long ladder was placed at the foot of the rock and fastened with ropes in such a manner that the top projected over the water. A platform was then laid on the top of the ladder. Thou-

sands of spectators crowded every point within sight of the place on both shores, eager to behold the extraordinary spectacle of a man jumping "over the Falls." Sam walked along the giddy platform, made his bow, and went down, feet first, into the river. The platform was 97 feet above the level of the river.

Not content with this achievement, Sam Patch afterward made a higher leap at Genesee Falls, which was his last.

Descending the stairs and taking the road to the left, a terrific view is had of the

Horse-shoe Fall from below Goat Island.

The frowning cliff seems about to fall, and the visitor is stunned by the roar of the water as it falls headlong on the broken rocks, bursts into white foam, and re-ascends in clouds of spray. Terrapin Bridge and Tower, now diminished by distance, seem about to be swept over the Fall, above the edge of which we see the trees of Canada. Portions of the rock fall here occasionally, so that the passage is not altogether unattended with danger. ◆

Returning to the foot of the stairs, follow the road to the right, which brings you to the famous

Cave of the Winds.

It is situated at the foot of the rock between Goat and Luna Islands, and is considered by some to be one of the finest and most wonderful sights on the American side. Here it is necessary to put on water-proof dresses and obtain a guide—both of which are at all times at

command. The Cave has been formed by the action of the water on the soft substratum of the precipice, which has been washed away and the limestone rock left arching over head thirty feet beyond the base. In front the transparent falls form a beautiful curtain. The Cave is 100 feet wide, 130 feet high, and upwards of thirty feet deep. In consequence of the tremendous pressure on the atmosphere, it is filled with perpetual storms, and the war of conflicting elements is quite chaotic. Along the floor the spray is hurled with considerable violence, so that it strikes the walls and curls upwards along the ceiling, thus causing the rough turmoil which has procured for the place its title of the Cave of the Winds. A beautiful rainbow, quite circular in form, quivers amid the driving spray when the sun shines. This cave is much visited by ladies as well as gentlemen, and a good railing has been put up, as well as one or two seats, by the proprietor. The charge for going into the Cave is one dollar, including dresses and services of the guide.

Terrapin or Horse-shoe Tower

Is situated on the west side of Goat Island, and is the next point of interest after leaving Biddle Stairs. A few scattered masses of rock lie on the very brink of the Great Horse-shoe Fall, seeming as if unable to maintain their position against the tremendous rush of water; and upon these rocks the tower is built. It was erected in 1833, by Judge Porter, and the view from the summit is most magnificent. The Rapids above, rolling tumultuously towards you, — the green water of the mighty Falls at your feet, — below, the hissing cauldron of

spray, and the river with its steep banks beyond, — in fact the whole range of the Falls themselves, and the world of raging waters around them, are seen from this commanding point of view. The tower is 45 feet high.

The bridge leading to this tower is often wet with spray, so that care must be taken in crossing. In 1852 a gentleman fell from it, and was carried to the edge of the Fall; fortunately he lodged between two rocks; he was first seen by Mr. Isaac Davy, of Niagara Falls, who threw lines to him, and with the aid of two gentlemen, drew him ashore.

Three Sisters.--Moss Island.--Hermit's Cascade.

Passing on along the edge of the Rapids, we come to the *Three Sisters*, and here, between *Moss Island* and the shore, is a small but beautiful Fall, named the *Hermit's Cascade*. Hither the unfortunate Abbott was wont to repair daily to enjoy a shower bath of nature's own constructing.

From one of these Sisters, a gentleman named Allan was rescued by the gallant Robinson in the summer of 1841. Mr. Allan had started alone in his boat for the village of Chippewa, and in the middle of the river, broke one of his oars. Being unable to gain the shore, he endeavored with the remaining oar to steer for the head of Goat Island, but the rapid current swept him past this point. As he approached the outer Island of the Three Sisters, he steered with the cool energy of despair towards it and leaped ashore, while his boat sprang like a lightning flash down the Rapid and over the Horse-shoe Fall. For two days Mr. Allan remained

on the Island, although, fortunately, he succeeded in making a fire with some matches he happened to have in his pocket. Crowds of people assembled to assist in and witness the rescue, which was accomplished by Robinson, who, having managed to pass a rope from island to island, reached him with a skiff.

Another narrow escape was made here by a father and son, in the year 1850. The son, a boy of ten years of age, was paddling his father—who was drunk at the time—over to their home on Grand Island. The father being unable to guide the frail canoe, it was carried into the Rapids, and descended with fearful rapidity towards the Falls. The gallant boy struggled with the energy of a hero, and succeeded in forcing the canoe between Goat Island and the Three Sisters. Here they were in imminent danger of passing over the little cascade between these islands, but, providentially, as they neared it a wave upset the canoe and left them struggling in the water. The place was shallow, — the boy gained a footing, and, seizing his father by the collar, dragged him to the shore.

Proceeding onwards we reach the

Head of Goat Island.

In June of 1854, Robinson performed a daring feat here. A sand-scow, or flat-bottomed barge, having broken loose from its moorings, lodged on the rocks at the head of the island. There was property on board which Robinson offered to save. Embarking with his son in a skiff, he rowed out into the rapid, and was carried with terrible swiftness down towards the scow, upon

which the son sprang as they flew past, and very cleverly fastened the skiff to it. Having obtained the goods for which they ran so great a risk, the fearless pair pushed off once more, the current carrying them toward the Three Sisters. Every one thought their doom was sealed, for they were drifting towards the small cascade, to go over which, would have been certain death. But, on its very verge they swept adroitly into an eddy, and succeeded in gaining the second Sister. Here they carried their skiff to the foot of the island, where they launched it, and plying their oars with vigor, made a bold sweep down the Rapids, and gained the shore of Goat Island in safety.

A few years ago, an Indian attempted, while in a state of partial intoxication, to cross the river in his canoe. He was drawn into the Rapids, and, despite his utmost efforts, failed to reach the shore. Knowing that his doom was fixed, he took a drink of spirits, and, lying down at full length in the canoe, went over the Falls.

The view is very fine, the wild river and its environs being seen for a considerable distance. Navy Island, celebrated in the history of border warfare; the site of old Fort Schlosser on the American side; the town of Chippewa on the Canada shore; Grand Island, &c., are all visible from this point. As we gaze at the wild Rapids, we wonder at the hardihood of those who ventured to descend to the spot on which we now stand before the bridge was built. Yet this was occasionally done, at much risk, in Indian canoes. It is said that any one who gets into the Rapids a mile above the Falls, is hur-

ried to certain destruction. There are many melancholy instances of the kind, but the daring exploits of the late Robinson prove that this is not invariable.

In proceeding down the Island we pass a spot where there are several graves, out of which human remains have been dug. They were found in a sitting position, and it is supposed they were those of the ancient Indian warriors who first owned the land around the Falls. A short walk brings the tourist back to Bath Island Bridge, and terminates the tour of Goat Island.

TOUR OF THE CANADA SIDE.

Prospect Point.

Passing down the street at the east side of the International Hotel, we enter "The Grove," and following the roadway leads us to the Ferry House, which stands on this point. It is sometimes called Point View, and was the last residence of Francis Abbott, the Hermit of Niagara. From this point a full view of the entire Falls, as well as the Rapids of the American Fall, is obtained. Opposite this point, as you face the river above the Falls, is seen Goat Island, which divides the American from what is called the Canadian Falls, but the boundary line between the two nations passes through the centre of the latter. The most common name for the Canadian Falls is "The Horse-shoe," on account of its resemblance. The trees on Goat Island being mostly pine, hemlock and cedar, clothe it as it were, "with eternal green."

Beyond Goat Island is seen Terrapin Tower, while across the river stands the Clifton House.

Ferry House and Stairway.

On this point is an inclined plane down which visitors are carried in cars to the Ferry, and from the foot of which a sublime view of the rock-bound sides and falling water is obtained. The cars are worked

and managed by means of a water wheel and rope, and afford a safe and ready mode of descent and ascent. By the side of the inclined plane is a stairway, by which those who prefer it, can reach the Ferry landing at the foot without charge. The charge for riding in the car is Five Cents each way.

The Ferry.

At the foot of the stairway boats will be found in readiness to carry visitors to the Canada side. The view is imposing, and the passage unattended with danger. Landing on the Canada side, carriages will be found in waiting, or if preferred, you can walk up the bank, on the summit of which stands the Clifton House, which is a favorite resort. The whole Falls are seen from its balconies, and the magnificent grounds of the late Samuel Zimmerman are directly in front of it. This hotel, as well as the Cataract and International on the American side, have splendid concert halls, and during the traveling season have capital bands of music.

Victoria Point is seventy or eighty rods below the Clifton House.

Table Rock.

A ride of about a mile brings us to the far-famed Table Rock. It is, however, no longer the extensive platform from which it derived its name, large portions having fallen from it from time to time. It overhangs the terrible caldron close to the Horse-shoe Fall, and the view from it, as already described, is most sublime. In 1818 a huge mass broke off and fell into the boiling flood; and in 1828, three immense pieces fell with a

shock like an earthquake. Again, in 1829, another fragment fell, and in 1850 another. On one of these occasions some forty or fifty had been standing on the rock a few minutes before it fell. At the time, however, only an old hack, from which the horses had just been detached, went down with it.

The work of demolition still goes on, for another portion fell in 1857, and still another in 1863.

Stairway and Passage Under the Horse-shoe Fall.

A short distance from Table Rock are two stairways, by either of which we can descend, and passing under the overhanging cliff, by donning the water-proof apparel which is provided, we can, if we choose, go under the Horse-shoe Fall.

The view here is awfully grand. As we gaze upwards at the frowning cliff that seems tottering to its fall, pass under the thick curtain of water—so near that it seems as if we could touch it—hear the hissing spray, and are stunned by the deafening roar that issues from the misty vortex at our feet, an indescribable feeling of awe steals over us, and we are more than ever impressed with the tremendous magnificence of Niagara.

Behind our narrow foot-path the precipice of the Horse-shoe Fall rises perpendicularly to a height of 90 feet; below us the cliff descends about 70 feet into a turmoil of bursting foam; in front is the liquid curtain which, though ever passing onward, never unveils this wildest of Nature's caverns.

It is right to mention that portions of Table Rock are still expected to fall every year, so that those who go under the Falls do so at their own risk.

The volume of water that passes over the Horse-shoe Fall is enormous. It is estimated that the sheet is fully twenty feet thick in the centre, an estimate which was corroborated in a singular manner in 1829. A ship called the *Detroit*, having been condemned, was bought and sent over the Falls. On board were put a live bear, a deer, a buffalo, and several smaller animals. The vessel was almost knocked to pieces in the Rapids, but a large portion of the hull went over entire. She drew 18 feet water, but did not strike the cliff as she took the awful plunge.

Museum.

A little below Table Rock is a Museum which deserves more than a passing notice. The building was erected expressly for the purpose, is a large and massive stone edifice, with balconies, from which magnificent views can be obtained. The building is lighted on a new plan, which throws the light upon the objects in such a manner as to show them to better advantage than in any Museum we have ever before visited. The collection is immense, and must have been gathered at great expense from all parts of the world. Its collection of Coin is said to excel any on the continent, while the Autograph department contains many a study for those interested in such matters. A very large collection of Egyptian Mummies are also to be seen here. The grounds around the Museum are beautifully laid out,

and contain many beautiful specimens of deer, buffalo, and other animals seldom seen in this part of the country.

Prospect House

Stands in rear of Table Rock. The view from the summit of this building is magnificent.

A few hundred yards above Prospect House there is a point from which we obtain a fine view of the Rapids, and the islands that dot the river above the Falls. About two miles above the Falls is the famous

Burning Spring,

The water of which being charged with sulphureted hydrogen gas, takes fire when a light is applied to it, and burns with a pale bluish flame.

The Battle of Chippewa was fought in this neighborhood on the 5th July, 1814.

Lundy's Lane Battle Ground.

Returning toward the Falls on the Canada side, the next object worthy of special note, which has not already been mentioned, is this memorable battle field. Reaching the Clifton House, we proceed west the distance of about a mile, which brings us to the village of Drummondville, in the immediate vicinity of the field. There is an observatory here, from the top of which a good view of the field (or rather what was once the field) can be obtained. This great battle between the Americans and the British was fought in July, 1814. The battle was fought principally with the bayonet, and was the severest that had taken place on the conti-

ment. The American Generals Brown and Scott were wounded, and the British Generals Riall and Drummond were both wounded and taken prisoners. British loss, 877. American loss, 860. Both sides claimed the victory.

Suspension Bridge.

Returning to the Clifton House, a ride of about two miles down the river brings us to this far-famed triumph of architecture. This is the second bridge of the kind which has been erected on this spot. The first one was commenced in 1849, by Mr. Charles Ellet, and was much smaller than the present one, being only intended as a foot and carriage bridge. After the first light wire cable was stretched across the chasm, Mr. E. and his lady crossed in a wire-work basket, which may still be seen on the Canada side near the bridge. Afterwards the cable was enlarged by winding with wire, the workmen making use of the same basket, and winding as they went along. Many people crossed in the basket, being let down the inclined plane, and then drawn up on the other side. While a number of workmen were employed on the cables of this bridge, one of those terrific gusts of wind, which so frequently visit this chasm, upset the basket and left them clinging to the cable. A brave comrade went to their assistance, righted the basket, and rescued them from their perilous position. The towers of this bridge were of wood, and the whole was a temporary affair, although it did good service for several years.

The present massive structure was built by Mr. John A. Roebling, of Trenton, N. J., and was commenced

in 1852. The old bridge was left standing till this was completed, and served the double purpose of a passageway for visitors, and a scaffolding from which to build the new bridge. There are four enormous cables, at least ten inches in diameter, being composed of a number of smaller ones bound closely together and wound with wire. Each cable is said to contain at least one thousand miles of wire. The cables pass over immense towers of solid masonry, eighty-eight feet high, and are anchored firmly in the rock at least three hundred feet from the bank on either side the river. The length of the bridge is 800 feet, width 24 feet, and height above the river 250 feet. It is estimated that the four cables are capable of sustaining a weight of 12,400 tons, and the bridge itself weighs over 860 tons.

From the cables are hung the roadways—the upper one of which is for the railway, and over which the cars were first drawn on the 8th of March, 1855. This forms a complete covering for the carriage and foot bridge, which hangs below. So strong is this bridge, that the passage of a heavily laden train of cars scarcely causes it to yield an inch.

The scene from this bridge is awfully sublime. The water which above the bridge, towards the Falls, flows in a swift but smooth current, here first meets with the rocks which again form Rapids, if anything, superior to those above the Falls; and to gaze down upon them from the bridge, at first sends a thrill of horror through the veins. It is near this spot, and over these boiling waters, that the intrepid Blondin performed those feats upon a frail rope, that have forever connected his name

with Niagara. It is the intention of the publishers to append a short history of this man and his achievements, so wonderful, that for a long time those who mentioned them were "winked at skeptically," or "whistled down."

The cost of the bridge was \$500,000. A few years years ago Mr. Roebling the builder, made a thorough examination, and reported that it was still as sound as when first erected.

Crossing the bridge we complete the tour of the Canadian Side.

RIVER BELOW THE FALLS.

AMERICAN SIDE.

The Whirlpool.

A little more than a mile below the Suspension Bridge the river takes an abrupt turn, and shoots with great violence against the Cliff on the Canada side, forming what is called the Whirlpool. Every floating thing that passes over the Falls finds its way into this vortex, and it is said that three days are consumed in the passage through it. Dead bodies are frequently seen in it, and at all times logs and drift-wood are abundant. The banks, which are here over 200 feet high, seem almost perpendicular, and to look over them, it would seem as though the water was immediately at one's feet; but he is an expert and powerful man, who can throw a stone so as to land it in the water below. Spy-glasses can be obtained here, and the view is well worthy of inspection. Little cascades are seen, that to the naked eye may seem only the foam of waves; and what appear to be chips and cord-wood floating in the Whirlpool, are found to be cord-wood and huge saw logs.

The Rapids in this vicinity are unusually fine. The grounds around the Whirlpool are the property of the College endowed by the late Judge De Veaux, and named after him, and the proceeds arising from the moderate charge of admission, go to the fund for its support. The visitor who has time should descend the staircase here, and will be well paid by the romantic view presented.

A short distance from here is a mineral spring, called Bellevue Fountain.

Devil's Hole.

Passing down the river toward Lewiston, the road runs within a few feet of the river bank, where a deep and gloomy chasm is rent or worn out of the rocks. The small stream which crosses the road and falls into the chasm, is called the Bloody Run.

During the French war in 1759, a detachment of British regulars, who were conveying provisions in wagons from Fort Schlosser to Fort Niagara, were here surprised by a party of Indians in ambuscade. Many of the soldiers were killed at the first discharge, and the others were thrown into hopeless confusion. The Indians fell like tigers upon the drivers, tomahawked them in their seats, and threw them over the precipices. The wagons, with their contents, were backed off into the abyss, and the men and cattle fell, with the loading, in one dismembered mass below. Some threw themselves from the bank, and fell mangled and dying on the rocks; others lodged in the branches of trees, where they remained, disabled, until the affray was over, when the savages, at their leisure, dispatched them. The brook ran red with the blood of the slain, which circumstance gave rise to the name of the Bloody Run. Only two escaped to relate the horrible fate of their companions.

Lewiston.

Seven miles below the Falls, on the American side, is the beautiful village of Lewiston. As the cars sweep around the brow of the hill on which the road is laid,

the village is seen far down in the valley below, with its rich meadows and fertile farms dotted with orchards and vineyards.

Queenston and Brock's Monument.

On the opposite side of the river is the village of Queenston, celebrated for the Battle of Queenston Heights, which took place there.

A beautiful monument stands on the heights, raised in commemoration of the British General, Sir Isaac Brock, who fell in the sanguinary engagement fought here on the 12th of October, 1812. His remains, and those of his aid-de-camp, Col. John McDonald, who died of wounds received at this battle, are buried here.

The first monument was completed in 1826, and was blown up in 1840 by a man named Lett, who was afterwards imprisoned for the dastardly act. The present handsome shaft was erected in 1853. Its height is 185 feet; the base is 40 feet square by 30 feet high; the shaft is of freestone, fluted, 75 feet high and 30 feet in circumference, surmounted by a Corinthian capital, on which stands a statue of the gallant General.

The view from this monument is gorgeous. The eye wanders with untiring delight over the richest imaginable scene of woodland and water. Just below is the village of Queenston, and on the opposite shore is Lewiston. In the midst flows the now tranquil Niagara — calm and majestic in its recovered serenity. In the far distance, on either side, stretches the richly wooded landscape, speckled with villas and cottages. The whole view is terminated by the magnificent sheet of Lake Ontario, which stretches away like a flood of light to the horizon.

RIVER ABOVE THE FALLS.

Fort Schlosser.

A few miles above the Rapids, on the American side, is Fort Schlosser. It is merely noted as being the nearest landing place to the American Fall. It was here that the steamer *Caroline* was set on fire, being cut loose from her moorings and sent over the Falls. This occurred during the Canadian Rebellion or Patriot War of 1837, and it was charged that she was engaged in carrying provisions to the rebels. She was therefore seized by Col. McNab, and destroyed.

Opposite Schlosser is the village of *Chippewa*, the lowest landing point on the Canada side, being about two and a half miles above the Falls.

Navy Island

Lies between Grand and Goat Island, and was the resort of the rebel leaders and patriots in 1837. The French also built their ships of war on it in 1759.

Grand Island

Divides the river into two channels or branches, and is twelve miles long, and in some places six or seven miles wide. A little hamlet called White Haven on this Island, is the site of Major Noah's celebrated "City of Refuge for the Jews," where he hoped and intended to collect together all the Lost Tribes of Israel. It is needless to say the project failed.

There are also some very fine stock farms on this island.

MISCELLANY.

The Steamer Maid of The Mist.

The passage of this little steamer through the Rapids and Whirlpool, out into the calm waters of Lake Ontario, will long be remembered by the few who witnessed it.

She was built to, and for several years did run, from the Suspension Bridge up to the Falls, passing so close to the falling waters as to seem to those looking down upon her to almost pass under the sheet. Water-proof garments were provided, and the trip being a very exciting one, for a time she proved profitable. But the dull seasons succeeding the panic of 1857, caused a falling off in the receipts, and her owners determined to remove her if possible. The intrepid Robinson engaged to do this, and although very strongly built, she was strengthened for the occasion, and on the 15th of June, 1861, the perilous trip was made. It is said that neither the engineer, (J. H. Jones,) or the steersman, (J. R. McIntyre,) who alone accompanied him, knew that the trip was to be made until too late to turn back, but they nobly seconded the brave guide who was piloting her through. Few expected to see her pass through in safety, but, although she lost her smoke-stack while passing through the Rapids under the Suspension Bridge, she is now engaged on the St. Lawrence River, being the only craft that ever passed through the Rapids below the Falls.

Niagara by Moonlight.

It is vain to attempt a description of this magnificent scene. Every one knows the peculiar softness and sweet

influence of moonlight shed over a lovely scene. Let no traveler fail to visit Goat Island when the moon shines high and clear, and view Niagara by her pale mysterious light.

Niagara in Winter.

In all its phases this wondrous cataract is sublime, but in winter, when its dark green waters contrast with the pure white snow, and its frosty vapor spouts up into the chill atmosphere from a perfect chaos of ice and foam, there is a perfection of savage grandeur about it which cannot be realized in the green months of summer.

At this season Ice is the ruling genius of the spot. The spray which bursts from the thundering cataract encrusts every object with a coat of purest dazzling white. The trees bend gracefully under its weight, as if in silent homage to the spirit of the Falls. Every twig is covered, every bough is laden; and those parts of the rocks and trees on which the delicate frost-work will not lie, stand out in bold contrast. At the foot of the Falls, block rises on block in wild confusion, and the cold dismal-looking water, hurries its green flood over the brink and roars hoarsely as it rushes into the vortex of dazzling white below. The dark form of the Terrapin Tower stands like a lone sentinel guarding this scene of magnificent desolation.

When the sun shines, all becomes radiant with glittering gems, and the mind is almost overwhelmed with the combined effects of excessive brilliancy and grandeur.

BLONDIN, THE HERO OF NIAGARA.

(SELECTED FROM HIS BIOGRAPHY.)

The subject of the present sketch, the fearless and intrepid Blondin, first saw the light of day at the village of St. Omar Pas de Calais, France, on the 28th of February, 1824. His father, an old soldier of the Empire under the regime of the First Napoleon, and who followed the fortunes of his Imperial Master through Moscow, Austerlitz and Wagram, died before the youthful Blondin had attained his ninth year, leaving our hero to buffet with the rude storms of life ere he had yet scarcely merged into boyhood. At the age of four years the little Blondin gave evidence of extraordinary nerve and courage, and having exhibited a precocity for gymnastic feats, seldom found in one so young, he was placed under the care of the proprietor of "L'Ecole de Gymnase," at Lyons, who soon brought his pupil to such perfection, that in less than six months he was announced to appear before the public as a "Little Wonder," winning by his extraordinary feats of agility and strength, the admiration of all who witnessed his exploits, and soon became a leading feature at the principal theatres in France. * * * * *

In the winter of 1858 Blondin conceived the idea of making a bold stroke for fortune on his own account. He visited Niagara Falls to see what could be done there in the tight rope way, knowing that if he did

something really wonderful, the immense crowd of visitors who throng the place in summer could not fail to reward him handsomely. He conceived the plan of stretching a rope across the chasm through which the Rapids of Niagara rush, and then making a passage across this frail bridge himself. The thing was impossible in the winter, but he considered well the project, determined that it was possible, and early in the spring of 1859, he made his appearance at Niagara Falls village, took rooms at a hotel, and began his preparations. When he told what he was going to do, the people naturally considered him a lunatic, but he persevered, and eventually stretched his rope from bank to bank of the river. The bank on one side was 160, and on the other 170 feet above the water, and at this height was placed the frail bridge of a single rope. The chasm is 1100 feet across, and over this tremendous depth, in the presence of 15,000 people, Blondin crossed safely on the 30th of June, 1859, being the first passage that was ever made across the river in this manner. * * *

He did not rest content with this, but proceeded to superadd new proofs of his courage, and of the certainty with which he can tread his narrow walk.

On the 4th of July, 1859, he crossed—his body being enveloped in a heavy sack, made of blankets, his eyes were consequently blindfolded. He went on without accident, and his step seemed as sure and steady as when he had his eyes.

On the 16th of July he again crossed Niagara, wheeling a wheelbarrow.

On the 5th of August he crossed again, turning somersaults, and performing extraordinary gymnastics on the rope.

On the 19th of August he performed the unprecedented feat of carrying his agent, Mr. Harry Colcord, across the Niagara River on his back, thousands of spectators looking on, and momentarily expecting the death of one or both of the daring men.

On the 27th of August he went over as a Siberian slave in shackles.

On the 2d of September he crossed at night and stood on his head amid a blaze of fireworks.

During the summer of 1860, he crossed the rope many times, carrying a man on his back, and doing many other daring things. His last performance at Niagara was given before H. R. H. the Prince of Wales and suite, including His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Earl St. Germain, the Marquis of Chandos, Lord Lyons, General Williams, Major Teasdale, Major General Bruce, and many other distinguished noblemen, on the 14th of September, 1860, and in the presence of a vast multitude of spectators, who had been attracted to witness the miraculous performance of the wonderful Blondin, many thousands coming over 200 miles to enjoy the novel treat afforded them—the Great Western Railway of Canada, and the New York Central Railroad sending excursion trains from various points on their respective lines, freighted with an anxious and eager crowd. On this occasion Blondin put the climax to all his other achievements by crossing the rope on stilts.

The Prince viewed Blondin's perilous journey across the Niagara through a telescope, seated in a rustic pavillion, and on Blondin's return H. R. H. complimented him by clapping his hands in applause, and then the dauntless Blondin prepared to carry a man over. To this the Prince objected, and only after repeated assurances would he permit Blondin to start with his agent on his back, pausing only to have a photograph taken. The Prince watched with breathless interest, commenting much on the performance.

When Blondin reached the shore, the Prince and suite had a long conversation with him in French, complimenting him, and asking about the stilts, and his feelings while on the rope. As the Prince left he said "Thank God. it's all over."

In admiration of the extraordinary courage and talent displayed by "Blondin in his first passage across the Falls," — carrying a man on his back — the citizens of Niagara presented him with a magnificent Gold medal.

A massive gold headed cane, of chaste and elaborate workmanship, was also presented to "Blondin" by the leading members of the New York Press.

THE GUIDE.

The tourist may spend weeks in this vicinity and find something new and interesting at every point visited, but it is the object of this work to point out to those whose time is limited, the most prominent points of interest, and to group these in such a manner as to save time, money and fatigue. The two principal tours are those of Goat Island and the Canada Side, which comprises all that may be strictly called "Seeing the Falls;" but, if the visitor has time, the Tour in the Vicinity will be found very interesting, and we therefore commence it at the Suspension Bridge, because it is there we terminate the Canada Tour; so that even if there be not time for stopping at all the points mentioned, a part of them may be visited. On the pages referred to in this Guide will be found more full particulars in regard to the places mentioned.

TOUR OF GOAT ISLAND.

Iron Bridge over the Rapids.—Reached by passing down the Street between the Cataract and International Hotels. 360 feet long, 27 feet wide. See page 5.

Chapin Island.—First of the two small islets below the bridge and above the brink of the Falls. See page 6.

Bath Island.—Reached by crossing the bridge. A fee of twenty-five cents entitles the visitor to free access to this and Goat Island. See page 8.

Ship and Brig Islands.—Two small islands at the left of Bath Island. The former is more commonly known as the "Lover's Retreat." See page 8.

Iris or Goat Island.—Another bridge leads from Bath to Goat Island. This Island divides the American from the Horse-Shoe Falls, is 330 yards wide, and contains about 70 Acres. See page 9.

Hog's Back and Centre Fall.—Follow the road that leads to the right from the bridge. It leads to the brink of the Falls. The point at which the road terminates, is called the Hog's

Back, from which a magnificent view of the Falls is obtained. The narrow strip of water at the right forms the Centre Falls. It is 240 feet wide. See page 10.

Luna Island.—Cross the foot bridge over the Centre Fall to this Island. It derives its name from the beautiful Lunar Bow which is best seen from it, when the moon is sufficiently high. See page 10.

Biddle Stairs.—Situated a little to the left of Hog's back and towards the Horse-shoe Fall. Erected in 1820 by Mr. Biddle, President of the United States Bank. They are 80 feet high. The total descent from top of the bank to the bottom of staircase is 185 feet. See page 11.

Cave of the Winds.—Descend the Biddle Stairs and turn to the right. The cave is 100 feet wide, 130 feet high, 30 feet deep, has been formed by the action of the water on the soft rock, and derives its name from the perpetual storm by the tremendous pressure on the atmosphere. See page 12.

Terrapin or Horse-shoe Tower.—Leaving Biddle's stairs, proceed to the right, crossing the end of the Island. The tower is situated on the rocks near the verge of the Horse-shoe Falls, and is reached by a foot bridge. It is perfectly safe, and the observatory at the top is well worth visiting. Free to all visitors. Erected in 1833. See page 13.

Three Sisters. Moss Island, Hermit's Cascade.—Pass along the edge of the rapids up the river. The Three Sisters are the three outermost islands of the group. The inner one is Moss Island, and between them is the Hermit's Cascade. See page 14.

Head of Goat Island.—Noted chiefly for the fine view to be obtained of the river and its environs. Navy Island and Fort Schlosser on the American side; the town of Chippewa on the Canada side, and Grand Island may be seen from this point. See page 15.

A short walk brings you to Bath Island Bridge, and completes the tour of Goat Island.

TOUR OF THE CANADA SIDE.

Prospect Point.—Reached by passing down the street at the east side of the International Hotel, and following the walk through "The Grove." See page 18.

The Ferry House and Staircase.—In this house is an inclined plane down which visitors are carried in cars to the ferry. There is also a stairway leading to the foot, which is free to all. See page 19.

The Ferry.—At the foot of the stairway, boats are always in waiting to carry visitors to the Canada side, where carriages are in waiting to take them up the bank. There is also a good foot path on the Canada side. The Clifton House stands near the summit, and is a favorite resort.

Victoria Point—Is about 70 or 80 rods below the Clifton House.

Table Rock—Is about a mile up the river, and at the verge of the Horse-shoe Fall. So many masses of rock have fallen at various times, that it is no longer the extensive platform that gave it its name. See page 19.

Stairway and Passage Under the Horse-shoe Fall.—There are two of these stairways near the Table Rock. Guides and water-proof dresses are furnished at reasonable rates. The view is sublime.

The Museum and Prospect House stand nearly opposite Table Rock. See page 21.

Burning Spring is situated about 2 miles above Table Rock. See page 23.

Lundy's Lane Battle Ground is about a mile west of the Clifton House. The battle was fought in 1814. See page 23.

NOTE.—*The two last mentioned points are not recommended to the tourist whose time is limited, although of interest to those who can afford the time to visit them.*

Suspension Bridge.—About two miles below the Clifton House. Built by John A. Roebling, of Trenton, N. J. Was commenced in 1852. It is 800 feet long, 24 feet wide, 250 feet above the level of the river, and has four cables capable of sustaining a weight of 12,400 tons. The cables pass over towers of solid masonry of 85 feet high. The bridge weighs over 800 tons, and cost \$500,000. See page 23.

Crossing the bridge completes the tour of the Canada side.

TOUR IN THE VICINITY OF THE FALLS.

BELOW SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

The Whirlpool is a little more than a mile below the Suspension Bridge, and is caused by an abrupt turn of the river. It is well worth visiting, and the visitor should descend the staircase here, for the view is both romantic and sublime. The grounds are the property of the De Veaux College, and the proceeds arising from the charge for admission, go to the fund for the support of the college. See page 26.

Devil's Hole.—A little farther down the river; a romantic spot, and one well worthy of a visit. In 1759, a detachment of British troops were here surprised by a party of Indians, and all but two were either killed or driven over the precipice. The little brook that crosses the road near here, ran red with the blood of the slain, and has ever since been known as the **BLOODY RUN**. See page 27.

Lewiston.—Seven miles below the Falls.

Queenston and Brock's Monument.—Queenston lies opposite Lewiston, and is celebrated for the Battle of Queenston Heights, which took place there on the 13th of October, 1812. Brock's Monument stands on the heights, and was erected in commemoration of the British General, Sir Isaac Brock, who fell in the battle. His remains, and those of his aid-de-camp, Col. John McDonald, are buried here. See page 28.

LE GUIDE.

Le touriste peut passer plusieurs semaines dans ces environs, et il trouvera encore quelque chose de nouveau et d'attractif à chaque point qu'il visite; mais l'objet de cet opuscule est de montrer à ceux dont le temps est limité les points d'attraction les plus promineus, et de les grouper de manière à sauver du temps, de l'argent et de la fatigue. Les deux tours principaux sont ceux de Goat Island (Isle des Chèvres) et le côté de Canada, embrassant tout ce qu'on peut appeler strictement "les vues des chutes," mais si le visiteur a assez de loisir, il trouvera le tour dans la proximité très intéressant. Pour cette raison nous commencerons au Suspension Bridge, comme c'est là que nous finissons le tour du côté Canadien, à fin que, s'il n'y a pas assez de temps pour s'arrêter à tous les points nommés, l'on puisse visiter quelquesuns de ces points. Sur les pages citées dans ce Guide vous trouverez des particularités plus amples relatives aux places mentionnées.

TOUR DE GOAT ISLAND.

Pont de Fer au dessus des Rapides.—Vous y arriverez en descendant la rue entre les Hôtels Cataracte et International. Long de 360 pieds, large de 27 pieds.

Chapin Island.—La première des deux petites îles au dessous du pont et au dessus du bord des Chutes.

Bath Island.—Vous y arrivez en traversant le pont. Une taxe de 25 cents vous donnera le privilège d' accès libre à cette île et Goat Island en tout temps de l'année courante.

Ship et Brig Island.—Deux petites îles à la gauche de Bath Island. La première est connue plus généralement sous le nom de "Lover's Retreat," (Retraite d'Amants.)

Iris ou Goat Island.—Un autre pont vous conduit de Bath à Goat Island (Isle des Chèvres). Cette île sépare les Chutes

NIAGARA CHUTES.

Américaines de la Cataracte Horse-shoe (Fer à Cheval.) Elle est large de 330 yards et contient près de 50 acres.

Hog's Back et Centre Fall.—(Dos de cochon et chute centrale.) Suivez la voie menant du pont à la droite. Le point où le chemin se termine, est appelé Hog's Back (dos de cochon). Il y a de là une vue magnifique des chutes. La bande étroite d'eau à droite forme la Chute Centrale, qui a 240 pieds de large.

Luna Island.—Vous passez à cette île sur le petit pont de la Chute Centrale. Elle derive son nom du bel arc lunaire que l'on voit le mieux de là, quand la lune est assez haute.

Biddle Stairs.—(Escalier de Biddle.) Situé un peu à gauche de Hog's Back et vers la Cataracte Fer à Cheval. Érigé en 1829 par Mons. Biddle, Président de la Banque des États Unis. Il a 80 pieds de haut. La descente totale du haut jusqu'au bas de l'escalier est 185 pieds.

Cave of the Winds.—(Cave des Vents).—Descendez l'escalier de Biddle et tournez à la droite. La grotte a 100 pieds de large, 130 pieds de haut, 30 pieds de profondeur. Elle a été formée par l'action de l'eau sur la roche molle, et derive son nom du vent perpétuel causé par la pression formidable de l'atmosphère. Entrée pour la grotte un dollar, y compris des habits imperméables et un guide expert.

Terrapin or Horse Shoe Tower.—(La tour de Terrapin ou Fer-à-Cheval).—Quittant l'escalier de Biddle, allez à la droite, traversant l'extrémité de l'île. La tour est située sur les rochers, près du bord de la cataracte Fer-à-Cheval, et vous y arrivez par un petit pont en planches, qui est parfaitement sûr. L'observatoire en haut est bien digne d'être visité. Libre à tous qui viennent. Érigée en 1831.

Three Sisters, Moss Island, Hermit's Cascade.—(Les trois Sœurs, Île de Mousse, Cascade de l'Ermite).—Passez le long du bord des Rapides en montant la rivière. Les Three Sisters (Trois Sœurs) sont les trois extrêmes îles du groupe. L'île intérieure c'est Moss Island (Île de Mousse) et la Cascade de l'Ermite est entre les deux.

Head of Goat Island.—(Tête de l'Île des Chèvres).—Renommée principalement par la belle vue que l'on y obtient de la rivière et de ses environs. Navy Island et Fort Schlosser du côté Américain; le village de Chippewa du côté Canadien, et Goat Island sont visibles de ce point.

Une courte promenade vous mènera jusqu'au pont de Bath Island (Île des Bains) et complètera le tour de Goat Island.

NIAGARA CHUTES.

TOUR DU CÔTÉ CANADIEN.

Prospect Point.—Vous y arrivez en descendant la rue à l'est de l'Hôtel International et suivant le chemin à travers le "Grove." (le bocage.)

The Ferry House and Stair Case.—(Maison de Ferry et Escalier). Dans cette maison il y a une plaine inclinée, sur laquelle les visiteurs sont portés dans des chars jusqu'au "Ferry" (debarcadere). Il y a aussi un escalier menant au pied, libre à tous.

The Ferry.—Au pied de l'escalier il y a toujours des canots pour passer *des visiteurs* au rivage de Canada, où vous trouverez des carosses prêts à vous conduire sur la berge. Il y a aussi un bon sentier du côté Canadien. L'Hôtel de Clifton est près de la berge, et c'est une maison très populaire.

Victoria Point est situé à peu près 70 ou 80 perches au dessous de l'Hôtel Clifton.

Table Rock.—(Rocher de la Table) est situé à peu près un mille en montant la rivière et au bord de la Chute Fer à Cheval. De telles quantités de roc sont tombées en différentes fois que ce n'est plus la plate forme étendue, de laquelle il tire son nom.

Stairway and Passage under the Horse Shoe Fall.—(Escalier et Passage au dessous de la Chute Fer à Cheval). Il y a deux de ces escaliers près du Table Rock. Des guides et des habits imperméables sont fournis à des prix raisonnables. La vue en est sublime.

The Museum and Prospect House.—(Le Musée et la Maison de Perspective) sont à peu près vis-à-vis du Table Rock.

Burning Spring.—(Source brûlante) est située à peu près deux milles au dessus du Table Rock.

Lundy's Lane Battle Ground.—(Le champ de bataille de Lundy's Lane) est situé à peu près un mille à l'ouest de l'Hôtel Clifton. Cette bataille eut lieu en 1814.

NOTE.—Les points mentionnés en dernier lieu ne sont pas recommandés au touriste dont le temps est limité, quoiqu'ils soient intéressants pour ceux qui ont assez de loisir pour les visiter.

Suspension Bridge.—(Pont suspendu). A peu près deux milles au dessous de l'Hôtel Clifton. éti par Jean A. Roebeling de Tinton, N. J. Commencé en 1852. Il a 800 pieds de long, 24 pieds de large, et il est 250 pieds au dessus du niveau du fleuve. Il a quatre cables capables de porter un poids de 12,400 tonneaux. Les cables passent sur des piliers de solide maçonnerie, haut de 85 pieds. Le pont pèse plus de 800 tonneaux; il a coûté \$500,000.

Le passage du pont complete le tour du côté Canadien.

NIAGARA CHUTES.

TOUR DANS LE VOISINAGE DES CHUTES.

AU DESSOUS DE SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

The Whirlpool.—(Le gouffre) est situé un peu plus d'un mille au dessous de Suspension Bridge, et est produit par un tournant soudain de la rivière. Il est bien digne d'être visité, et le visiteur fera bien de descendre l'escalier ici, car la vue est tant sublime que romantique. Ces terres sont la propriété du Collège De Veaux, et les recettes de l'entrée servent au support du collège.

Devil's Hole.—(Tron du Diable).—Un peu loin en descendant la rivière; une place très romantique et bien digne d'une visite. En 1759 un détachement de troupes Anglaises fut surpris ici par une bande d'Indiens, et à l'exception de deux ils furent tous ou tués ou poussés dans le précipice. Le petit ruisseau traversant la voie près d'ici, était rouge du sang des massacrés, et il a été connu toujours depuis sous le nom de Bloody Run (ruisseau sanglant).

Lewiston.—Ce village est à sept milles au dessous des Chutes.

Queenston and Brock's Monument.—Queenston est située vis-à-vis de Lewiston, et célèbre à cause de la bataille de Queenston Heights, qui eut lieu là le 13 October, 1812. Le Monument de Brock est sur une des hauteurs; il fut érigé en mémoire du général Anglais Sir Isaac Brock, qui fut tué à cette bataille. Ses restes et ceux de son aide-de-camp, Col. John McDonald, sont enterrés là.

GUIA AL REDEDOR DE LAS CASCADAS DE NIAGARA.

El viajante podría quedar por muchas semanas en esa vicinidad y siempre encontrar algo de nuevo y interesante aun á los puntos ya visitados, pero el objeto de esta obrecito es de señalar á los visitantes cuyo tiempo es muy limitado, los puntos mas principales y de ensénarselos todos de seguido como en un grupo y de tal manera, que puedan dispensar al viajante con mucho trabajo, tiempo y dinero. Las dos vueltas mas principales son las de la isla de cabra y el Lado canadiense y en verdad habiendo gozado esas perspectivas uno puede decir "que ha visto las cascadas del Niagara;" pero si el visitador tiene tiempo no faltará de hacer una vuelta en la vicinidad y la hallará muy interesante y por tanto la comenzaremos al puente Colgante, porque alli es el termino de la Vuelta al lado Canadiense; de modo si uno no tuviere tiempo para quedar a todos los puntos enseñados, puede á lo menos visitar á algunos. Veanse las referencias indicadas en este Guia que daran informaciones mas particulares tocante los lugares mencionado^s.

VUELTA POR LA ISLA DE LA CABRA.

EL PUENTE DE HIERRO.—Bajando la calle entre el hotel Cataract y el hotel Internacional se llega á ese puente que tiene 360 pies de largo y 27 de ancho.

LA ISLA DE CHAPIN.—Es la primera de las dos islitas debajo el puente y sobre las orillas de las cascadas.

LA ISLA DEL BAÑO —Está á través el puente, pagando dos reales fuertes el viajante tiene el privilegio de visitarla como tambien á la isla de la cabra durante el año corriente.

LA ISLA DEL NAVIO Y DEL BERGANTIN.—Dos islitas á la izquierda de la isla del Baño, la primera se llama mas ordinariamente. El Retiro de los amantes.

CASCADAS DE NIAGARA.

LA ISLA DE IRIS ó LA ISLA DE LA CABRA.—Un otro puente guía de la isla del Baño á la de la cabra, esta isla separa las cascadas Americanas de las de la Herradura del caballo, tiene 330 varas de ancho y cabe cerca de 70 acres de tierra.

LA CASCADA: EL DORSO DEL PUERCO Y LA DEL CENTRO.—Seguendo el camino á la derecha del puente, se llega á la orilla de las cascadas. El término de este camino se llama. El Dorso del Puercito de donde se presenta la vista la mas magnífica de las cascadas. La cinta de agua á la derecha se llama la cascada central que tiene 240 pies de anchura.

LA ISLA DE LA LUNA.—Se ha de pasar un puente chiquito sobre la cascada central para irse á esa isla que toma su nombre del hermoso arco lunario, que se ve solamente en todo su splendor que cuando hay claro de luna.

LA ESCALERA DE BIDDLE.—Se la encuentra un poco á la izquierda de la Cascada del Dorso del puercito y acia la Herradura del caballo, construida el año 1829 por el Señor Biddle quien estaba entonces presidente del Banco de los Estados Unidos, la escalera tiene 80 pies de alto por si mismo, pero de la cima del banco hasta el suelo abajo hay á lo menos 185 pies.

LA CAVERNA DE LOS VIENTOS.—Descendiendo por la escalera de Biddle vuelvase á la derecha. La caverna tiene 100 pies de ancho, 130 de alto y 30 pies de profundidad y se ha hecho por la accion del agua contra la roca flaja. La tremenda prensadura de la atmosfera produce en la caverna un borrascoso perpetuo que la dió su nombre. Llevan un peso de entrada incluyendo un guia competente y ropas impermeables.

LA TORRE DE LA HERRADURA DE CABALLO.—Dejando la escalera de Biddle vayase á la derecha para atravesar el termino de la isla. La torre está en cima de la ruca cerca el borden de la cascada de la Herradura de caballo y se llega por un puente chiquito pero muy seguro. El observatorio encima de la torre, construido en el año 1833 merece bien que se lo visite y no sepegue nada á visitarlo.

LAS TRES HERMANAS, LA ISLA DE MOHO Y LA CASCADA DEL ERMITAÑO.—Seguendo el filo de los Rapidos se llega á este grupo de islas, las mas remotas se llaman las Tres Hermanas, la dentro es la isla de Moño y entre esas dos se halla la Cascada del Ermitaño.

LA CABEZA DE LA ISLA DE CABRA.—De ese punto se goza de la hermosura del río y de todo el rededor. La isla del Navio y la fortaleza Schlosser estan al lado americano. El Pueblo Chippewa está al lado Canadiense y del mismo lugar se puede ver tambien á la Isla Grande en distancia.

Caminando un poca mas adelante se encuentra el puente de la isla del Baño y allá se acaba la vuelta de la isla de cabra.

CASCADAS DE NIAGARA

VUELTA AL LADO CANADIENSE.

PUNTA PERSPECTIVA.—Pasando por la calle al Este de la Posada internacional y siguiendo el camino por el bosque, pronto se llega a este punto.

LA CASA DEL DESENBARCADERO Y SU ESCALERA.—En esta casa hay un plano inclinado para bajar en carros al río, por los cuales se paga, pero hay también una escalera para bajar gratis.

EL DESENBARCADERO.—Al pié de la escalera siempre se hallan lanchas para llevar a uno al otro lado y allá se encuentran coches para subir a las orillas del río; pero hay también una senda muy buena. La casa de Clifton está cerca el apice y es una posada muy favorecida.

LA PUNTA DE VICTORIA.—Está un poco debajo la casa de Clifton.

LA MESA RUECA.—Está a una milla río arriba cerca el borde de la cascada de la Herradura de caballo; tantas ruecas ya han caído a varios tiempos que ya no tiene la plataforma extensa que la dió su nombre.

ESCALERA Y PASADIZO DEBAJO LA CASCADA DE LA HERRADURA DE CABALLO.—Hay dos escaleras bajo la mesa rueca y uno no puede figurarse la vista sublime que allí se presenta. Un guía y ropas impermeables estarán a su servicio a precio moderato.

EL MUSEO Y LA CASA PERSPECTIVA.—Quedan quasi en frente de la Mesa rueca.

LA FUENTE CALIENTE.—Dista como a dos millas de la Mesa rueca.

EL CAMPO DE LA BATALLA DE LUNDY'S LANE.—Está a una milla al Poniente de la casa de Clifton. Se pelearon allá los Americanos y los Ingleses en el año 1814.

N. B.—El viajante puede dispensarse de visitar los dos últimos puntos aunque estén bastante interesantes para cualquiera teniendo bastante tiempo.

EL PUENTE COLGANTE.—Está a dos millas abajo de la casa de Clifton. En el año 1852 el Señor Don Juan Roebling de Trenton, N. J., comenzó a construirlo. El puente tiene 800 pies de largo, 24 pies de ancho, 250 pies sobre el nivel del río y tiene 4 cables sosteniendo un peso de 12,400 toneladas. Los cables pasan sobre dos torres de albañilería solida teniendo 85 pies de alto. El peso total del puente es de 800,00 toneladas y costó 500,000 pesos.

CASCADAS DE NIAGARA.

VUELTA EN LA VICINIDAD DE LAS CASCADAS.

AL ORIENTE DEL PUENTE COLGANTE.

EL VORTICE.—Un poco mas lejos que una milla del puente colgante hallase este Vortice terrible, que se ha hecho por la vuelta abrupta del río en ese lugar y ciertamente vale la pena de visitarlo. Baje el visitador la escalera y gozará de una vista tan pintoresca y sublime que no se quejará del tiempo perdido. El terreno pertenece al colegio de Veau y lo que se cobra de entrada va al fondo para mantener a dicho colegio.

EL ABUJERO DEL DEMONIO.—Un poco mas adelante río cuesta se halla un otro sitio muy pintoresco y digno que se lo visite. En el año 1759 un destacamento de Soldados Ingleses fueron sorprendidos en este lugar por un partido de Indios quienes, con escepcion de dos, los mataron á todos ó los echaron por sobre el precipicio. El arroyuelo que á poca distancia atraviesa el camino estaba colorado del sangre de los matados y se llama hasta á hora Bloody Run, es á decir Arroyuelo Sangrado.

EL PUEBLO DE LEWISTON está á siete millas río cuesta de las Cascadas.

QUEENSTON Y EL MONUMENTS DE BROCK.—Queenston está en frente de Lewiston y es celebre por la batalla que los Ingleses y los Americanos se dieron allí al 13 de October de 1812. El monumento de Brock está en la sumidad y fue erigido á la memoria de Dn Isaac Brock el general ingles matasa en la batalla y cuyas cenizas, con las del Coronel Juan McDonald su ayudante quedan en dicho monumento.

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