



THE THREE SISTERS ISLANDS

From the southern or farther shore of Goat Island, where the current races to the Horseshoe Fall at a speed of twenty-eight miles an hour, a series of bridges reach to three romantic little islands which lie out in the river in one, two, three order toward the Canadian shore. These bridges were constructed in 1867, and certainly open the grandest view of the rapids. Above the Falls obtainable at any one point. From the head of the latter isle of the three, one continuous cascade greets the eye, extending from Goat Island across to the Canadian shore, varying from ten to twenty feet in height. The bridge to the first Sister Island spans the Hermit's Cascade, so called from the hermit of the Falls, Francis Abbott, who used to bathe in its waters. The troubled torrent, as it pours down its tortured flood toward the brink of the precipice, contains much of beauty, much of grandeur, a fitting introduction to the Falls themselves.