

From Lewiston to Lake Ontario 7 miles, the river is smooth, and navigable for vessels of every description; and Lewiston being the head of navigation, is the principal landing place for the American Steamboats that run on Lake Ontario. At the mouth of the river on the American side stands the village of Youngstown and Fort Niagara; and on the Canada side the village of Newark or Niagara, and Fort George.

CURIOSITIES.

One mile above the Falls on the American side, is the old Fort Schlosser, a place very considerably distinguished in the early history of this region, and commanding a most beautiful prospect of the river and rapids, of Grand and Navy Islands and of the village of Chippewa on the opposite bank. Before the construction of the Erie Canal, all the business between the Lake and Lewiston was interchanged by means of a land carriage from this place.

Half a mile below the Falls under the bank is Catlin's Cave, a visit to which no traveler will be likely to regret. Two miles below is a Medical Spring very strongly impregnated with sulphur, and by the use of its waters many important cures have been effected.

One mile further down leads to a tremendous whirlpool, resembling very much in its appearance and operations, the celebrated Maelstrom on the coast of Norway. Logs and trees are sometimes whirled around in rapid succession for days together in outer circles, while in the centre they are drawn down perpendicularly with great force, are soon shot out again at a distance many rods, and occasionally thrust into the channel to pass the river. The channel as it proceeds out of the whirlpool nearly at a right angle, is narrower than at any other place in the river, not more than thirty rods in width, and the current runs with such amazing velocity as to rise up in the middle ten feet on the sides. This has been ascertained by actual measurement.

About the year 1812, an incident occurred here perhaps worth recording. A party of men were employed in cutting cedar near the river above the whirlpool. One of them, stepping on some rafted logs that were in the water, was imperceptibly perhaps through carelessness, drawn by the current into the whirlpool. He clung to a log and was carried round and round for hours, expecting every moment to be crushed among the logs, thrust into the vortex, while his companions on shore could