

true to the present shape, which is now more nearly rectangular. The horse-shoe curve has been marred by the falling of portions of the cliff at various times, until its original symmetry has nearly departed.

THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE, firmly anchored to the rocky banks at the north end of Table-Rock, descends the perpendicular face of the cliff and leads under Table-Rock and to the foot of the Horse-Shoe Fall. Dresses and guides must be obtained to pass

BELOW TABLE-ROCK AND UNDER THE FALL.—The view here is grand in an awful degree. An indescribable feeling of awe steals over us, and we are more than ever impressed with the tremendous magnificence of Niagara, as we gaze upwards at the frowning cliff that seems tottering to its fall, and pass under the thick curtain of water—so near that it seems as if we could touch it—and hear the hissing spray, and are stunned by the deafening roar that issues from the misty vortex at our feet. The precipice of the Horse-Shoe Fall rises perpendicularly to a height of 90 feet; at our feet 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.

Emerging from our expedition into the cavernous recess of the Great Fall, we now gaze from Table Rock at the

CANADIAN RAPIDS ABOVE THE FALLS, full before us, sweeping down, multitudinous, apparently illimitable, the white foaming crests drawn sharply against the horizon.

Continuing the road, we cross to CEDAR ISLAND, and following the GRAND RAPIDS DRIVE, one of the pleasantest around Niagara, along the Canadian Rapids, we reach the CLARK HILL ISLANDS, five in number, connected to the main land at either end, by the elegant suspension bridges, "Castor" and "Pollux." CYNTHIA ISLAND stands on our left, and immediately opposite, across a wild branch of the river, the cottage erected over the renowned BURNING SPRING, where, through a fissure in the rock, an inflammable sulphurous gas comes up.

From the bluff above the Burning Spring, a magnificent view is had of the Rapids and the river, and also of

NAVY ISLAND, over three hundred acres in area. The island is a British possession, and in 1837 was made the rendezvous of the Canadian Patriots in open rebellion against the authorities of the Dominion.

Retracing our steps, we notice, passing through the village,

THE MUSEUM BUILDING, which contains a collection of natural and artificial curiosities gathered from the various corners of the earth, and tastefully arranged for display.

Our objective point now is the American Side, and in three or four minutes we reach the bank below the Clifton. Here we have a choice of two methods in crossing the river. We may descend the bank and cross by the ferry, or may go over the New Suspension Bridge. Adopting the former, we descend the path, and at the water's edge find

THE FERRY.—We commit ourselves to the little boat and are soon dancing on the agitated waters, gazing in profound silence at the Falls. This crossing affords most vivid impressions of the majesty and immensity of the Cataract. The brawny boatman handles his oars dexterously, and in a few minutes we are landed close at the foot of the American Fall.

Passing through a tunnel-like shed and donning an oil-skin dress, we emerge onto the rocks into a storm of spray, and stand upon

THE HURRICANE BRIDGE, from which may be seen a tremendous ghost of mist, forming heavy clouds fringed with all the brilliant colors of the rainbow. The scene is wild and overpowering. Looking up to the towering crest of the stupendous cataract, the immense mass of waters seems to pour down from the skies. We pass now to

THE SHADOW OF THE ROCK, the name given to a recess behind the Fall itself, which extends nearly to the center of the Fall, and is filled with the dashing spray perpetually rising