

all the world, with his wife and daughters, would visit us every summer.

We might swell our book, by telling you a thousand things about the Falls which you have doubtless heard and read of before: of this vessel and the other being sent over the cataract, with bears, geese, etc., as passengers; of one "startling incident," and another "frightful occurrence," such as Sam Patch having leaped into the Fall here, and William Chambers being carried over it there, one stormy night, in a canoe, and disappearing forever; and we might make a very pretty romance out of the strange but true story of Francis Abbot, the "hermit," who lived in utter seclusion for two years on the Island, played a guitar, wrote Latin, lived on water mixed with flour, and finally was drowned when bathing. But all these things have already been chronicled in the "Guide Books." We merely hint at them, and refer you for further information to those whose business it is to furnish it.

We close our remarks on this locality with an extract from a mss. description of the Falls, by Mr. Edward Lane:

"Luna Island is connected with Goat Island by means of two pieces of timber laid across, and within a few yards of the brow of the cataract or Centre Fall, which is about fifty-four feet wide. Looking up between the Islands, this small branch of the river appears to be issuing out of the wood, and coming down a flight of steps, some eight or ten feet distant from each other, forming, if not so sublime, at least as beautiful a view as that of the Falls themselves. From the Island, which is about thirty yards in width, a side view of the American Fall may be obtained. From its edge, that which, in front, appears to be straight, or nearly so, assumes almost as much the shape of a curve as the Grand Crescent itself. From this point, too, when the sun is shining, and has reached sufficient altitude, a beautiful rainbow may be seen immediately beneath the feet of the spectator, such as is, indeed, presented at every point of the Falls under similar circumstances. The moon also by night produces the same phenomenon, while the white foam of the falling waters, the ascending mist and agitated bosom of the river assume the appearance of living liquid crystal."

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## MINOR CURIOSITIES.

### THE WHIRLPOOL.

It is the same with this as with other wonders of the Niagara River—personal inspection is the thing. Books are mere transcripts of impressions made on the minds of their respective writers. Still it may be well enough, after you have seen with