

tance, but of course it is constantly modified by the direction and strength of the wind. Over this magnificent precipice the irresistible tide rushes at the rate of 100 million tons of water every hour! It is computed that the precipice is worn away by the friction of the water at the rate of about one foot a year, and it is believed that the Falls have gradually receded from Queenston, seven miles below, to their present position. The river above the Falls is studded with islands of all sizes, amounting to 37 in number. The width of the stream varies from several hundred yards to three miles. At the Falls it is about three-quarters of a mile wide. The total descent from Lake Erie to Ontario is 334 feet. So much for statistics.

The Falls of Niagara were first seen by a white man nearly two hundred years ago. *Father Hennepin*, a French Jesuit missionary, first saw them when on an expedition of discovery in the year 1678.

The spots of interest to be visited, besides the great Fall itself, are:—The ground where the memorable Battle of Lundy's Lane was fought; the Whirlpool below the Falls; the Suspension Bridges; the Devil's Hole and the Bloody Run; the Queenston Heights, General Brock's Monument. Burning Spring, &c.

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We think it right to say that the Engravings with which our work is embellished may be depended on as being minutely correct, the most of them having been copied from photographs, and others taken from drawings made on the spot by Washington Friend, Esq., whose beautiful and cleverly executed Panorama of American Scenery is so well known to the public.

Let us suppose, then, reader, that you have reached the Falls on the American side; that you have just alighted from the train in the Village of the Falls, and the thunder of Niagara is sounding in your ears. It were superfluous to give you minute directions how to proceed. Follow the crowd, and you cannot go wrong; there are also numerous ready and efficient guides, and, were these lacking, the roar of the great cataract would of itself be sufficient.

The Village of the Falls, through which you pass, lies on the east side of the river, in the immediate vicinity of the grand cataract, 22 miles by rail from the city of Buffalo on Lake Erie, and 300 by rail from Albany. Being a fashionable place of resort during summer and

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