



hundred millions of tons passes over the horseshoe fall every hour.

It is estimated that at the center of the horseshoe cataract, and for a distance above, the water is at least twenty feet deep. Such estimate was confirmed in 1829, when the schooner *Detroit* passed over that point. The bottom of the vessel was broken in the rapids above, when the hull became water-logged, and sunken decks to, necessarily drawing eighteen feet. Nevertheless, for a distance above, and over the brink, the wreck met no obstruction, passing freely over. The *Detroit* was a prize of Perry's victory! Having been naturalized amid the booming of big guns, she served as an American merchantman some fifteen years, and then was sold for an exhibition.

The islands of the river, including islets in the rapids above the cataracts, are about forty in number. First in course is Squaw Island, containing 131 acres; then Strawberry Island, about 100 acres. Then comes Grand Island, commencing five miles below Lake Erie, and extending to within three miles of the Falls, containing 17,384 acres of well-timbered and productive land. Flanking Grand Island are Beaver Island, thirty acres; Rattlesnake, forty-five acres; Buckhorn, 145 acres; Tonawanda Island, sixty acres; and Navy Island, 300 acres. Below, near the American shore, is Cayuga Island, 100 acres. Of these, Beaver, Navy and Cayuga are timbered, and have good soil.