

which has diverged from the main current, and has even made serious and astonishing inroads upon that. The spray as it flies through the air becomes congealed and falls upon the snowy shore in infinitesimal icicles, or lodging upon the limbs of trees, clothes them with glistening robes of white, which makes them look like so many images of Grecian statuary. Below the Falls huge mountains of ice have formed, which daily rise in proportions, and which threaten to hide entirely from view the Falls themselves. At the head of Goat Island, the Rapids, which separate it from the "Three Sisters," are bridged over by the ice, and over the spot where usually runs a fierce and irresistible current, men and women walk in perfect security. The formation of ice has turned most of the water into the main channel, rendering what is left perfectly harmless. To see the Falls as they are now clothed in a clear day, when the innumerable icy spars and prisms, reflect back with dazzling brilliance the sun's rays, is a rare and felicitous treat. Many of our citizens have improved the opportunity now afforded, which they will never regret. As long as the present weather continues there will be no changes in the appearance of the Falls.

The name Niagara is a contracted form of the Iroquois name *Oniagarah*; or, as it was sometimes written in old authors, *Oghniaga* and *Onsagorah*. *Ak*, in the Iroquois, denotes "an upright rock;" *ara*, a "path at a gorge."

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

A practical application of this mode of obtaining artificial light was recently made in London, at night, for the purpose of ascertaining whether by its means work can be carried on under circumstances in which other artificial light is not available. The scene of application was at the Surrey side of Westminster-bridge. The apparatus was placed on the shore, at seventy or eighty feet distance, on a stage on which were a number of workmen. The light proceeds from an electric spark, which is continually maintained. Behind the spark was a reflector. A strong light was shed upon the stage, and the workmen proceeded with their labour apparently with as great facility as if they were working during sunshine. It was in character somewhat resembling moonlight, but very much stronger. It can be put out and re-illuminated in a moment. The quantity of light afforded, as ascertained by the photometer, it was stated was equal to that of seventy-two ordinary gas argand burners. The light has been tried many times before and with success, but the grand obstacle to its use has been the great cost of the material which formed what may not inappropriately be termed the fuel required to keep up the electricity. This obstacle, however, has been removed by the discovery that the material while employed in producing the light, can be converted into pigments of so great a commercial value that the cost of light is absolutely nothing.

PRINCIPAL FALLS AND RAPIDS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	Feet high.
American, Snake river, Oregon	100
Austin stream, river same name, Maine	140
Au Sable, " " New York	70
Baker's, Hudson river, New York	40
Bellows, Connecticut river, N. H. and Vt.	90
Berlin, Androscoggin river, New Hampshire	200
Carp river, Michigan	75
Carthage, Genesee river, New York	175
Catskill, or Katorskill, New York	110
Chattahoochee, river same name, Georgia	60
Chaudiere, Ottawa river, Canada West	180
Chaudiere, river same name, Canada East	50
Clifton, Little Miami river, Ohio	70
Cohoes, Mohawk river, New York	96
Dead river, Michigan	105
Fall creek, New York	96
Genesee, or High, New York	60
Glen's, Hudson river, New York	88
Great, Missouri river, Nebraska	60
Hadley's, Hudson river, New York	63
High, Black river, New York	40
Hoosick, river same name, New York	60
Housatonic, " " Connecticut	100
Lewiston, Androscoggin river, Maine	42
Little, Mohawk river, New York	125
Lodi, or Silver Thread, New York	50
Lorette, Canada	25
Luzerne, Hudson river, New York	200
Montmorenci, Canada	
Niagara:—	
Horse Shoe, New York and Canada	160
American, New York	164

	Feet high.
Passaic, New Jersey	70
Portage, Genesee river, New York	100
Potomac, Virginia	76
Pusambio, Canada	100
Richelieu, Canada	74
Rideau, Canada	84
Rumford	75
St. John's, New Brunswick	125
St. Lawrence:—	
Galops, New York and Canada	7
Rapid Plat, " "	12
Long Sault, " "	48
Coteau, Canada	83
Cedars, " "	
Cascade, " "	
La Chine, Canada	44
Saco, or Great, Maine	72
Shawanagenne, St. Maurice river, Canada	200
Shelburne, Deerfield river, Massachusetts	70
Taghcanick, New York	200
Tallulah and Rapida, Georgia	350
Ticonderoga, New York:—	
Upper	100
Lower	30
Torkoa, Georgia	185
Trenton, New York:—	
High	100
Sherman's	40
Conrad's	20
Upper	20
Wilberforce, Hood's river, H. B. Com. Ter.	160
Williamette, Oregon	40

NOTE.—The above comprises all the principal Falls known to exist in the United States or Canada worthy of the tourist's notice, being prepared for a forthcoming work to be entitled the "Springs and Waterfalls of America."

PUBLIC LIBRARY NOTICE.

To Municipal and School Corporations in Upper Canada.

Until further notice, the undersigned will apportion one hundred per cent. upon all sums which shall be raised from local sources by Municipal Councils and School Corporations, for the establishment or increase of Public Libraries in Upper Canada, under the regulations provided according to law.

E. RYERSON.

EDUCATION OFFICE,

Toronto, 1st February, 1855.

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NOTICE.

TO THE TEACHERS OF WENTWORTH AND HALTON.

MOVED by Mr. Sangster, seconded by Mr. Kelly, and Resolved,—That the Common School Teachers of the City of Hamilton having, some time ago, formed themselves into an association for the purposes of mutual improvement and the discussion of the General Principles of Education, and being sensible of the advantages attendant on their semi-monthly meetings, do hereby respectfully invite their fellow-Teachers in the neighbouring Counties, to meet with them in the Central School, Hamilton, on Saturday, the 9th June, 1855, at 2 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of organizing and establishing a Teacher's Institute. Teachers going to and returning from this Convention will be carried at half fare on the Great Western Railroad, on exhibiting their certificates of qualification.

P. S.—Several leading Educators have been invited, and are expected to be in attendance.

ALEX. R. STRACHAN,  
President.

Hamilton, 12th May, 1855.

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