

after having descended, may proceed to the base of the falls; and a number of persons may walk in perfect safety a considerable distance between the precipice and the descending torrent; and conversation is not much interrupted by the noise, which is not so great here as at a distance. A vapour, or spray, of considerable density, resembling a cloud, continually ascends, in which a rainbow is always seen when the sun shines, and the position of the spectator is favourable. In the winter, this spray attaches itself to the trees, where it is congealed in such quantities as to divest them of their branches, and produces a most beautiful crystalline appearance, a circumstance which attends the falls of Cheneseco, as well as those of Niagara. A singular appearance is observed at these falls, which has never been noticed by any writer. Immediately below the great pitch, a commixture of foam and water is puffed up in spherical figures, about the size of a common haycock. They burst at the top, and discharge a column of spray to a prodigious height; they then subside, and are succeeded by others, which exhibit the same appearance. These spherical forms are most conspicuous about midway between the west side of the strait and the island which divides the falls, and where the largest column of water descends. This appearance is produced by the ascension of the air, which is carried down by the column of falling water, in great quantities, to the bed of the river. The river, at the falls, is about 743 yards wide; and the perpendicular pitch is 150 feet in height. In the last half mile immediately above the falls, the descent of the water is 58 feet; but the difficulty which would attend the process prevented me from attempting to level the rapids in the chasm below, though from conjecture I concluded that the waters must descend at least 65 feet. From these results, it appears that the water falls about 273 feet in the distance of about seven miles and a half."

LAKES.

Lakes have been divided into four classes, and under one of these all those with which we are acquainted may be conveniently arranged.

The first class includes those which have no outlet, and do not receive any running water. Many of these are situated in elevated districts, and are generally so small that they