# Falls of the Zambesi in Northern Rhodesia Greatest in the World

(Copyright, 1908, by Frank G. Carpenter.) CTORIA FALLS, Africa.-(Spedial Correspondence of The Bes.) -I have been wandering for days days about the Niagara of Africa. Its awful wonders grow upon me and I am appalled at its grandeur. Away off here in the wilds of the black continent, far below the equator, several hundred miles south of Lake Tanganyika, as far north of Capetown as Galveston is distant from New York, hundreds of miles west of the Indian ocean, and still farther from the Atlantic, is one of the grandest natural features of old Mother Earth. It is the falls of the mighty Zambeal, one of the great rivers of the globs. It has been compared to the falls of Niagara. Now that I have seen both, I find it almost impossible to liken one to the other. Each is of its own kind and each beyond description beautiful. From the point of striking views, and as a raging convulsion of nature, I should call Victoria Falls by far the greater. The two may be compared to a play. Niagara is a drama with but one act. Victoria is equally great, but of many acts and many scenes, each of which has features of its own.

As to the volume of water, the Niagara Falls probably surpass those of the Zambeal, for over them pours the watershed of balf a continent. The Great basin of Lake Superior is 600 feet above the Atlantic and almost one third of its drop is at Niagara. The Zambesi has its source in a swamp which lies a mile above the sea and its waters have already fallen 2,000 feet in their course of 300 miles before they make their mighty drop into this basaltic gorge. The falls of the Zambesi are twice as broad and more than twice as high as Niagara. The river is two miles wide above the falls, and it narrows to a mile where it plunges straight down over the cliffs into a gorge which is more than jumps from rock to rock in a span of 550

400 feet deep. I heard the thunder of its waters when I was more than ten miles distant, and the spray, which rises up in five great columns, can be seen fifty miles away. The natives call the fall "Thundering Smoke." and they are said to worship them.

As to the electric force which may be generated, it is said to be greater than that of Niagara, but I will write of that in the future.

In the Heart of the Wilderness.

Of these two mighty wonders of nature, that of the Zambesi has by far the best natural setting. Niagara has been destroyed by commercialism. One goes along its gorge in an electric trolley; upon landing trees, tree ferns, baobabs and a junjle of he is fought for by guides and hotel keepsmaller trees. ers, and the peddler and fee hunter tag at his heels. The manufacturing cities of Buffalo and Toronto foul the air with their

power turn the sublime into the sordid.

roundings, and it is the intention of the and asked her father why men did not

All the land within a radius of five miles rocks and get the sreat bags of gold which of the fails has been set aside as a public the fairies say are always found at the ends

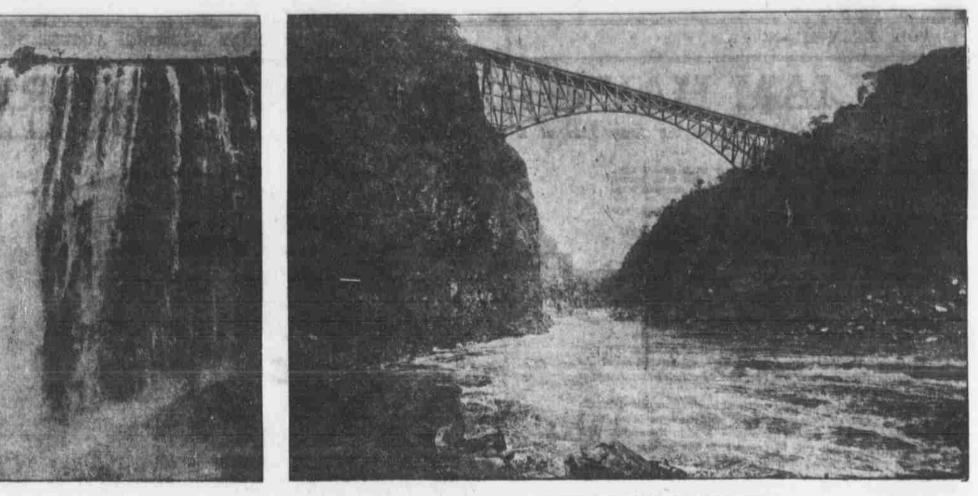
feet. The spray falls upon the cars of the Cape to Cairo railroad as they pass over it, and travelers will have a glimpse of the falls as they go by. Standing upon this bridge a great tower or mass of green rock rises before us. It

bisects, as it were, the narrow gorge, and the whole flood of the Zambesl boils and seethes below. The waters are yellow and they look like a vat of steaming molasses. Opposite the tower is a mass of green far down in a second gorge. It is made up of palms and other trees. It is known as the palm kloof, and is a great botanical garden kept only by nature, and infested with monkeys and baboons. It contains date

### Eastern Falls.

Leaving the bridge, we take our first smoke, and the factories which use the view of the cataract from its eastern end. The way is along green paths, under green Victoria fails are in the heart of a wil- trees, where the ground is so level that we derness. It is surrounded by a forest cannot see the falls until we are close to filled with monkeys, baboons, antelopes and them. The great river bursts upon us all at sther wild game. There are birds of strange once. It is dashing over the rocks, falling plumage in the trees, and the great river hundreds of feet, striking with a noise like itself has many hippopotami. Standing here a cannonade of artillery. Here the mist is upon the norch of the Victoria hotel, one so dense that we can see only one-third of looks for miles over a land densely wooded. the distance across. The falls are over a With a powerful glass you can see nothing mile wide and we can hardly catch sight but this yast expanse of green, broken of Livingstone island, which lies in the cenonly by the windings of the gorge at your ter. Notice the rainbow? The sun is shinfeet, and by the pillars of mist which rise ing through the foam. There are rainbows like the vapor from five volcances until above and below us. We can see some in tost in the low-hanging clouds. The only the great gorge. One a thousand feet long settlements near the falls are Livingstone, has stretched itself from wall to wall, about which is seven miles off, and the group of 300 feet under where we are standing. It is iron bungalows which comprise the hotel. a perfect bow and its colors are more gorthe railroad station and the postoffice geous than those of any rainbow I have Everything is in harmony with the sur- ever seen. A child stood here the other day

lower themselves down by ropes over the people to keep it so. up by hippopotami. park, which is to be left as nature made it. of the At the Dovil's Cascade. frighten the monkeys, and strange birds up had to get out and lift the canoe through very tracks in which hippopotami had trav- is falling-we cannot see the cataract until of the current. As it is, I esteem the excur- in clouds. We had four cance men, half-12 Railroads and Hotels. Notwithstanding all this the Zambest Falls may be seen with almost as many Zambesi is now at its full and is conse- was born. He acted as though he owned see little droves of hippopotami swimming island. de luxe, with dining cars, observations cars great pit into which it falls. It is a mighty of the new arrival, replied: and bathing accommodations, which bring cavern, hundreds of feet deep. We cannot one from Cape Town or Beira; and the little see its bottom, for out of it is rising such but I would not give a nickel for another." hotel here although it is built of galvanized a volume of steam and foam as exists no-



ZAMBESI BRIDGE, THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD.



CROSSING THE ZAMBESI IN A CANCE-MR. CARPENTER AND SON IN THE CENTER.

but if so this has long since been eaten wide. It is full of green islands which are faces. It looked as though a side of beet covered with a dense growth of papyrus and had been spit apart and opened in two The trip to Livingstone island is so dan- small trees. The banks are low and we halves. The teeth were as big around as gerous that it should only be made when saw the spoor of many hippopolami as we the river is low. It is now much too high made our way up the river. We did not attusks imbedded in the red jaws. for safety, and had I been aware of the tempt to cross until we were perhaps a When we reached the middle of the rivel Our next trip is to the Devil's cascade, on danger I should not have thought of making mile above the falls, and we rede its our the canoemen stopped paddling and began to steer. Our speed increased as we went about two miles and we must cross the rowly escaped going over the falls, and stoward to into the stream before we down and we had great trouble making about two miles and we must cross the rowly escaped going over the falls, and attempted to steer ourselves down to the bridge and walk through the park. We upon our return the negro boys who paddled island. When we started the water was our way through the rocks. We soon came into the line of the spray. It fell down quist. The current was swift, however, and like rain. The thunder of the waters was fly about our heads as we go. A thick mist certain of the shallow rapids to keep us out the vapor of the falls could be seen rising now so great that we had to yell to make we are right upon it. We sit down oppo- sion one of the greatest experiences of my naked blacks with bracelets on their arms to be rushing right into the Devis's Casourselves heard, and at times we seemed site the lip of the falls and watch the great life. I am, however, much like the proud and bands of brass wire tied about their cade. After a number of narrow escapes rivers of water pouring over the black Texas father who was strutting along the legs between the knee and the calf. As we rocks in volumes of yellow foam. The street the morning after his eleventh haby made our way on into the stream, we could came to the black rocks of Livingstone Here we fastened the boat and comforts as Niagara. There are now trains quently muddy. Right in front of us is the the earth and when asked what he thought about. They looked much like the rocks, waded through the woods and across the and it was not until they raised up their pools of the knife edge of rock over which "Well, I wouldn't take \$1,000 for this one. black heads that we knew what they were. the Zambesl pours in its mighty cataract. Our boatmen were afraid of them and we If you could double the height of Niagara paddled off to one side. We went by one and make it twice its width and then Upper Zambesi. beast which threw its head high into the imagine yourself standing in the center The Zambesi above the fails is two miles air, and opened its mouth almost in our upon a space barely wide enough for your



Outside that radius is another of fifteen miles on one side of the river, and on the other a block of forest fifty miles square. which will prevent farms or buildings of any kind marring the falls. In these woods no shooting is allowed. I have met droves of monkeys as I wandered from fall to fall, and at times have made my way in the eled the night before.

iron, is almost equal to those of Niagara where else in the world. The western and  $\mathbb{V}$ in comforts and prices. All the rooms are of the fall is cut off from the main portion on the ground floor, and some are well fur- by Cataract Island, which lies several hunnished. I have a suite of four, including dred fest out in the river. The western cata parlor, dressing room, hedroom and bath- aract alone is greater than any full in room. My apartment is lighted with elec- Switzerland; it is only a little section of tricity and is couled by an electric fan. The the Zambesi, but if it could be carried to parior is carpeted and boasts a plano. the Alps it would be one of the wonders The rate I pay for myself and son is \$15 of Europe which tourists would travel per day, which is not extravagant, con- thousands of miles to see

sidering that we are far off in the wilds. As to our meals, we have three every day, and in addition a cup of coffee on rising. and an afternoon tea. Our table waiters Falls in from Livingstone island, which diare natives in uniform, and our chamber- vides the Zambesi in its center. This island is on the very edge of the falls, and when men are black boys in white gowns. the river is high there is hardly a percept-

#### On the Zambesi Bridge,

ible mark of division, the great carcade of But some with me and take a look at the a mile wide going down in one mighty falls. We shall first stroll down to the sheet. It was upon this island that David Zambesi bridge, which crosses the gorge Livingstone took his first view of the catathrough which the mighty river flows. You ract in 1855. He reached the island from probably heard of this bridge. It is the upper Zambesi, coming down in a hav the highest in the world and one of the cance. While there he cut his initials and biggest. It was made in England and the date of his discovery upon a tree, and brought out here in sections and put to- the letters and figures are still to be seen. gether. It is 400 feet above the water and it It is said that he also planted an orchard,

### Prattle of the Youngsters

OMMY JONES, aged 7, and his instrument has been properly sterilized 1 mother were invited to tea by desire to protest." Mrs. Brinks. While the meal This gave the old man pause.

'neighbor.'

heavon?

borrows things.

zones are there?"

Johnny-N-e-i-g-h-b-o-r.

you tell me what a neighbor is?

"Bobby," said the teacher, "how many

"Two," answered Bobby, with a lutle

questioning note in his voice. Then, seeing

the pussled look that came into the teach-

people there live on the inside of it."

"Why, we say 'on earth' and 'in heaven'."

"How do you make that out?"

"Moreover," continued Willie, "the germa

would be apt to affect you deleteriously."

was being prepared Mrs. Jones wandered about the two-yard- that might be released by the violent imsquare garden and admired the pact of leather upon a perous textile fabric woods. Presently the absence of har oherished. Tommy alarmed her, but shortly the truant reappeared, content-

edly munching a huge slab of cake. Willie sloped. In her relief, as is usual, Mrs. Jones began to upbraid the lad. "Thomas," she said, "I'm afraid you've

been greedy and asked kind Mrs. Brinks for that cake." "Oh, no, mother,' he replied; "I wouldn't

be so rude! I waited till she turned her back, then I anatched a piece."

Little Margie was trying to new. "Mamma," she complained. "this needle must be asleep. I just can't get the thread in its eye at all."

### Small Lillian's father was very homely

and one day she said: "Mamma, why did you marry papa?" "Because I loved him, dear." was the

for breath reply. "Say, mamma," continued Lillian, "love

#### will. make us women do anything, won't

Papa was about to apply the strap. "Pather," said Willie, firmly, "unless that

VICTORIA FALLS.

## Progress in the Field of Electricity

station through a distance of 900 miles.

been sent.

#### World Girdled by Cables. On Livingstone Island.

OW well the world is girded by The most remarkable view of Victoria ocean cables and the interests and doings of nations flashed п to one another is strikingly shown in statistics given out in connection with the fifteenth anniversary of the landing of the first Atlantic cable on the shores of the New World, August 5, 1858, Cable communication was not permanently established, however, until 1866. Now cables connect all parts of the world. Today there are in operation 247.888 miles of cable, 207,000 of which are owned by corporations and 40,788 by different governments. Improvements have been introduced, too, which make the aubmarine wire as certain and speedy as the land wire. What was regarded as a dream prior to 1856 is now a substantial business

reality. Sixteen of the cables are under the Atlantic ocean. Seven other cubies under the Atlantic have been abanconed since 1896, because they could not be repaired satisfactorily. Among these are the orig-

inal cables of 1858 and 1855. The Commercial Cable company has five Atlantic cables, the German company two, the French company two, and the Western but lately exposed to the dust of the streets Union two. Among the great cable systems which have developed in recent years As the strap fell from the nerveless hand in all parts of the world, are the following: The Commercial Pacific, which operates 10,000 miles of cable, extending from San Teacher-Johnny, you may spell the word Francisco to Honolulu, the Philippines, China, and Japan; the British Intercolonial system covering 7,527 miles, and running Teacher-That's right. Now, Tommy, can from Vancouver' to New Zealand and Australasia; the Central and South Ameri-Tommy-Yes, ma'am. It's a woman that can Telegraph company, which has 7,498 miles of cable, from New York to Cuba,

to Colon, and down the west coast of South America; the Eastern Telegraph company covers 41,000 miles, from England to Portugal, up the Mediterranean to Egypt, Aden, the Red sea, and across the Indian ocean to Bombay.

er's face, he rattled on without a slop; Other companies, the number of miles, "One male and the other female; the mula and the territory covered, are: The East ship, or between ship and shore, within can be temperate or intemperate, the ern Extension and Australasian, system, reasonable distance, communication is free female frigid or torrid-" and he stopped 21,000 miles, from Madras, Singalore, the and easy, but when an extraordinary feat Dutch East Indies. China and Japan; the is to be attempted all sorts of atmospheric Eastern and South African Telegraph conditions must be taken into considera-"Tommy, do we know anything about ampany, 10,500 miles, from Aden, down the tion, as well as the chances of avoiding out-"Yes'm, it's different from the earth. The east coast of Africa to Natal and Care side interference. This susceptibility to rown; the Great Northern company magnetic interference and the interception (Danish) 8,300 miles, connecting Norway, of messages by outside instruments, those

Spain to Madeira, the Cape Verd Islands, less system. Brazil and Argentina. Electric System on a Liner. Apart from the 70,000 horse power of the Feats of the Wireless. Wireless telegraphy, whatever its fail- turbines which propel the Mauretania ures and disappointments have been in the through the water the electrical power. which is supplied by four generators, repcommercial world, is daily demonstrating resent an additional 2,144 horse power, reits great importance as a naval adjunct,

says the Washington Post. Its latest test ports the New York World. Electricity is used not only for illuminawas in covering a distance of 2,000 miles in midocean, broken only by a few fleet ting the ship at night, but for a multitude tendors, between the cable station at Suva, of other purposes such as operating the flagship, the Connecticut. An unimportant use, eight for baggage and mails and two message relating to the movement of ves- smaller ones in the pantries. Electrically sels was sent from the Navy department driven cranes and whiches are also proby ordinary land and cable service to vided, and 6.900 electric lamps give the enor-Suva, where it was delivered to the auxilmous total of over 100,000 candle power. tary oruiser Glacier, which is equipped For heating the first class quarters sixty with wireless instruments. The answer was received in Washington within forty-

Telegraph company, 18,765 miles, from cation, are the weakest links in the wire-

electric radiators have beeen fitted, to say nothing of some forly-three heaters in the three hours after the original message had bath rooms.

In the kitchens one range alone has a A more remarkable feat was reported & frontage of about sixty feet and includes a few days ago, when the San Francisco reaster with four vertical spits rotated by wireless station got into brief communicaan electric motor, these spits being capable tion with the Connecticut, which was then of dealing with half a ton of meat at a more than 2,000 miles out in the Pacific. time. There is size a smaller reaster with And until within the last week the Honothree spils, driven in the same manner. In the bakery electricity is employed to operulu station was able to communicate with Admiral Sperry, steaming 1,000 miles or ate a large dough-making machine capable more away toward Australia. A powerful of making bread for at least 2,000 persons. Some idea of the size of this years i may wireless apparatus is installed at the Admiralty office in London, by means of he obtained when it is mentioned that over 250 miles of wire and cables are flitted which the British fleet at sea is kept in close touch. During the British maneuvers throughout the ship-

The electric bell and telephone installain the North sea recently, various succossful experiments were made in transtion on the Maurelania surpasses anything hitherto attempted in connection with ship mitting orders direct from London to the work. Bell pushes are placed over every commander-in-chief of the ficet; and it is bed and altogether 1.218 belt pushes have reported that the Admiralty office has umunicated freely with the Gibraltar been fitted in the various cabins, etc., while telephones, of which there are upward of 100, are to be found in numerous parts of Startling facts of this character, though the ship. frequent, do not prove that wireless teleg-

raphy will give an efficient service which Apart from the Marconi wireless telemay be depended upon every day in the graph outfit means have been provided for week, where the distance between stations upling the ship up to the city telephone is more than 500 miles. Between ship and exchanges when lying slongside the land-

ing stages at Liverpool or New York. Four electric searchlights are carried and in addition to the usual complement of life buoys, which every ship carries, two special buoys have been provided for use at night.

stilking the water.

The electric installation of this vessel Sweden and the Baltic sea; the Western not thought to be in the line of communi- represents about \$350,000.

### VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE, SHOWING THE GORGE.

feet, with the raging torrent on either boiling mass-down, down, down into that we fought our way out of the current and side, you might have my position as I wide gorge, up which the winds were hurlstood there in the midst of the Zambesi. ing those clouds of spray.

was on a little section of bare black I cannot describe the beauty of the catarrock in the heart of that mighty cascade. act. It is beyond description. The scenes All around, above and below me was a change every moment and each additional mist so thick that I could see beyond it moment seems more terrible and more only when the wind came and blew it grand.

away. The water rose in great clouds, Going back we had a hard struggle to dropping down in a warm rain which, not- land. The current down which we floated withstanding my rubber coat, drenched me was impassable, and it was tough work to to the skin. There were times when I reach the places where the river was shallow. By wading and pushing and paddling

could not see ten feet in front of me. Then the mist would break, and I looked and fighting the rocks we at last got into down into the bottomiess pit filled with smooth water, and tired out, came back steam, which rose up in the clouds and to the banks where we started. extended for a half mile into the sky. I

### Rain Forest.

tried to take notes, but the rain poured We next explored the great rocks which down upon my paper, oblitering the pencil marks and washing them off as fast as lie in front of the falls and then walked I made them. I shut my memorandum through the rain forest. This is a jungle book and put it into the pocket of my of woods on the other side of the cataract, waterproof. When I took it out it was where day in and day out, for the greater turned almost to a pulp. The water had part of the year the leaves always drip. caught in the pockets and I carried a They are wet by the spray from the faile, and one cannot go through and keep dry

pint or so with me to land. Holding tight to the rocks I picked my without rubber clothing. When the wind way along the knife edge of the falls as came our way the droppings turned to a far as I could, looking down now and then shower. The vegetation was dense and at into the gorge, as the wind blew away the the breaks in the woods the sun found its raih. It was like peeping into an inferno, way in and turned the spray to a vell of a howling, foaming, raging hell, that fine lace. The rain drops on the leaves in the Fiji Islands, and Admiral Sparry's lifts, of which there are two for passengers' needed only brimstone and flame to fit sparkled like jewels, and here and there it for the devil and the damned. I did not I could see little rainhows extending from dars look long for fear an insane desire one tree to another. might come and make me jump into the

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

# Playing in Great Luck

ETH BULLOCK of South Da- tramp, while the president dictates in stirkots ought to be a happy man, ring phrase the story of the hunt! Think He has been invited by Presi- of the flush of victory, when American dent Roosevelt to accompany pluck and cunning overmatch the stealth him to South Africa and share and ferocity of the strepsiceros and still the pleasure of the chase. What What fun the president will have with the wealth of experience awaits him! bongo, after the bush-boys have beaten it The information comes in a roundabout up and it turns, with foaming tusk, to face way that the president will be the guest of the terrible destroyer! What interviews, an American, William N. McMillan, who what encounters, what stratagems! Im has a 30,000-acre rubber plantation in South agine, if you can, the first meeting be-Africa, adjacent to the virgin wilds. Mr. tween Theodore Roosevelt and a mad bull

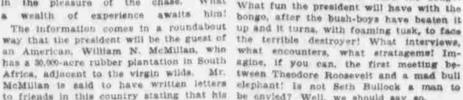
to friends in this country stating that his be envied? Well, we should say so. men have been looking into the game question in anticipation of the president's the bliss in store for Seth Bullock. visit, and that the best of sport awalts will see snough to fill a book, but he will the hunter. "The elephant, lion, zebra, antelope, hartbeest, aardvark, eland, calotis, gemsbok, hippopotamus, rhinocerous, bongo after he returns-and that is a fly in the and strepsiceros abound." we are informed.

Roosevelt-Bullock party.

more formidable calotis! And the bongo!

There is only one drawback, perhaps, to He not be able to write a book. He may not be at liberty, even, to give out interviews ointment, sure enough! Since it will be the all awaiting with anxiety the arrival of the president's province to tell us what hap-

pened, it will be up to Seth Bullook to keep Sech Bullock is a cool, matter-of-fact atill and look wise. If he should attempt fellow, but if his blood doesn't stir a little to tall the story himself, there might be when he witnesses a hand-to-hand en- complications, for it is a notorious fact that counter between Theodore Roosevelt and no two witnesses agree as to what they a full grown aardvark-whatever that is- have seen. Beth Bullock is a good storyhe is no true sportsman. Think of the teller, and his knack of expression is racy These upon being released by pressing a hair-bredth escapes, the awimming of and terse. A book from his good right button automatically light a flare upon rivers, the lonely vigils on the veldt, the hand would be mighty interesting reading. round-up at the water-holes, and the yellow But he must be content to be an onlooker giare of wild eyes in the gloaming! Think in the most stirring events in the history, of the delights of camp, after a hard day's of the animal kingdom .-- Washington Pas



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