

Geography: the comparative height of various waterfalls. Coloured engraving by J. Emslie, 1846, after himself.

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WATERFALLS.



Drown & Edgerton by John Smith. 1860.

Waterfalls have ever been regarded among the most interesting and beautiful of the works of nature. They are most numerous among wild and rocky mountains upon which much rain falls or snow melts. This is particularly the case in the northern parts of the American continent where rapids and other waterfalls abound. Rapids are occasioned by such a slope in the bed of a river as causes the water to rush down in that particular part with great force and swiftness. Cataracts occur when the level on which the water runs terminates suddenly by a steep descent, as a ledge or mass of rock; over this edge the water is precipitated almost perpendicularly, with amazing impetuosity and grandeur. When these falls occur in a more gentle form they are called Cascades.

London J. Reynolds. 174 Strand. Rivington & Sons, Barker & C°, Ernest & Mary Evans.