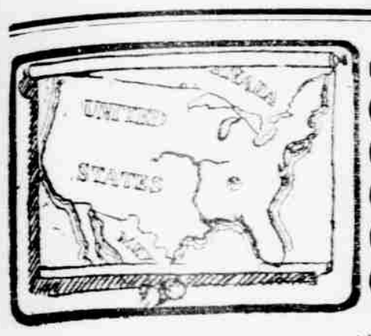

TOGO TOURS---Seeing America First

Personally conducted by

HASHIMURA TOGO ✤ [Wallace Irwin]

Hon. Editor, who I reverence more than all other printers.

Dear Mr. Sir:—

You will please feel slightly surprised. Me & Cousin Nogi, by dint of stingy frugality, has saved sufficient cash-money to have $52 when we have just payed for a retired rubbernecking ottomobile. This machinery, though slightly decomposed, is quite intelligent & experienced. Therefore, we have named this Joyful Wagon "Seeing America" and we shall spend the summer months getting rich by showing all persons jourishly inclined whatever places of alarming interest are to be found. Thusly we shall prove to Americans that they need not spend their money on Europe in foreign travel, and that travel at home can be made just as foolish and expensive as anywhere else.

Cousin Nogi shall be chauffeur for this educational wagon. Everywhere we arrive I shall talk lectures with megaphone voice to resemble Hon. Roosevelt. Price to look-see shall be fallowing list:

Thin persons .....$1 apiece each
Fat persons .....$2 apiece each
(because they offenly occupy 2 seats and therefore see twice as much)
Children & suffragettes, 20c extra, because of their screaming habits.

If you wish send me affectionate post-cards this summer, Mr. Editor, please address me, "Hashimura Togo, care United States." I shall be found somewheres in that neighborhood showing the place. You must not come with me on these trips, Mr. Editor, because it is not good-healthy for you to know too much about America. Also, who would print the news, if you was not there to write it? Ah, no! You must remain located at your desk. Do not worry for me. I shall write you weekly envelopes to remind you about these Trips.

* * *

First Tour was yesterday when we made look-see at Niagara Falls. Its grandure was lectured by me. This ride was for the benefit of new-joined bride-couples, because nobody is properly married unless they have taken a honeyspoon trip to Niagara Falls. My price for this was $1.50 per couple, which was very bargain sum—but how could I dare charge $2 for 2 people who only occupied the same space as 1 1-2 single persons? I could not be so skinflintish of heart.

14 of these new bridles couples got on to my wagon at Buffalo. 2 more pairs started, but they came from New York City and was so anxious for a divorce that they got off. In excess of these 14 honeyspooners was 4 Famous Americans who went along for idle curiosity. Following is their names:

Rev. Mr. Mayor Gaynor, prominent Tammany reformer of New York.
Hon. Buffalo Bill, famous historical character (retired).
Hon. Elbert Hubbard, dealer in literary furniture.
Hon. Hetty Green, who has saved vast fortune by not spending it.

Rev. Gaynor say-so: "I wish see Niagara to be sure it is proper theatrical show for young folks. Otherwise it must be closed." Hon. Buffalo Bill say-so: "I am anxious for see this Wild East performance of water-works. I am proud to know it is so near the city of Buffalo, which named after me." Hon. Hubbard say-so: "It is better to be Right than to be President. It is not necessary to be Either. This wisdom is printed by Roycroft Press, bound in half a rubber boot—for sale by the quart or pound!" Hon. Hetty say-so: "Travel is cheaper than hotel bills. Go aboard!"

Pretty soonly we arrive to Niagara Falls. Cousin Nogi wheel our joy-motor to front porch to this great natural downpour. I was glad to see it was spouting so nicely. The noses of all my Tourists begin to inflame with rubber immediately. This is very joyful for me. So I press Hon. Megaphone to my voice & make considerable Lecture. Thusly it was:

* * *

"Ladies & Tourists—Please notice Niagara Falls! It is the loudest spot in Nature. There is nothing to equal this, not even among our Travelling Presidents. Puny Man appears minus compared to it. O people, speaking of considerable water! By its dazzling qualities it reminds me of poetry. What Human Being could aspire to portray beside such a splash! What Statesman, however energetic, can stand like these Falls spouting day & night for thousands years! Truly to know!"

All Lady Brides look with great surprise. All Gentleman Brides seem slightly jalous. I appear to subdue that Niagara seem quite neglected. So I continue onwards.

"Please observe with your ears! O such rumpoge & rore of fractured billows! Is it not a noise? Sousa's Band never made anything so hideous. Look how it rolls in all its peeved grandure, looking just as natural as a moving picture show it. It is the greatest living curio. It is more wonderful than the Panama Canal, because it seems to flow without any visible help from the Republican Party. What causes this wonderful phenomenal? Answer is: The convenient arrangement of Nature. Lake Erie, magnificent pond of extreme freshness, arrives suddenly to a great spasm of rocks 10,000 feet high, where it is forced to jump off. So it do so: This make Niagara Falls."

"What forces Lake Erie to jump off?" require Hon. Elb Hubbard, who was there to ask literary questions.

"High cost of living," I report because I was not sure. "That catter-act has been behaving like you see it ever since July 4, 1776, when it was discovered by Hon. Chris Columbus while he was searching for America. Simple foreigner, how little he knew that this Niagara, so carelessly stumbled over, would some day be as famous a landmark as Coney Island or Hon. Jo-Uncle Cannon!

"Another remarkabillious thing about Niagara Falls is the dampness of its material. It seems like 1,000,000 soda-siphons working simontaneously in one supreme quench. Touch it with your hands and see how wet it feels. And this is a truthful fact—Niagara Falls contains nothing but solid water. Bravely it resisted the efforts of the Drug Trust to adulterate it with cologne, banjoate of soda or other inferior drinks. Would not this sight bring sober thoughts to the drunkest heart? Please think of it with your brain! 60,000,000 gals of solid water falling downwards 10,000 feet before your face and nose. Is it not wonderful?"

"What is so wonderful?" require Hon. Hubbard.

"To see 60,000,000 gals of solid water falling downward 10,000 feet," I report with bore of tone.

* * *

"It would be slightly surprising if it fell upward to the height you mention," dib Hon. Hubbard like a squash. "But I can not be amazed at water when it merely falls down."

"Go back to East Peoria!" I dement, while Hon. Hubbard depart away under his flop-brimmed hat.

"Is there any historical event or other untruthful anecdote connected with this Falls?" require Mayor Gaynor with hopeful expression of a Democratic Candidate.

"I can easily make you one," I report chivalrously. "When the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth Rock they was dissatisfied with that chicken-named place, because real-estate was spoiled by disgusting Indian neighbors; so they take that yacht 'Mayflour' and they sail up the Delaware River. Captain of this ship was Hon. Benj. Franklin, the man who discovered lightning. For pilot him where to go was Miss Poky Haunts, beautiful Indian palmist. Hon. Franklin knew even less about rivers than a member of the Rivers and Harbors committee, so he were very glad this red lady was along.

"So they floated upstream 40 or 60 days. Tiresome fatigue felt by all. But one brite afternoon, Miss Poky Haunts begin to show nervus symptoms of thumbs and elbows.

"'Benj. Franklin,' she says Indian-ously, 'if you continue floating up this river you will eventually hit something.'

"'What should we hit, sweet copper maiden?' require Hon. Franklin with flirting eyebrows peculiar to Philadelphia.

"'Niagara Falls, please,' contuse little Poky.

"'Poosh & tish!' dib Hon. Benj. scornly. 'I have never heard of Niagara Falls. How can we hit something I have never heard off? Naxtly you will be telling me we shall be hit by Halley's comet.' Poob-pooh for him.

"'Ah, magnifluous fat sir,' deery Poky Haunts, 'I shall not deny your Professor mind. But Niagara Falls hurts when he hits. We shall be killed. It is not good for Indians to be killed.'

"'A dead Indian does not spoil,' deery Hon. Franklin, who was fond of quotations from Kipling.

"But suddenly, whilst he spoke, O SMASH!! That ship 'Mayflour' was turned against Niagara Falls with such a Terrible that it was pushed to tooth-picks. Nearly all the ancestors of Bridles was drowned in the flowsy water. But Hon. Benj. Franklin & Miss Poky Hauntus swum affectionately ashore arm-in-hand. Beside each other they sat on a rock for dry-clothes entertainment.

"ON THE LEFT——"

"'We have been hit by Niagara Falls,' explain Indiana Maid, pointing to this huj flop of water spilling like an ocean falling out of a balloon.

"'I shall notice it next time I see it,' commend Hon. Franklin with Saturday Evening Post expression of jokes.

"So they was married; because it is improper for Young Persons to look at Niagara Falls unless they are bride and groom."

When I finish this historical event all new-married couples present blosh so loud you could hear it above the whooping of the Falls.

Next sight to seen was Bridal Veil Falls where Cousin Nogi took us by talented crank-up of Hon. Ottomobile. Them 16 new-wedding couples ariz upward on their feets to see this great matrimonial scenery. All see with joyful oh-cries. So I upraise my megaphone & parade following intelligent lecture:

* * *

"Newly groomed brides, I wish for you to look at this Nature now rushing before you. It is called Bridal Veil Falls, because it looks like 4 miles of Irish lace tumbling across the rocky face of Nature. Why is this famus downpour like Marriage?" (answer of "Why is?" from 16 double voices.) "Because Marriage chuckles smoothly until it hits a sharp cliff, then it jumps off with a bellow of angry rages—loud yellup of disgusted whirlpools, splatter and fractured puddles, until Love arrive down with a splash and quit forever. Matrimonial marriage is oftenly thus."

"How like Ella Willer Wheelcox you talk!" snuggest Mayor Gaynor, who is educated in all classic illusions.

Ignoring this rude explosion I continue on with my lecture.

"This Bridal Veil Falls, aside from sentimental photo it makes in the mind, is a high horse-power water-works. I will give you some statistics. If hitched to a garden-hose it would squirt 6 times around the world, drown the British Navy and run lawn sprinklers over the Sahara Desert. If hitched to a derrick it could pull over the Singer Bldg and uplift the entire colored race. What could not this entire energy of Falls do if employed in some honest work?" (No reply for my statistics.) "And yet Water Falls should not be used for such sordy uses. They are Nature's Millinary. When Nature decks her hat with fruits and vegetables, she looks around for extra trimming till she finds a waterfall which she drapes carelessly around the brim so it will sweep splashingly over the left shoulder. The effect is stunning."

"Are it not sinful extravagance to expend a 60,000,000-ton waterfall for trimming mere millinary?" require a pale bridegroom with horror-thought of what he must expect.

"Nature is a Lady," I expound. "Therefore, when she goes out to trim a hat she takes what she likes and lets somebody else pay the Bill.

Next drive for Cousin Nogi was Horshoe Falls. All Bridal Couples snuggles in close pairs during this joy-trip.

"Ladies & Tourists," I holla by megaphone, "kindly to observe Hon. Horshoe Falls. Is it not a sublime Pour? Kindly observe with wrapped hearts. O the Beauties of Scenery!" (silence from all.)

I look around with peev. All them 16 Bridal Couples sat wrapped together gazing into each other's optical orbs.

"How thus!" I yall with peev. "When Niagara Falls is befront of you, why you no look, please? Have you no soul to gaze at the Beauties of Nature?"

"We are!" they all collapse in unicorn.

"You are what?" I holla.

"We are gazing at the Beauties of Nature," they continue sentimentally, as they continue to peek into each other's eyes with illuminated expression peculiar to glass.

"Drive onwards, Cousin Nogi!" I dib. So he crank-back Hon. Ottomobile and we elope down road by gasolene—all except Hon. Hetty Green, who set by Niagara figuring with pencil how to save 50c by staying away from N. Y.

Hoping you are the same.

Yours truly
HASHIMURA TOGO.

P. S. Mr. Editor, kindly to please do me the much-obliged favor to put this adv in your paper and owe me whatever it is worth:

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