

科研トランス・アトランティック・エコロジー研究会
(2016年3月14日@同志社大学寒梅館)
ナイアガラ滝の保護運動と英国湖水地方での鉄道敷設反対運動
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湖水地方 (英国)		ナイアガラ (北米)
The Lodore falls=the Niagara of England	1794	
	1803	Jerome Bonaparte honeymooned
WW, <i>Guide</i> - the Lake District as 'a sort of national property'	1810	Hotels, taverns, barrel-attraction, caged-animal attraction
	1818	William Forsyth erects a set of stairs to the bottom of the fall
	1825	Completion of the Erie Canal
	1827	Thomas Barnett offers 'Behind the Sheet' tours, erects a museum
	1832	Niagara is now as hacknied as Stockgill-Force or Rydal water
Niagara... not worth crossing the Atlantic for (WW to HCR)	1834/35	Lockport-Niagara Railway
I am not afraid to show you Rydal Falls though you have so lately seen Niagara (WW)	1840	
WW's protest against the proposed Kendal -Windermere Railway	1844	
	1846	The Maid of Mist, ferry boat service
Kendal and Windermere Railway opens Shakespeare's birthplace, bought for the nation	1847	
	1848	The first Suspension Bridge (pedestrian)→ Railway Bridge (1855)
No one had done for Niagara what Southey had done for Lodore	1850	
	1857	Frederic Edwin Church, 'Niagara'
Coniston Branch (Furness Railway) opens	1859	The first tight-rope walk, 'pleasure-ground'化
	1864	Yosemite State Park
Cockermouth-Keswick-Penrith Railway opens Open Space Society, Commons Preservation Society	1865	
	1869	Free Niagara
	1872	Yellowstone National Park
	1873	Prospect Park on the American side
Opposition against the proposed Ambleside-Keswick Railway, Ruskin's opposition	1875-76	
	1878	Lord Dufferin's proposal to found an international park
	1879	The first illumination by electric light (cf. 1860: Bengal Lights)
	1880	'Special Report on the Preservation of the Scenery of Niagara Falls', with a petition, signatures of Ruskin, Carlyle, etc.
Opposition against the Ennerdale Railway, and the Borrowdale Railway	1882/83	ナイアガラに水力発電所を造る計画
The Lake District Defence Society/ Wordsworth Society	1883	The Niagara Falls Association
Opposition against the proposed Ambleside Railways Ruskin's opposition against the scheme (1884)	1884-87	Niagara Reservation bill→New York Reserve State Park opens 15 July 1885
	1888	The Queen Victoria Niagara Parks, opens 24 May
WW's Dove Cottage, purchased & opens as a memorial museum	1890	
Thirlmere Reservoir	1894	
The National Trust for Places of Historic Interest and Natural Beauty	1895/96	The New York (American) Scenic and Historic Preservation Society

0. イントロダクション

A very interesting piece of land nationalization was transacted in the United States on Wednesday, when the strip adjoining the Falls of Niagara was formally conveyed to New York State. The transfer will be welcome enough to tourists of all countries, who now escape the tolls which have hitherto been levied on them at every turn; but it is more important as a recognition by a modern organized society of **the desirability of protecting natural beauties from the monopolist**. We hope that the example of America will confirm the similar drift in public opinion over here, which has declared itself several times lately in the rejection by the House of Commons of railway bills. After all, what is the good of “civilization” if it cannot protect itself against the Vandals?

(‘The Rescue of Niagara’, *Pall Mall Gazette*, 17 June 1885)

The example of the United States in preserving the Yellowstone and Yosemite Valleys free from the intrusion of railways as great national parks is for ever being held up to us, and it seems to be one worthy of being followed. Our Lake country, however, is **something more to educated men**, and it ought to be something more to all Englishmen, **than any Yellowstone Valley can be to the Americans**; for not only is it a tract of landscape beauty ... but nearly every hill and every stream, every glen and hamlet, every nook and corner ... is steeped in the memories of some of **the greatest and purest lights of English literature**, many of whose noblest springs of inspiration were found by the sides of its unpolluted streams, and amid the solitude of its lonely fells.

(W.H. Hills, ‘A New Lake District Railway’, *The Times*, 21 December 1886)

1. 湖水地方とナイアガラ

On our return, he proposed a visit to Rydal fall, a few hundred yards from his door in Rydal Park. On learning that five weeks since we had stood before Niagara, an exclamation burst from his lips, as if the sublime spectacle were suddenly brought near to him. “But, come,” said he, after a moment, “I am not afraid to show you Rydal Fall, though you have so lately seen Niagara” ... The fall was not of more than twenty-five feet, and the stream only a large brook, but from the happiest conjunction of water, rock and foliage; of color, corm, sound and silvan still life; resulted a scene, decked by nature so choicely, and with such delicate harmony, that you felt yourself in one of Beauty’s most perfect abiding-places. The deep voice of Wordsworth mingled at intervals with the sound of the fall. ... The evening was calm and sunny; we were in an English Park in the bosom of mountains; we had come from a spot sanctified by Beauty, and Wordsworth walked beside us.

(George Calvert, *Scenes and Thoughts in Europe* (London, 1847), 3)

At the commencement of the present century, Niagara, difficult of access, and rarely visited, was still the cataract of the wilderness. ... Its few visitors came, gazed, and departed in silence and awe, having for their guide the child of the forest or the hardy back-woodsman. No staring, painted hotel rose over the woods and obtruded its pale face over the edge of the boiling river. The journey to it from the east was one of adventure and peril. ... How is it now? The forest has everywhere yielded to the axe. Hotels with their snug shrubberies, out-houses, gardens, and paltry establishment stare you in the face: museums, mills, staircases, tolls, and grog-shops, all the petty trickery of Matlock-Baths or Ambleside, greet the eye of the traveller. Bridges are thrown from island to island; and Goat Island is reached without adventure. A scheming company on the Canadian side, have planned a ‘City of the Falls’, to be filled snug cottages, symmetrically placed, to let for the season:...

In short, Niagara is now a hacknied as Stockgill-Force or Rydal-water...

(Charles Joseph Latrobe, *The Rambler in North America* in 2 vols. (New York, 1835), 1. 64-65)

We soon found that there was that in and about Niagara which was not to be marred by busy man and all his petty schemes for convenience and self-aggrandisement; I may truly say ... that we were under the influence of its spell. While within the sound of its waters, I will not say you become part and parcel of the cataract, but you find it difficult to think, speak, or dream of any thing else. Its vibrations pervade, not only the air you breathe, the bank on which you sit, the paper on which you write, but thrill through your whole frame, and act upon your nervous system in a remarkable, and it may almost be said an unpleasant manner. (Latrobe 66)

2. Free Niagara (1869-1885)

An important and interesting report on the present condition of the Niagara falls was presented to the Legislature at Albany ... This document describes the rookeries, mills and other disfigurements which line the banks of the rapids. It is proposed that the State shall reclaim by purchase so much of the property as shall be needed to restore the American bank to something like its primitive beauty and grandeur. ... The report ... gives some finely executed views of the scenery around Niagara, illustrating the beauty of those little spots which the hand of man has still spared, and the wretched aspect of the banks, shores, and islands which have been "utilised" to make money. To restore the place so far as may be, the commissioners propose to sweep away the unsightly structures ... and restore it to its natural beauty by planting trees. ... The memorial presents a list of signatures not often seen appended to one document. Among them are those of Ruskin, Carlyle, Longfellow, Emerson, Lowell, Parkman, Sir John Lubbock, Lord Houghton, Max Muller, Alexander Agassiz, Horatio Seymour, Thurlow Weed, Cardinal McCloskey, Charles Francis Adams, and a powerful array of the chief dignitaries of America and England. (The Protection of Niagara', *Freeman's Journal*, 17 April 1880)

It has been fully recognized by wise men in all times and in all lands ... that localities which are associated with the lives, the achievements and the deaths of **distinguished men** should be set apart, preserved and held as a **sacred heritage** to be transmitted from one generation to another. In the same way gifts of nature which appeal to the higher sensibilities of mankind by their beauty and by their grandeur, are entitled to reverential protection. ... The impulses which thus draw the nations together are a powerful influence for the obliteration of race-prejudices, and thus for the preservation of the peace of the world. (15)

... Now more than ever, the cataract is the property of the whole people. A visit to the falls is no longer the luxury of the rich. Excursion rates on the railways have made it possible for the humblest citizen to see Niagara, and more than 100,000 visitors came this season. (24-25)

(*Special Report of New York State Survey on the Preservation of the Scenery of Niagara Falls*. Albany, 1880)

The Proposal to utilise the Falls of Niagara as **a huge water power for generating electricity**, and so illuminate sixty-five towns between Boston and Chicago, is heartily condemned across the Atlantic, and nature-loving Americans sigh for Mr Ruskin to come over and write down such a monstrous project. The plan is to erect a huge mass of hydraulic machinery on the American side of the river below the Falls, besides using fifteen acres of water-front above, and to lay ten thousand miles of underground cables what has become of the much discussed plan of making a public park round the Falls? (*The Graphic*, 3 June 1882)

During the past few months, occasional allusions have been made in the English newspapers to an agitation which is going on at present in America concerning the condition and prospects of the Falls of Niagara: if the minds of our readers had not been thus prepared for the idea suggested by the above title, it would doubtless strike them as ridiculous. That **Niagara, probably the most gigantic natural phenomenon in the world, apparently so immutable that it has become the favourite symbol of eternity**, ... that Niagara, of all things under the sun, can be in any danger of destruction at the hands of man, seems simply incredible. It is true, however. . . .

The Falls of Niagara cannot be regarded as specially belonging to America, but must be considered as existing for the advantage of mankind; no traveller crosses the ocean without visiting them, and England has already taken an important part in the efforts for their preservation, --indeed, we may almost say that it was an Englishman with whom these efforts originated. It is much to be desired, therefore, that the English public should understand what is involved in the question, how great is the necessity for preservative measures, and what form it is proposed that these measures shall take. If once these points were clearly understood and widely known, there would certainly be such a distinct expression of opinion in England as would render easier the task to be accomplished in America, for in spite of the frequent and half-joking assumption of careless independence, every one who is really familiar with American life knows that by the vast majority of our **"kin beyond sea"** any genuine word from England is received with kindly respect.

... **Niagara is unique**, not merely because it is the second waterfall in the world, for that alone would render it

of little value, but also because it possesses most of the qualities which men are accustomed to seek in widely-separated parts of the earth. ... The rapids, the islands, the cataract, the chasm below the cataract, the whirlpool rapids, the basin of the whirlpool, --all these are included in the word "Niagara". ... it adds a resistless might that brings the spectator into **closest communion with the eternal powers of the Universe, and inspires a feeling of sublimity which becomes almost overwhelming.** ...

... Niagara must be delivered from its worst enemy, the sensational; it must cease to be treated as a show, and must be restored to its original condition as a simple piece of Nature. ... Everything that man has done to Niagara must be undone; then only will its simplicity be restored, and with its simplicity its sublimity. ...

(‘The Destruction of Niagara’, *The Spectator*, 30 June 1883)

3. 湖水地方の鉄道敷設反対運動 (1875-1887)

All that your railroad company can do for [a working family on holiday] is only to open taverns and skittle grounds round Grasmere, which will soon, then, be nothing but a pool of drainage, with a beach of broken gingerbeer bottles; and their minds will be no more improved by contemplating the scenery of such a lake than of Blackpool. (John Ruskin, *A Protest against the Extension of Railways in the Lake District* (1876))

Mr. Ruskin refers to the acknowledged fact that the things which people immediately want are not always those that are best for them, and that there may be other things which they do not in the least want, or are even incapable at present of imagining, which would be extremely good for them, which he illustrates as follows:— ‘Take, for example, this singular unanimity of the inhabitants of Ambleside: that is to say, accurately, of the innkeepers, shopkeepers, guides, and other ministers of the strangers in Ambleside—for a railway from Lakeside into their midst. ... I can imagine Wordsworth-crescent and Silverhow-circus commanding the esplanade which will encompass the waters of Rydal and Grasmere, principally, then, of necessity, composed of sewage, while the ‘rivulets in May’ ... will be usefully disposed in successive tanks of which the scum will be inflammable. A ‘lift’ to go up Helvellyn, and a refreshment-room on its summit, will prepare the enthusiastic traveller for a drop to Ulleswater; while beyond the rectilinear shores of Thirlmere Reservoir, the Vale of St John will be laid out in a succession of tennis grounds, and the billiard-rooms of the Bridal of Triermain Casino be decorated in the ultimate exquisiteness of Parisian taste. Such development of our resources in the Lake District is, I suppose, inevitable. (Mr. Ruskin on the Ambleside Railway’, *The Standard*, 15 April 1884.)

The Lake District at present serves the purposes of a great National Park, and is annually visited (on account of its exceptional beauty) not only by thousands of people from all parts of the United Kingdom, but by great numbers from the British colonies, the United States of America, and the Continent of Europe.

(Petition against the Ambleside Railway Bill, 1887, quoted in Hall, *American Tourists* 106)

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