

and exhibits some of the greatest triumphs of engineering skill on the continent. In June 1884 we travelled over that magnificent road and we shall endeavour here to describe some of its more remarkable scenes.

Since the war, the agricultural system of Virginia has experienced great changes, mainly from the changed conditions of labour. The primitive modes of cultivation are giving place to improved methods, the exhaustive tobacco culture is less exclusively followed, and exuberant fertility of the soil amply rewards the labour of the husbandman. The mineral resources of the State



WATER GAP—SOURCE OF THE JAMES RIVER.

are very great,—coal, iron, lead, copper, sulphur, and salt abound, and are only in the infancy of their development.

A noble monument of the enlightened liberality of the State is the University of Virginia, in the vicinity of the beautiful town of Charlottesville. This noted institution of learning was founded by Thomas Jefferson, under a legislative enactment of 1817–18. It is steadily recovering its beautiful surroundings, its halls, arcades, scientific appliances, paintings and cabinets, a place of more than ordinary interest to the educated visitor.