

through the romantic gorges and over the summit of the Alleghanies,—on and on across the great central plateau of the continent, and over the mighty ranges of the Rocky Mountains to the shores of the Pacific Sea.

In a previous paper we described this route by way of the Pennsylvania Railway, as far as the head waters of the Juniata River. We will now resume our description of the journey over the Alleghanies, through some of the finest mountain scenery in America.

On the eastern slope or terrace of the Alleghanies there is much fine scenery, not of the sublime and stern, but of a graceful and picturesque character. An example of this we may pause to notice before plunging into the sea of mountains. Wild Cat Glen is a romantic ravine on the Upper Susquehanna, once the haunt of the ferocious lynx, from which it takes its name. The entrance gives little promise of the varied beauty of the Glen itself. A brawling stream plunges recklessly from ledge to ledge, making the forest vocal with its din, and gleaming, flecked with snowy white where the sunlight penetrates the shade. The Glen has been purchased by the Masonic fraternity as a summer resort for the brotherhood.

As the railway sweeps up the valley of the Juniata we enter a region of wilder and sterner character. On the mountain tops and in the secluded valleys eternal solitude seems to brood. On either side are bald, stately bluffs that never wore a smile. In their rocky hearts they keep the secret of their immemorial history, nor tell what forces upheaved them from the vasty deep and bared their lofty brow to heaven's kiss. Nestling in the valley, like a child at its mother's feet, may be seen comfortable farmsteads and fruitful orchards. Almost the only link with the great world beyond the hills is the swift rush of the train and the shrill scream of the engine—then silence and solitude again settle down on the Sleepy Valley. Such is the scene of which we catch a glimpse among the hills of Jack's Narrows, as shown in the accompanying engraving.

At times the valley broadens out into a bouldered plain, leaving wide intervals of fertile land smiling with green or golden fields of grain. In and out among the crowding, jostling hills meanders