

The contrast between the bright green valley and the frowning brown precipices inclosing it is exceedingly impressive. It is equally interesting to watch the mists of evening creep like disembodied spirits up the heights, and hang upon the scraggy evergreens that fringe the summit; or, at morning, to see the fog-banks, at first so still and white, when the sun darts into the valley, wake up to life, as it were, and flit away before the darts of the sun-god.

Twenty-two miles south-west of Seneca, the road crosses the Tugalo—famous for its grand chasm, one of nature's loveliest aspects—and six miles further on enters Toccoa City, a railroad village. Only two miles distant are the celebrated Toccoa Falls. They tumble perpendicularly over a rock, down a height of 185 feet, and before reaching the bottom are dispersed in mist, which, visible to the eye against the background of dark rock, waves to and fro in a weird manner at once wonderful and beautiful. The Indian name signifies "The Beautiful." Mount Airy is well named, being 1,610 feet above the level of the sea. From Grand View Peak, the views surpass those of almost any other point in the State. To the north, the Blue Ridge stands in full view from Walker's Mountain into North Carolina, at least 150 miles. South-west, there is an unbroken woodland to the horizon, sixty to eighty miles, strikingly like a view on the ocean but more like the Great Plains as they appear from a cleft in the Rocky Mountains. This has been aptly called "Ocean View."

There is nothing in approaching Tallulah to warn the traveller that he is near a great chasm, and not till one stands on the dizzy edge of this tremendous canyon has he an idea of the grand—almost awful—character of the scene. To attempt a description of this chasm is futile. No adequate idea has ever been given of it in words, and no pictures (and there are many) have ever come near reality. Tallulah (The Terrible), a large stream, here breaks through the last obstacle in its eastward course and, for two miles, through a gorge 1,200 feet in depth and of unsurpassed grandeur is dashed over deep falls, over great rocks, broken into cascades in the wildest and most astounding manner. It requires steady nerves and strong muscles to visit the different points of interest along the edge of the chasm or to scramble down its deep and rugged face to behold the mad struggles of the troubled waters.