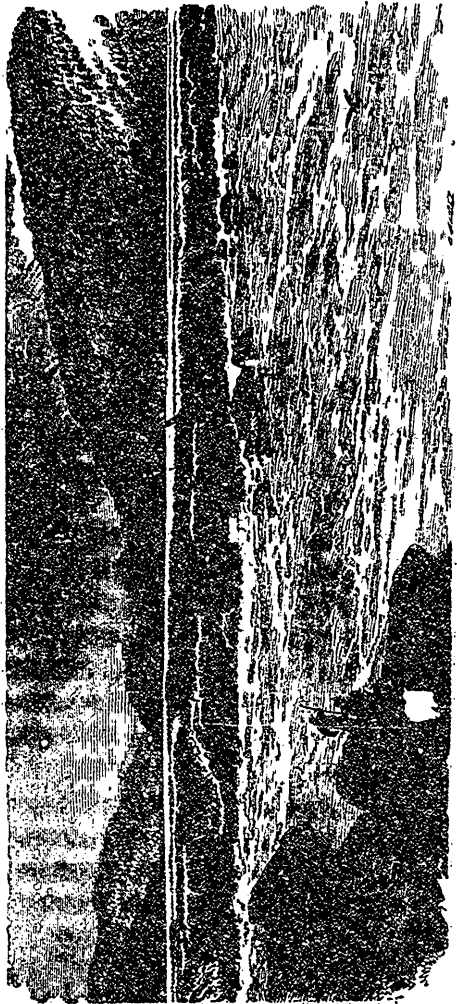


MOUNTAIN TRAVEL IN VIRGINIA.

II.

THE picturesque and graceful views of the Greenbrier Valley gradually change to scenery of bolder and rougher characteristics; and lower down the New River gorge to the wild grandeur of the canyons.

For several miles the river views from the rear platform of the car present a pleasing contrast of rock, cliff, and river ripple, of wooded slopes and graceful hill outlines—the river almost imperceptibly narrowing its width. Above Hinton the low water width of New River exceeds one thousand feet. Forty-five miles below, and with many intermediate affluents, that width is reduced to seventy-five feet and less, and with no increased depth or velocity of current sufficient to explain this great change of water section. The boulders around suggest the character of the river-bed. Duly considering this, let the thinking traveller study out a problem not yet determined by the best authorities.



NEW RIVER FALLS.

Seven miles west of Hinton it suddenly plunges over the New