nounting our steeds, commenced ascending on foot. The vay was very steep, and we halted often to take breath. As we approached the summit, the trees were all of a dwarfsh growth, and twisted and gnarled by the storms of that igh region. There were also a few blackberry bushes earing their fruit long after the season had passed beow.

2. A few minutes longer brought us to where the trees eased to grow; but a huge mass of rocks, piled wildly on he top of each other, finished the termination of the peak. Our path lay for some distance round the base of it, until led to a part of the pile which, with some effort, could be caled. There was no ladder, nor any artificial steps, and e only means of ascent was by climbing over the successive ocks.

3. We soon stood upon the wild platform of one of nature's ost magnificent observatories—isolated, and apparently bove all things else terrestrial, and looking down upon a eautiful, variegated, and at the same time wild, grand, and most boundless panorama. I had been there before! I emember, when a boy of little more than ten years old, to ave been taken to that spot, and how my unpractised erves forsook me at the awful sublimity of the scene.

4. On this day it was as new as ever; as wild, wonderful, d sublime, as if I had never before looked from those isoted rocks, or stood on that lofty summit. On one side, toard eastern Virginia, lay a comparatively level country, the distance bearing a strong resemblance to the ocean; the other hand were ranges of high mountains, interersed with cultivated spots, and then terminating in piles mountains, following in successive ranges until they were st also in the haze.

5. Above and below, the Blue Ridge and Alleghanies n off in long lines, sometimes relieved by knolls and aks, and in one place above us, making a graceful curve, d then again running off in a different line of direction.